



Towards a Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection in the European Union



INTRODUCTION

- Existing policies: air, water
new → Thematic Strategy on **Soil Protection**
- Basis: 6th Env. Action Progr. (EP, 2001)
Soil communication (EC, 2002)
- Soil threats:
 - **contamination**, erosion, decline in organic matter
 - sealing, compaction, decline in biodiversity, salinisation, floods and landslides



SOIL THEMATIC STRATEGY – exp. outcome -

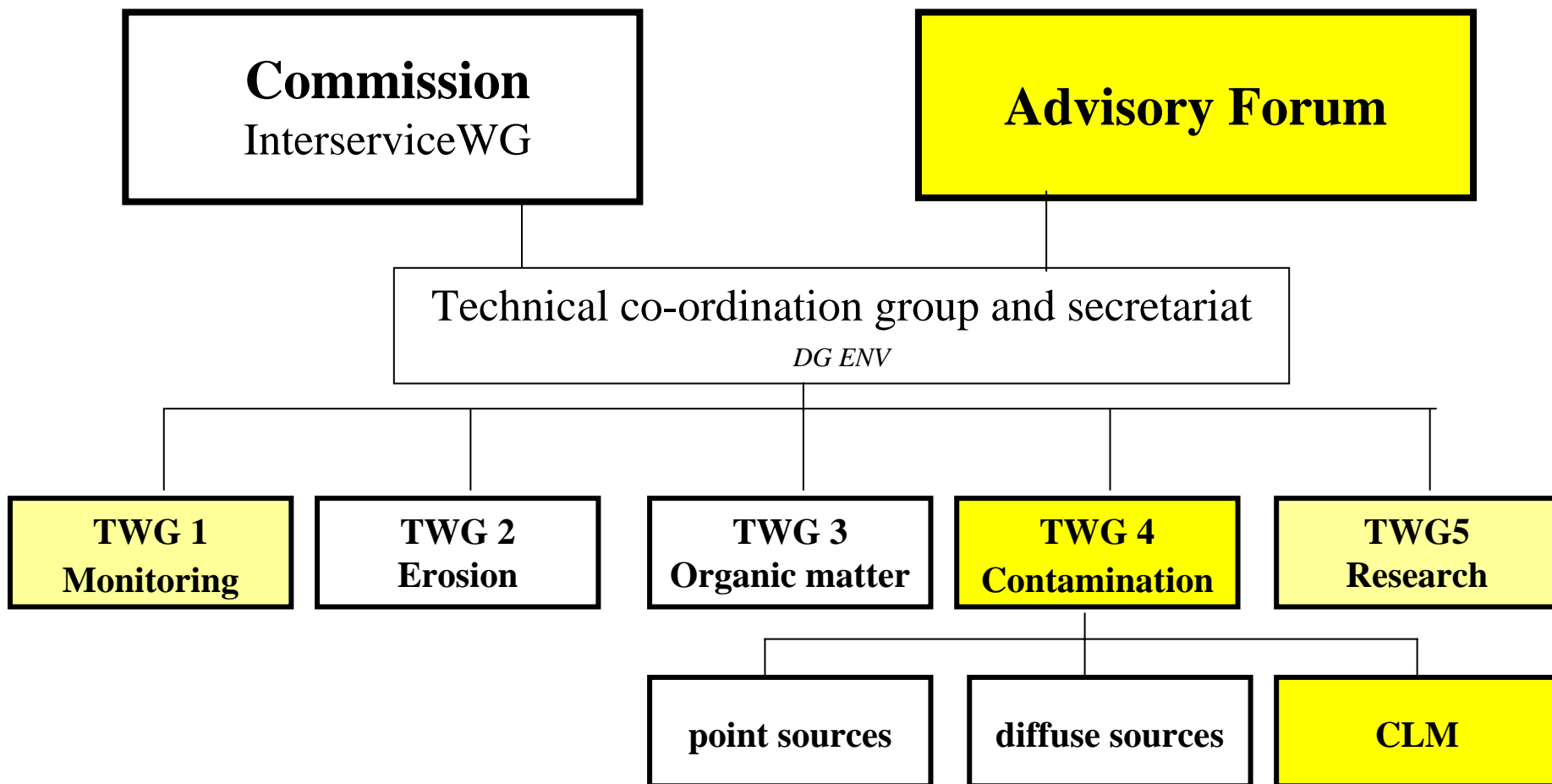


- DIRECTIVE on SOIL MONITORING
- Communication dealing with
 - erosion
 - decline in organic matter
 - **soil contamination**
- Soil → sludge and biowaste directive



SOIL THEMATIC STRATEGY

(Nov 2002 – May 2004)





TWG CONTAMINATION



- Tasks -

- Extent of soil contamination in the enlarged EU
- Strategies for solutions
 - Point sources
 - Diffuse sources
 - **Contaminated land management**
 - Large scale air and water pollution
- Identify added value of action at the EU level
- Define what should be monitored
- Make a research agenda



CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT - Background -



- CLM = cross-cutting issue
(soil, water, spatial planning, waste, liability)
- **Common Forum on Contam. Land in Europe**
- EU Concerted Actions on CLM:
 - CARACAS & CLARINET (1996 – 2001)
 - results: RBLM Concept; research priorities
- Our goal: integrate results in EU Soil Strategy



CLM POLICY Recommendations



- PPP not always possible for historical contam.
→ *state aid regulation*
- Legal basis for public availability of soil quality data
→ *report on land status*
- Contam. Land Policy comprise both soil and groundwater contamination
→ *groundwater directive, liability directive*
- Incentives for RA harmonisation principles
- Formal basis for RBLM concept



MONITORING Recommendations



- **General: Action-driven monitoring**
 - Integration with existing reporting activities
 - Step-by-step implementation and harmonisation
 - Guidance for national monitoring schemes

- **Specific on CLM:**
 - Monitoring of national contaminated sites programmes (indicators: no. of sites; surface unfit for current and future uses)
 - Megsites related to EU regional development (site-specific information)



INFORMATION SOURCES

- **CIRCA:**

<http://forum.europa.eu.int/Public/irc/env/Home/main>

(Click 1st on Soil Policy, 2nd library)

- **CLARINET:**

<http://www.clarinet.at>

- **CONSOIL 2005** in Bordeaux (France):

<http://www.consoil.de>



CURRENT STATUS

- Final editing of reports end of this week
- DG ENV consolidates to policy information
- New Commission by 1st Sept. 2004
- New Commission will decide how to proceed with EU soil policy