

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>PREFACE</b>	6
<b>1. INTRODUCTION</b>	8
<b>2. DEFINITION AND DESCRIPTION OF “MEDICAL WASTE”</b>	11
2.1 Description of medical waste	12
2.2 Quantification of medical waste	14
<b>3. MEDICAL WASTE RISKS AND IMPACT ON HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT</b>	15
3.1 Persons potentially exposed	16
3.2 Risks associated with hazardous medical waste	17
3.2.1 Risks of trauma and infection	17
3.2.2 Survival of micro-organisms in the environment	19
3.2.3 Biological risks associated with exposure to solid household refuse	21
3.2.4. Chemical risks	21
3.3 Risks associated with the inappropriate processing and dumping of hazardous medical waste	24
3.3.1. Incineration risks	24
3.3.2. Risks related to random disposal or uncontrolled dumping	25
3.3.3. Risks related to the discharge of raw sewage	25
<b>4. LEGISLATION</b>	27
4.1 International agreements	28
4.2 National Legislation	30

<b>5. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF A WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME</b>	<b>33</b>
5.1 Assigning responsibilities	34
5.2 Sub-contracting, regional cooperation	37
5.3 Initial assessment	37
5.4 Preparing the waste management plan	38
5.5 Estimating costs	39
5.6 Implementing the waste management plan	40
<b>6. MINIMIZATION, RECYCLING</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>7. SORTING, RECEPTACLES AND HANDLING</b>	<b>45</b>
7.1 Sorting principles	46
7.2 How to sort waste	47
7.3 Handling of bags	50
<b>8. COLLECTION AND STORAGE</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>9. TRANSPORT</b>	<b>53</b>
9.1 Vehicles and means of conveyance	54
9.2 On-site transport	55
9.3 Off-site transport	56
9.4 Cross-border transport	56

<b>10. TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL</b>	<b>57</b>
10.1 Choosing treatment and disposal methods	58
10.2 Incineration	62
10.3 Chemical disinfection	68
10.4 Autoclaving	69
10.5 Needle extraction or destruction	71
10.6 Shredders	73
10.7 Encapsulation	74
10.8 Disposal in a sanitary landfill or waste burial pit	75
10.9 Disposal of liquid wastes in the sewage	77
 <b>11. STAFF PROTECTION MEASURES</b>	 <b>79</b>
11.1 Personal protective equipment	81
11.2 Personal hygiene	83
11.3 Vaccination	84
11.4 Measures to be taken in the event of accidental exposure to blood	84
11.5 Emergency measures in the event of spills or contamination of surfaces	86
11.6 Emergency measures in the event that persons have been contaminated	88
 <b>12. TRAINING</b>	 <b>89</b>
12.1 Why and how	90
12.2 Content	91
 <b>13. FURTHER INFORMATION</b>	 <b>93</b>

<b>ANNEX 1 WASTE DATA SHEETS</b>	95
Data sheet no. 1: Sharps (category 1)	96
Data sheet no. 2: Waste entailing risk of contamination (category 2.a)	98
Data sheet no. 3: Anatomical waste (category 2.b)	100
Data sheet no. 4: Infectious waste (category 2.c)	102
Data sheet no. 5: Pharmaceutical waste (category 3.a)	104
Data sheet no. 6: Cytotoxic waste (category 3.b)	106
Data sheet no. 7: Mercury waste (category 3.c)	108
Data sheet no. 8: Photographic development liquids (category 3.d)	110
Data sheet no. 9: Chemical waste (category 3.d)	112
Data sheet no. 10: Pressurized containers (category 4)	114
Data sheet no. 11: Radioactive waste (category 5)	116
 <b>ANNEX 2 METHOD DATA SHEETS</b>	117
Data sheet 12: Choosing sharps containers	118
Data sheet 13: Burial pit	120
Data sheet 14: Burial pit for anatomical waste	122
Data sheet 15 : Sharps pit	124
 <b>ANNEX 3 TOOLS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</b>	127
Annex 3.1 Example of a form for quantifying waste generation	128
Annex 3.2 Checklist for describing the current situation	129
Annex 3.3 Example of a waste flow diagram	134
Annex 3.4 Audit checklist	135
Annex 3.5 International transport of dangerous goods by road	145
Annex 3.6 Example of a poster: What to do in the event of AEB	150
 <b>ANNEX 4 LIST OF SYMBOLS AND PICTOGRAMS</b>	151
 <b>LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES</b>	156
 <b>LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS</b>	158