

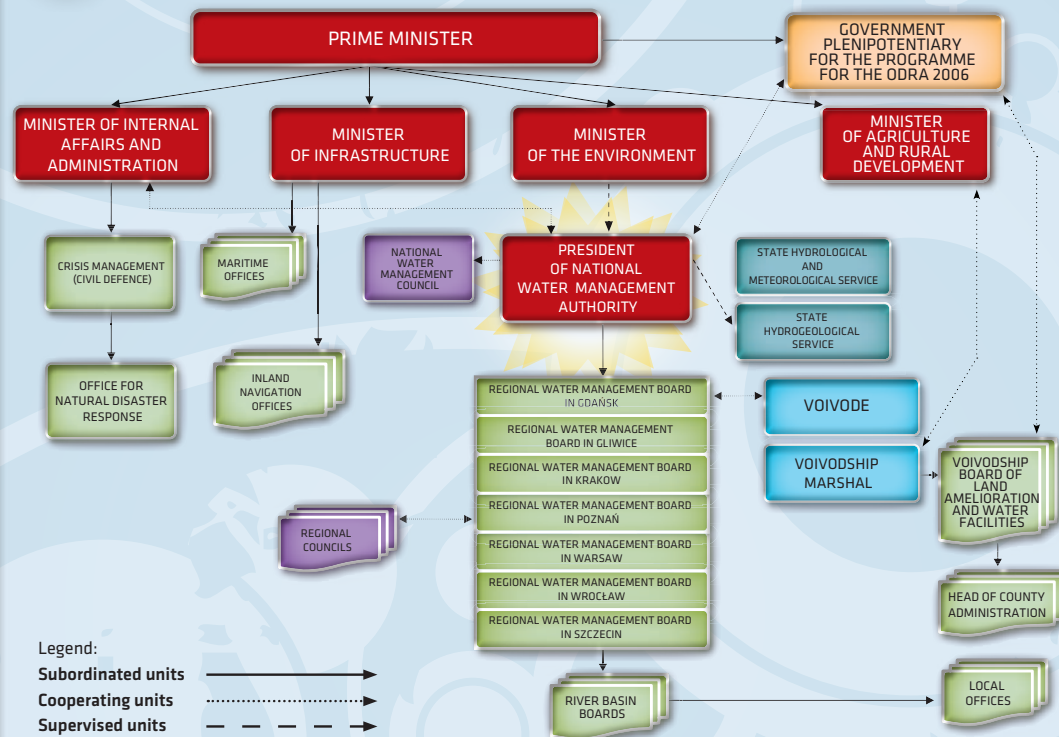


## A list of the legal acts of the European Communities which are implemented by the National Authority in cooperation with the Regional Boardss

1. Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy, the so-called Water Framework.
2. Directive 2007/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2007 on the assessment and management of flood risks, the so-called Flood Directive.
3. Council Directive 91/676/EEC of 12 December 1991 concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources, the so-called Nitrates Directive.
4. Council Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning urban waste water treatment.
5. Directive 2008/105/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on environmental quality standards in the field of water policy.
6. Directive 2006/11/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 February 2006 on pollution caused by certain dangerous substances discharged into the aquatic environment of the Community.
7. Council Directive 80/68/EEC of 17 December 1979 on the protection of groundwater against pollution caused by certain dangerous substances.
8. Directive 2006/44/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 September 2006 on the quality of fresh waters needing protection or improvement in order to support fish life.
9. Directive 2006/113/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on the quality required of shellfish waters.
10. Directive 2006/118/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration.



## Organisational structure of water management in Poland



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# THE NATIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

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## Water management in Poland

Water management is one of the sectors of the national economy which is strongly connected with other fields of economic activity. The aim of water management understood as an economic and scientific activity is the rational development and use of surface water and groundwater resources, with consideration given to their quantity and quality.

The main tasks of water management in Poland are deemed to include:

- improvement of the cleanliness of surface waters and groundwater,
- ensuring the appropriate quantity and quality of water for the population, industry and agriculture,
- protection against floods and drought,
- protection of waters against pollution and their incorrect or excessive use,
- maintenance and improvement of the status of aquatic and water-dependent ecosystems,
- creation of the conditions for the use of water resources for energy, transport and fishing purposes,
- meeting needs related to tourism, sports and recreation.



## The National Water Management Authority

The National Water Management Authority was established on 1 July 2006. The President of the National Water Management Authority carries out his duties with the support of the National Water Management Authority which was set up pursuant to Article 90 (4) of the Water Act of 18 July 2001 and the Regulation of the Prime Minister of 27 June 2006 conferring the statute to the National Water Management Authority.

The President of the National Water Management Authority is a central government administration authority responsible for the management and use of waters. He is selected through a competition and appointed and dismissed by the Prime Minister, on request from the Minister responsible for water management. The Vice Presidents of the National Authority are appointed and dismissed by the Minister responsible for water management, on request of the President of the National Water Management Authority. The activity of the President of the National Water Management Authority is supervised by the Minister responsible for water management. The tasks of the Minister responsible for water management are set out by the Water Act and include in particular:

- development of a national programme for the aquatic environment, draft River Basin Management Plans and a plan for flood risk management and drought response across the country, taking into account the division into River Basin Districts;
- approval of draft conditions for the use of waters in a water region;
- keeping a water cadastre for the State territory, taking into account the division into the River Basin Districts;

- exercising supervision over the activities of the Directors of the Regional Water Management Boards;
  - exercising supervision over the functioning of the State Hydrological and Meteorological Service and the State Hydrogeological Service;
  - representing the State Treasury in relation to property related to water management as set out by the Act;
  - programming, planning and supervising the implementation of tasks related to the maintenance of waters or water facilities and investment projects in water management;
  - approval of the draft lists of priority programmes of the National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management, in the parts relating to water management;
- and also
- management of State Treasury property related to water management and the maintenance of waters or water facilities;
  - discharging the obligations of the owner of waters which are important for the development of water resources and flood protection, in particular groundwater and inland surface waters.

## The Regional Water Management Boards



The Directors of the Regional Water Management Boards are subordinated to the President of the National Water Management Authority. The President of the National Authority plays the function of a higher authority within the meaning of the Administrative Procedure Code with respect to the Voivods and the Directors of the Regional Boards in the matters set out by the Water Act. The organisation of the Regional Board is laid down by statute conferred by the Minister responsible for water management on a request from the President of the National Authority. The Director of the Regional Board is appointed and recalled by the Minister responsible for water management on a request from the President of the National Authority, after he has obtained the opinion of the National Water Management Council. The Deputy Directors of the Regional Board are appointed and recalled by the President of the National Authority on request from the Director of the Regional Board, after he has obtained the opinion of the water management council of the water region. The Director of the Regional Board submits an annual report on the implementation of the tasks laid down in the Water Act to the President of the National Authority by 31 March at the latest.

The President of the National Authority and the Directors of the Regional Boards control the use of waters in terms of:

- status of implementation of water management plans and programmes established pursuant to the Act;
- use of waters and compliance with the conditions set out in decisions issued pursuant to the Act;
- maintenance of waters and water facilities;
- compliance with the conditions in effect in the protective zones and areas established pursuant to the Act;
- compliance with the conditions in effect for flood protection embankments and areas exposed to a direct flood risk.

## Map of Poland with a division into the operational areas of the Regional Water Management Boards

