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ACT
OF THE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

of 24 August 1994

CONCERNING HEALTHCARE

(as amended)

PART ONE
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1
Scope of the Law

This law establishes the rights and duties of state and district administration bodies, other legal and natural persons, the exercise of state management and state health control in the area of health protection (hereinafter referred to as „health protection").

Article 2
Basic Concepts

(1) Health is a state of complete physical and mental wellbeing, and not simply the absence of disease; it is a result of the interplay of between the human body and social, economical, physical, chemical and biological factors of the living and working environments and the way of life.
(2) Health protection is a set of measures aimed at preventing the rise and spread of diseases or containing their occurrence and the occurrence of other health problems, they are also aimed at improving public health by means of ensuring healthy living conditions, healthy working conditions and a healthy way of life and by the exercise of state health control.
(3) For the purposes of this law, living conditions means the physical, chemical and biological factors of the living environment in their relationship to public health, housing, holidays, physical culture and other leisure activities, culture and other engaging activities, transport, the provision of healthcare and of other services; living

conditions means also foodstuffs and nutrition, the condition and employment of objects coming in contact with foodstuffs and the objects of everyday use, the conditions of a healthy development, upbringing, mental and physical development of children and young people and of any individual.

(4) For the purposes of this law, working conditions means the physical, chemical, biological, physiological, psychological and sociological factors which exercise influence on an individual‘s health and productivity in the process of labour; working conditions are influenced by the regime of work and rest, and by the technical conditions of the working environment.

(5) For the purposes of this law, healthy living and working conditions means such conditions which, far from having an adverse influence on public health, protect it and produce a salutary effect.

(6) Way of life means human behaviour which is based on the interaction between living conditions, social and economic factors and personal qualities. The way of life is influenced by factors as different as nutrition, social communication, the ability to overcome psychological and social difficulties, leisure and sports activities, alcohol consumption, the use of medications, stupefying and psychotropic substances and smoking habits.

(7) The factors in the living and working environment which have a harmful effect on public health can be of a physical, chemical or biological nature; according to contemporary science, they cause, or may cause health problems, and have a negative impact on the physiological and psychological functioning of people

(8) Health risk assessment means evaluation of the magnitude of the threat to human health posed by hazardous factors in the living and working conditions and by the way of life of individuals; it‘s aim is to reduce health hazards.

(9) For the purposes of this law, primary prevention means a system of measures, intended to reduce, or even rule out, the risk of health problems deriving to a considerable extent from living, working, social and economic conditions and the way of life, as well as measures intended to improve human health.

(10) A measure intended to mitigate radiation exposure is an activity which leads to limiting radiation exposure or the likelihood of radiation exposure in the course of activities involving irradiation by influencing irradiation causes, i.e. by modifying irradiation paths or by limiting the number of irradiated individuals.

(11) Intervention is an activity intended to mitigate radiation exposure in the event of a radiation accident, radiation emergency or exposure to radioactive waste.

(12) A source of ionising radiation is a radioactive emitter, an apparatus containing a radioactive emitter, a generator of ionising radiation or an apparatus whose activity generates radionuclides.

(13) Natural ionising radiation is ionising radiation of natural - terrestrial or cosmic - origin.

(14) For the purposes of this law, a radioactive emitter is a radioactive substance, whose radionuclide content exceeds the values indicated in the generally applicable legal provisions issued in conformity with Art. 17y (a).

(15) A radioactive substance is any substance containing one or more radionuclides.

(16) A closed emitter is a radioactive emitter whose technical design is such as to preclude, under forseeable conditions, release of radioactive substances into the environment.

(17) An open emitter is a radioactive emitter which does not satisfy the requirements laid down for a closed emitter.

(18) A generator of ionising radiation is an electrical appliance or an electrical apparatus whose operation generates ionising radiation with an energy level exceeding 5 keV.

(19) Ionising radiation is radiation which transmits energy in the form of particles or electromagnetic waves, whose wavelength does not exceed 100 mm or whose frequency is above 3,1015 Hz, and which is capable of a direct or indirect generation of ions.

(20) A workplace containing sources of ionising radiation is a workplace where work with sources of ionising radiation is carried out on a temporary or permanent basis; a restricted area means working premises containing sources of ionising radiation, where special protection measures apply, controlled entry included.

(21) An employee working with sources of ionising radiation is an individual exposed to radiation during his work activity which may lead to exceeding some of the radiation exposure limits laid down for members of the public in a generally applicable legal act issued in compliance with Art.17y (c).

(22) A Category A worker is an employee working with sources of ionising radiation whose effective dose, absorbed in the course of his work, may exceed 6mSv for a period of one calendar year or whose equivalent dose, received in the course of his work, may exceed three tenths of the exposure limits set for employees working with sources of ionising radiation by a generally applicable legal act issued in compliance with Art.17y (c).

(23) Radiation protection is a system of technical and organisational measures designed to limit radiation exposure.

(24) A radiation accident is an exceptional event caused by loss of control over sources of ionising radiation belonging to Classes 3 to 6 (Art. 17b), which may cause irradiation to individuals at a workplace containing sources of ionising radiation.

(25) A radiation emergency is an exceptional event caused by loss of control over sources of ionising radiation belonging to Classes 3 to 6 (Art. 17b), which causes leakage of radioactive substances or ionising radiation into the environment.

(26) For the purposes of this law, monitoring is the systematic measurement of the values through which or with the help of which the exposure of individuals to radiation is controlled, followed and evaluated; it is also the measurement of the radioactive contamination of employees working with sources of ionising radiation and of workplaces containing sources of ionising radiation.

CHAPTER THREE
HEALTH PROTECTION AT WORK

Article 13p
Health Risk Assessment and Categorization of Work

(1) Work shall be divided into four categories, depending on the occurrence of factors which may influence employees' health and depending on the health risk assessment. The categorisation criteria shall be laid down by a decree of the government of the Slovak Republic.
(2) The proposals for the categorisation of work shall be submitted to the appropriate health protection body by the employer or by the physician providing healthcare at the workplace; the terms of the proposal shall be laid down by a decree of the government of the Slovak Republic.
(3) The employer shall notify without delay the appropriate health protection body about any change in the working conditions which may influence the categorisation of work.

Article 13r
Risk-Involving Work and Keeping Record of It

(1) Risk-involving work means work involving major health hazards, which may lead to occupational diseases or other kinds of work-related illnesses; this kind of work shall be included in Category 3 or 4.
(2) The employer, at whose place risk-involving work is carried out shall keep and maintain records about each employee who performs risk-involving work as defined by this law.
(3) Only medically fit individuals may be employed at workplaces involving major health hazards.

Article 13s
Health Protection during Work with Chemical Substances

(1) The employer shall –
(a) check for presence of hazardous chemical agents at the workplace, and in the event of discovering any, shall assess the risk[6aj] (6aj) deriving from these agents, with a view to taking measures concerning:
   1. their hazardous properties; (6ad)
   2. security data tables; (6ad)
   3. degree, type and duration of the effect of chemical agents;
   4. working conditions depending on such factors, the factor of quantity included;
   5. maximum permissible values of radiation exposure of employees to hazardous chemical substances and biological limit values;
   6. efficacity of protection measures taken or planned;
   7. conclusions of preventive medical check-ups already carried-out[6ak] ;
(b) request and obtain from the supplier or other accessible sources additional information if such is needed for risk assessment purposes;
(c) assess the risk -

[6aj] Art.2a (d) of Law No 330/1996 Laws Coll. of the National Assembley of the Slovak Republic concerning Safety and Health Protection at Work, as amended in Law No 158/2001 Laws Coll.
[6ak] Law No 98/1995 Laws Coll. of the National Assembley of the Slovak Republic concerning Medical Treatment Procedures, as amended in later acts;

1. in the event of discovering a hazardous chemical agent;
2. at each significant change in the conditions or if the results of medical check-ups indicate that such an assessment is necessary;
3. at each new activity involving hazardous chemical agents.

(2) With activities involving the exposure of employees to a number of hazardous chemical agents, risk assessment shall be based on the evaluation of the interaction of all factors taken together.

(3) In the course of any activity involving hazardous chemical agents, the employer, apart from observing the general principles of prevention laid down by the appropriate specific provisions [6al], shall also observe the general principles of risk prevention related to hazardous chemical agents.

(4) If risk assessment in accordance with Para.1(a) indicates the existence of a risk related to hazardous chemical agents, the employer shall avoid it by carrying out specific protection and prevention measures.

(5) If, for reasons related to the nature of the activity, it is impossible to avoid the risk associated with hazardous chemical agents as required in Para.4, the employer shall minimise it by carrying out specific protection and prevention measures.

(6) Specific protection and prevention measures in accordance with Para. 4 and 5 shall not be carried out if risk assessment in accordance with Para.1(a) indicates that the quantities of the hazardous chemical agents at the workplace are such that the risk involved is slight and that the observance of the general risk prevention principles in accordance with Para.3 is sufficient to reduce it further.

(7) If the employer is unable to implement the measures envisaged in Para.4, he shall carry out regularly and at each change of the working conditions which may have an impact on the employees‘ exposure to chemical agents, measurements of these agents if they pose a risk to the employees‘ health at the workplace, especially in their realation to the maximum permissible values indicated in Para. 8.

(8) When assessing the risks related to hazardous chemical agents, the employer shall take into account the results of the measurements in accordance with Para.7. Should the maximum permissble values of exposure to chemical agents be exceeded, he shall implement protection and prevention measures in order to eliminate the resulting risks.

(9) On the basis of an overall risk assessment in accordance with Para.1 and 3, the employer shall implement protection and prevention measures corresponding to the nature of the activity carried out, including storage, treatment and separation of chemical agents capable of reacting with each other and shall ensure the protection of employees against health hazards posed by the physical and chemical properties of chemical agents.

(10) For work with hazardous chemical agents, an employer may only engage medically and professionally fit individuals who have attained 18 years of age; individuals aged between 16 and 18 years may carry out work with such agents solely for the purposes of professional training and only if they are under professional guidance and control and if they are provided with personal protection devices. The

[6al] Art. 8 Law No 330/1996 Laws Coll. of the National Assembley of the Slovak Republic, as amended in Law No 158/2001 Laws Coll.

persons responsible for work with hazardous chemical agents shall satisfy the requirements for professional competence.

(11) The employer shall provide employees and their representatives with the data obtained in compliance with Para.1, with information on hazardous chemical agents occurring at the workplace and shall grant them access to any security data records or data kept by him in accordance with Para.15 (a) and (b).

(12) In order to prevent the risks posed by the exposure of employees to chemical agents and by work related ro such agents, the production, processing and use of certain chemical agents for the purposes indicated in a generally applicable legal provision (Para. 16) shall not be allowed.

(13) At the request of the employer, an exception to the provisions of Para.12 may be made by the appropriate body for the purposes of –

(a) scientific research and testing, analyses included;

(b) an activity intended to isolate chemical agents existing in the form of by-products or waste products;

(c) the production of certain chemical agents, indicated in Para.12, for use as intermediate products and other similar uses; in such cases the employer shall carry out the activity in an autonomous closed system, from which the chemical agents may be removed only in so far as this is indispensable for the monitoring of the working proces or for the maintenance of the system.

(14) When establishing health control, the employer shall start with risk assessment in accordance with Para.1 (c). If the results of the assessment point to a risk posed by the exposure of employees to chemical agents, the employer shall act in accordance with the provisions of Art.13, Para.3.

(15) The employer shall also –

(a) keep records of the measurement results of the chemical agents absorbed by employees engaged in risk-involving work (Art.13, Para.1) and shall maintain them for 20 years after the termination of work, unless further provided otherwise;

(b) keep records of the type and quantity of the chemical agents used and shall maintain them for ten years after the termination of work;

(c) submit the records indicated in (a) and (b) to the appropriate health protection body after the termination of work or after closing the workplace;

(d) elaborate operation procedures and present them for approval to the appropriate health protection body; he shallalso elaborate a proposal for their modification [Art.27, Para. 2 (e)];

(e) ensure that hazardous chemical substances are not misused or stolen;

(f) ensure the observance of health protection requirements when storing hazardous chemical agents;

(g) forward the data to the health protection body in accordance with the generally applicable legal act (Para. 16).

(16) A decree of the government of the Slovak Republic shall determine –

(a) the maximum permissible level of employee exposure to hazardous chemical agents and biological limit agents;

(b) the general risk prevention principles concerning hazardous chemical agents;

(c) specific protection and prevention measures aimed at ruling out or limiting the risk posed by hazardous chemical agents in accordance with Para. 4 and 5;

(d) professional capability requirements for persons managing work with hazardous chemical agents;
(e) the chemical agents and their uses which are not permitted at the workplace;
(f) the elements of risk assessment in accordance with Para.1 (c);
(g) the components that a request should contain in accordance with Para.13;
(h) the components that a record should contain in accordance with Para.15 (a) and (b);
(i) operation proceedure components in accordance with Para.15(d);
(j) the scope and the contents of the data notified by the employer to the appropriate health protection body in accordance with Para 15 (g).

Article 13t
Health Protection during Work with Cancerogenic and Mutagenic Agents

(1) For any activity which may involve the exposure of employees to cancerogenic or mutagenic agents, the employer shall ascertain the type, extent and duration of such exposure so as to be able to assess all hazards which the employees will be encounter and to implement the necessary measures Such assessment shall be carried out by the employer on a regular basis and at each change in the conditions which may have an impact on the exposure of employees to cancerogenic or mutagenic agents. When assessing the risk [6aj], the employer shall take into account all possible paths and means of penetration of these agents into the human body. At the request of the appropriate health protection body, the employer shall propose the criteria which shall form the basis for the assessment of the risk involved in the exposure of employees to cancerogenic or mutagenic agents.
(2) When assessing the risk in accordance with Para.1, the employer shall inspect in person the employees exposed to risks and shall examine the equipment at the workplace which may present a threat of exposure to cancerogenic or mutagenic agents.
(3) If technically possible, the employer shall limit the use of cancerogenic or mutagenic agents at the workplace, and shall replace them by substances, preparations or methods, which are not hazardous or which pose a lesser risk to employees‘ health.
(4) If the results of risk assessment in accordance with Para.1 indicate a risk posed by cancerogenic or mutagenic agents, the employer shall –
(a) prohibit the exposure of employees to these agents;
(b) not allow the technical indicative values and the exposure equivalents to cancerogenic or mutagenic agents to be exceeded;
(c) at the request of the appropriate health protection body, provide information on evaluation results;
(d) inform employees and their representatives about measures taken to avoid or minimise the risk posed by cancerogenic or mutagenic agents.
(5) If the replacement of the cancerogenic or mutagenic agents in accordance with Para.3 is not technically possible, the employer shall organise, to the extent that this is technically possible, their production and use in a closed system,. If the use of a closed system is not technically possible, the employer shall ensure that the exposure of the employees to such agents is reduced to the technical minimum.

(6) For certain activities, during which employees run a considerable risk of exposure to cancerogenic or mutagenic agents and during which their health protection cannot be assured by other preventive measures of a technical nature, the employer shall implement measures to reduce the time of exposure of employees to cancerogenic or mutagenic agents and to protect them in the course of such activities; when deciding on the measures to be adopted, he shall take into account the opinion of employees and their representatives.
(7) The employer shall ensure that the measures envisaged in Para.6 are implemented in a restricted, clearly designated area or shall find other means of preventing unauthorised individuals from entering the area.
(8) The employer shall provide information and instruction to employees and their representatives concerning the hazards involved in the use of cancerogenic and mutagenic agents and the health protection measures that need to be implemented.
(9) If the appropriate health-protection body prescribes an exceptionnal preventive medical examination of employees [Art.6 (d)] because of their high exposure to cancerogenic and mutagenic agents, the employer shall conduct another risk assessment in accordance with Para.1.
(10) Only medically fit persons who have attained 18 years of age shall be employed to work with cancerogenic or mutagenic agents.Pregnant women, mothers with children younger than nine months of age, and nursing women may not be employed to work with cancerogenic or mutagenic agents.
(11) The employer shall keep records of employees exposed to cancerogenic or mutagenic agents and records of measurement results. He shall maintain these records or ensure their maintenance for at least 40 years after the termination of work; and shall make them accessible to employees, their representatives, the physician at the workplace and the appropriate health protection body.
(12) Cancerogenic or mutagenic agents may not be used for teaching purposes at primary and secondary schools. Such agents may be used at universities and research institutes following a notification of the appropriate health protection body.
(13) A decree of the government of the Slovak Republic shall lay down –
(a) preventive technical and organisational measures to preclude or limit the exposure of employees to cancerogenic or mutagenic agents at work;
(b) the scope and contents of the information and the data provided by the employer to the health protection body, the employees and their representatives;
(c) technical indicative values of cancerogenic or mutagenic agents:
(d) exposure equivalents of cancerogenic and mutagenic agents.

Article 13u
Health Protection during Work with Asbestos

(1) For any activity involving the possibility of exposure to the hazardous effect of asbestos dust or dust from asbestos-containing materials, the employer shall determine the nature and degree of the employees‘ exposure to the dust of asbestos or asbestos-containing materials, in order to be able to assess the health risk which employees face, while at the same time taking into account the opinion of employees and their representatives.

(2) The employer shall notify the appropriate health protection body of any of the activities indicated in Para.1 before its beginning and at each change in the use of asbestos or asbestos-containing materials.
(3) The use of asbestos in the form of dust, as well as any working method involving the use of asbestos-containing materials for insulation purposes shall be prohibited.
(4) In the course of any of the activities indicated in Para.1, the exposure of employees to the dust of asbestos or asbestos-containing materials shall –
(a) be reduced to the lowest possible level;
(b) shall not exceed the highest technical indicative values.
(5) The employer shall ensure regular mesurement of the content of asbestos in the air of the workplace by means of the referential method or any other method, yielding equivalent results. Measurement shall be done of an employee‘s personal exposure to the dust of asbestos or asbestos-containing materials, except in the cases where a group of employees carry out identical or similar work at comparable places and where the sampling may be done for the group as a whole.
(6) When levels, indicated in Para. 4 (b), are exceeded, the owner shall –
(a) determine the causes for the excessive levels and shall immediately implement protection measures;
(b) discontinue work until protection measures in accordance with (a) have been carried out;
(c) carry out measurements for asbestos in order to determine the efficacy of protection measures taken in accordance with (a).
(7) If it is impossible to limit the effect of the dust of asbestos or asbestos containing materials, the employer shall provide employees with personal devices for the protection of the respiratory organs to be used at the workplace and shall ensure such conditions that employees use these devices only when unavoidable and only for a strictly limited period of time.
(8) Should the execution of certain activities be likely to result in excessive exposure levels according to Para.4 (b) and should it be impossible to carry out effective technical measures to limit the effect of the dust of asbestos or asbestos-containing materials, the employer shall implement protection measures.
(9) Before the beginning of demolition or repair works aimed at removing asbestos or asbestos-containing materials, the employer shall prepare a work plan.
(10) In addition, for all activities indicated in Para.1, the employer shall –
(a) implement specific protection measures and provide information to employees and their representatives;
(b) keep a list of employees and records of the employees‘exposure to the dust of asbestos or asbestos-containing materials and shall maintain these records or ensure their maintenance in accordance with Art.13, Para.11.
(11) The provisions of Para. 2, 5 and 10 (b) shall not apply to activities involving the exposure of employees to the dust of asbestos or asbestos-containing materials which does not exceed the limit technical indicative values.
(12) A government decree of the Slovak Republic shall determine –
(a) the content of notifications in accordance with Para.2;
(b) the maximum technical indicative values for the exposure of employees to the dust of asbestos or asbestos-containing materials;

(c) the limit technical indicative values for the exposure of employees to the dust of asbestos or asbestos-containing materials;
(d) the requirements for the measurement of asbestos in the air of the workplace;
(e) the protection measures to limit the effect of the dust of asbestos or asbestos-containing materials in accordance with Para.4 (a), Para.8 and Para.10 (a);
(f) the requirements of the workplan in accordance with Para.9,
(g) the scope of the information provided by the employer to employees and their representatives in accordance with Para.10 (a);
(h) the content of lists and records under Para.10 (b).

Article 13v
Health Protection during Work with Biological Substances

(1) For any activity, involving the potential risk of exposure of employees to biological agents, the employer shall determine the nature, degree and duration of the exposure of employees to these agents in order to be able to assess the health risk they entail for employees and determine the due protection measures.
(2) For activities involving the risk of exposure of employees to a number of types of biological agents, the employer shall act in accordance with Art.13s, Para.2.
(3) Further more, the employer shall –
(a) assess the risk involved in the regular exposure of employees to biological agents and at each change in the conditions which may influence the exposure of employees to such agents;
(b) carry out risk assessmnet in accordance with Item (a) taking into account all available information;
(c) find replacements for hazardous biological agents and reduce the risk involved in the use of such agents in accordance with the procedure laid down in Art. 13t, Para.3 and 4 (a);
(d) carry our protection measures to reduce the risk that biological agents entail;
(e) at the request of the appropriate health protection body provide information in accordance with Item (b) and other information if risk assessment results indicate the existence of a threat to employees' health;
(f) inform without delay the appropriate health protection body of any exceptional event entailing potential leakage of a biological agent, capable of causing serious contageous disease on human beings;
(g) provide information and instructions of the scope and contents determined by a generally applicable legal act (Para.6) to employees and their representatives;
(h) keep a list of employees exposed to the biological agents categorized in Groups 3 and 4 and records of the values of the employees' exposure to biological agents and –
    1. maintain these for 10 years after the termination of exposure to biological agents;
    2. maintain these or ensure their maintenance for 40 years after the termination of exposure to biological agents in the cases determined by a generally applicable legal act (Para.6);
(i) enable access of the appropriate health protection body and the physician in charge of healthcare at the workplace to the list and the records in accordance to Item (h) and submit the list and the recors to the appropriate health protection body after the termination of the respective activity or after the closure of the workplace;

(j) notify in advance the appropriate health protection body of a first use of a biological agent, not later than 30 days before work begins, and of any use of another biological agent or a new type of biological agent, within the time limits and the framework determined by a generally applicable legal act (Para.6).

(4) The use of biological agents shall be approved by the appropriate health protection body; subject to approval shall also be any change in the use of a biological agent [Art. 27, Para.2 (j)].

(5) Should risk assessment conducted in accordance with Para.1 indicate that the exposure or the potential exposure of employees to biological agents categorised in Group 1 does not constitute a health risk for them, the provisions of Para. 2 – 4 shall not be applied.

(6) A government decree of the Slovak Republic shall determine –

(a) the classification of biological agents;

(b) the scope and contents of the data and the information required in assessing the risks of exposure of employees to biological agents;

(c) protection mesures to reduce the risk of exposure of employees to biological agents;

(d) the scope and contents of information and instructions to be provided by the employer to employees and their representatives;

(e) the particulars to be included in lists drawn in accordance with Para.3 (h) and the requirements for the maintenance of lists of employees exposed to biological agents and for the maintenance of the records of their exposure to such agents;

(f) the scope and contents of a notification to the health protection body concerning use of biological agents and the particulars to be included in a notification made in accordance with Para. 3 (j).

Article 17b
Classification Criteria for Sources of Ionising Radiation

The classification of sources of ionising radiation into categories 1 to 6 depending on the gravity of the potential health hazard they constitute shall be determined by a generally applicable legal act to be issued by the Ministry of Health in accordance with Art.17 (e). The criteria for dividing sources of ionising radiation into categories 1- 6 shall be as follows:

(a) dose equivalent rate, energy and type of ionising radiation;

(b) technical make-up and design of the source of ionising radiation;

(c) type of activity performed with the source of ionising radiation and the potential health hazard it involves;

(d) potential risk posed by forseeable breakdowns and departures from routine operation;

(e) activity and mass activity in the case of a radioactive emitter.

Article 17c
Medical Exposure to Radiation

(1) Individuals may undergo medical exposure to radiation (6a) only following a decision made by the treating physician.

(2) In the event of radiodiagnostic examinations, examinations based on the methods of nuclear medicine and in radiotherapeutic practice, the examination and treatment methods shall be chosen having regard to the following requirements –

(a) in the course of radiodiagnostic examinations, irradiation doses absorbed in the tissues of that part of the body which is under examination and irradiation doses absorbed in the tissues and the organs which are not under examination, shall remain at the lowest possible levels but shall not be so reduced as to restrict the amount of the required radiodiagnostic information;

(b) during examinations based on the methods of nuclear medicine, only the optimum indispensable amount of a radioactive substance of the required purity and activity shall be applied so as to ensure sufficient diagnostic information at the lowest irradiation cost for the patient;

(c) in the course of radiotherapeutic practice and the therapeutic application of radionuclides, the radiation exposure of the part of the body which is under treatment shall be so done as to ensure the required therapeutic effect while at the same time keeping the irradiation of tissues in the rest of the body as low as reasonably achievable without restricting the effect of the treatment.

(3) Radiodiagnostic examinations of pregnant women, as well as examinations based on the methods of nuclear medicine and the therapeutic applications of radionuclides in the case of pregnant and nursing women may be carried out only in urgent circumstances and where pregnnt women are concerned, for reasons of birth indications.

(4) The irradiation of persons who, of their own free will and outside of the framework of obligations deriving from the execution of a profession or from labour law relations, take care of patients exposed to medical radiation (6a), visit these patients or are live in the same household as patients released from a health institution after undergoing an application of radionuclides, may not exceed the radiation exposure limits established by a generally applicable legal act, issued in accordance with Art. 17y (c). The data concerning irradiation doses shall be registered in the patient‘s medical records.

Article 17h
Requirements for Issuing Licences to Conduct Activities Involving Radiation Exposure and Major Activities Related to Radiation Protection

(1) The health protection body responsible for the issue of licences in accordance with Art. 17f**,** Para.2 - 4, shall issue a license to a natural or a legal person if they meet the conditions laid down in this law.

(2) The health protection body responsible for issuing licences in accordance with Art. 17f**,** Para.2 - 4, shall issue a license to a natural person if the said person –

(a) has the capacity to perform legal acts;

(b) has permanent residence on the territory of the Slovak Republic;

(c) has the required qualifications and professional work experience;

(d) has a competency certificate in the area for which he is applying for a licence;

(e) is medically fit;

(f) has an irreproachable record.

(3) Required qualifications to perform activities in accordance with Art. 17f , Para. 2, and professional work experience in the area means –
(a) completed higher education in a medical, pharmaceutical, technical or a scientific branch of study and a professional work experience of at least three years or –
(b) a BA degree in a technical or a scientific subject and a professional work experience of at least five years or –
(c) completed secondary education and a professional work experience of at least seven years.
(4) (4) Required qualifications to perform activities in accordance with Art. 17f , Para. 3 and 4, and professional work experience in the area means –
(a) completed secondary specialised education in a technical discipline and a professional work experience of at least seven years or –
(d) completed secondary specialised education or a specialised education at a secondary medical school and a professional work experience of at least seven years.
(5) The health protection body responsible for the issue of licences in accordance with Art. 17f**,** Para.2 - 4, shall issue a license to a legal person if they have a designated specialised agent.
(6) The specialised agent shall meet the conditions laid down in Para.2 and shall be in labour law relation of have a temporary labour relation with the licence holder. The specialised agent shall be responsible for ensuring radiation protection.

Article 17i
Applying for a Licence to Carry out Activities Involving Radiation Exposure and Major Activities Related to Radiation Protection

(1) The application for a licence shall be submitted by the candidate to the Ministry of Health or to the district health officer.
(2) If the candidate is a natural person, in his application he shall indicate –
(a) name, surname, date of birth, place of permanent residence and citisenship;
(b) the activity for which the licence is requested;
(c) the place where the activity is carried out.
(3) Together with the application, made in accordance with Para.2, the candidate shall enclose -
(a) a permanent residence permit for the territory of the Slovak Republic, and in the case of a foreign national (6g) -
(b) a document of completed education;
(c) an attestation or an honest declaration about the length of his professional work experience;
(d) a professional competency certificate;
(e) a medical fitness certificate;
(f) an extract from the Penal Register; the validity of the extract shall not exceed 6 months from the date of its issue;
(g) the documentation indicated in the Annex to this law.
(4) If the candidate is a legal person, in his application he shall indicate –

(a) name (trade name), seat and legal form, name, surname, identification number and place of permanent residence of the person or persons who constitute the statutory body;
(b) name, surname, identification number and place of permanent residence of the specialised agent;
(c) the activity for which the licence is requested;
(d) the place in which the activity is conducted.
(5) Together with the application, made in accordance with Para.4, the candidate shall enclose –
(a) a document concerning the establishment or institution of the legal person and, in the case of a legal person included in the Commercial Register, an extract from the Commercial Register;
(b) an extract from the Penal Register for the person or persons who constitute the Statutory Body; the validity of the extract shall not exceed 6 months from the date of its issue;
(c) a document of completed education, an attestation or an honest declaration concerning the length of the professional work experience, a professional competency certificate, a medical fitness certificate, an extract from the Penal Register (the validity of the extract shall not exceed 6 months from the date of its issue);
(d) the documentation indicated in the Annex to this law.

Article 17o
Medical Fitness for Work with Sources of Ionising Radiation

(1) Medical fitness for work with sources of ionising radiation shall be attested by the results of the preventive medical examinations.
(2) Should there be an apprehension that an employee working with souces of ionising radiation has absorbed a one-time effective radiation dose exceeding 100 mSv, and should there be an apprehension about his having incurred a disease or a health injury which can lead to a change in his medical fitness for work with sources of ionising radiation, the health protection body shall require that an exceptional preventive medical examination be carried out [Art. 6 (d)].

Article 17v
Obligations of Holders of Licences to Carry out Activities Involving Radiation Exposure and Major Activities Related to Radiation Protection

(1) Holders of licences to carry out activities involving radiation exposure (Art.17f, Para.2 and 4) shall –
(a) observe the basic principles of radiation protection (Art. 17a), evaluate systematically the degree of conformity of activities carried out with these principles, bring evaluation results to bear on practical activities and ensure systematic control over the observance of radiation protection requirements;
(b) act in conformity with the documentation approved when the licence was issued;

(c) designate the sources of ionising radiation and keep and maintain the documentation in accordance with the generally applicable legal act issued in conformity with Art.17y (o);
(d) monitor, measure, evaluate, verify and record major quantities, parameters and facts related to radiation protection;
(e) notify, withn the time limit indicated in Art. 171, Para.2, the competent health protection body, which has issued the licence, of any change in the facts on the basis of which the licence has been issued;
(f) forward documents to and notify of the recorded facts the licensing health protection body, the Central Register of Sources of Ionising Radiation and the Central Dose Register in accordance with the generally applicable legal act, issued in conformity with Art. 17y (o);
(g) carry out activities involving radiation exposure in compliance with the provisions of this law and respect the conditions specified in the licence;
(h) ensure monitoring in compliance with the monitoring plan approved on the issue of the licence and, at the request of the employees working with sources of ionising radiation, inform them of monitoring results;
(i) notify without delay the competent health protection body, which has issued the licence, of any instance of exceeding the limits of radiation exposure and any exceptional occurrence caused by loss of control over sources of ionising radiation;
(j) respect the requirements for the safe operation of sources of ionising radiation and of workplaces containing sources of ionising radiation and the special requirements for consistency and precision of measurement and of the measuring instruments;
(k) carry out activities involving radiation exposure only by means of sources of ionising radiation which are properly designated and which have the required documentation;
(l) ensure that work with sources of ionising radiation and treatment of institutional radioactive waste is carried out only by persons authorised to this end in conformity with the present law;
(m) limit the yield of institutional radioactive waste to the inevitable minimum;
(n) keep track of and classify institutional radioactive waste in such a way as to enable the safe treatment of the different types of waste;
(o) respect the requirements for safe treatment of institutional radioactive waste and conduct regular evaluation (once a year at the very least) of their observance;
(p) before the demolition of a workplace containing sources of ionising radiation, remove all sources of ionising radiation and institutional radioactive waste from the workplace and effect decontamination of the work areas and premises and of the technological and technical equipment where work with open radioactive emitters has been carried out;
(q) provide information about radiation protection measures which do not constitute state, institutional or trade secrets;
(r) conclude a liability insurance contract for damage caused to other persons in connection with the implementation of the activity for which the licence has been granted; the said insurance shall cover the whole period of licence validaity;
(s) ensure the professional training of employees working with sources of ionising radiation, as well as basic and periodic specialised instruction of the specialised agent and the persons responsible for work with sources of ionising radiation;

(t) provide health institutions with data concerning personal irradiation doses received by employees working with sources of ionising radiation and other data necessary to evaluate medical fitness for work;
(u) make sure that sources of ionising radiation are not stolen.
(2) Holders of licences to carry out major actiities related to radiation protection (Art.17f, Para 3) shall respect the obligations indicated in Para. 1 (a-f), (s) and (t), as well as the conditions laid down in the licence.
(3) Monitoring in compliance with Para.1 (h) consists of the repeated measurement of quantities, by means of which or with the help of which individual radiation exposure is controlled, followed and evaluated, as well as of the measurement of the radioactive contamination of employees working with sources of ionising radiation and of workplaces containing sources of ionising radiation.

Article 17x
Obligations of Holders of Licences to Carry out Activities Involving Exposure to Radiation in the Event of Radiation Accidents or Radiation Emergencies

In the event of a radiation accident or a radiation emergency, holders of licences to carry out activities involving radiation exposure shall –
(a) ensure that only persons carrying out rescue, localisation and liquidation work (6b), persons carrying out state health control (Art.26) and nuclear safety inspectors (6h) have access to the place of the radiation accident or the radiation emergency;
(b) instruct the persons indicated in Item (a), with the exception of the persons carrying out state health control (Art. 26) and the nuclear safety inspectors (6h), about radiation protection in places of radiation accidents and radiation emergency and about potential exposure risks;
(c) provide the persons indicated in Item (a) with special individual protection devices and personal dosemeters;
(d) intervene without delay;
(e) notify without delay of the radiation accident or the radiation emergency the competent state health control body (Art.24 and 25) and the other concerned bodies, indicated in the emergency plan of the workplace containing sources of ionising radiation;
(f) ascertain and evaluate the scope, causes and possible consequences of a radiation accident or a radiation emergency;
(g) notify the bodies, indicated in Item (e), informing them in particular of the manner in which the intervention has been carried out, of the monitoring results, of the actual and predicted development of the radiation accident or the radiation emergency and of the actual and predicted irradiation of persons;
(h) ensure the liquidation of the consequences of the radiationa accident;
(i) prepare an information in writing of the radiation accident and submit it to the licensing health protection body not later than six weeks after the accident‘s occurrence.

Article 17y
Authorisation Provisions

A generally appliacable legal act to be issued by the Ministry of Health shall determine –

(a) the content of radionuclides the exceeding of which transforms the radioactive substance into a radioactive emitter;
(b) the technical and organisational requirements, indicative values and procedures for establishing the reasonably achievable level of radiation protection;
(c) the radiation exposure limits, permissible values of exceptional radiation and radiation evaluation principles;
(d) the indicative values for medical exposure to radiation (6a);
(e) the categorisation of sources of ionising radiation;
(f) the secondary intervention levels for limiting the radiation exposure of members of the public to natural ionising radiation;
(g) the requirements for the measurement of the content of natural radionuclides in building materials (6c) and in water supplies and the scope and contents of the records of measurement results;
(h) the highest permissible levels of Radium equivalent activity in building materials (6c) and in water supplies and the scope and contents of records of measurement results;
(i) the procedure for determining Radon volume activity in subsoil air and in soils of variable transmissibility in the foundations of buildings under construction in accordance with Art.17d, Para.2;
(j) the intervention levels and secondary intervention levels for limiting the radiation exposure of employees to natural ionising radiation;
(k) the requirements for evaluating the irradiation of employees at workplaces with higher degree of exposure of employees to natural ionising radiation;
(l) the safe operation requirements for workplaces containing sources of ionising radiation;
(m) the highest permissible values of surface radioactive contamination at workplaces containg sources of ionising radiation and the highest permissible values for the discharge of radioactive substances into the living environment;
(n) the specialised training requirements for activities involving radiation exposure and major activities related to radiation protection;
(o) the requirements concerning the designation of sources of ionising radiation, the scope and contents of the records to be kept and maintained and the scope and contents of documents and notifications of registered data to be forwarded to the licensing health protection body, the Central Register of Sources of Ionising Radiation and the Central Dose Register;
(p) the requirements for treating institutional radioactive waste (6e) and the scope and contents of the records of institutional radioactive waste;
(q) the requirements for the transport of sources of ionising radiation belonging to Classes 4 – 6 which are radioactive emitters;
(r) the content value of radioniclides which sets the boundary between those radioactive substances whose release into the environment does not require a permission and the radioactive substances which may only be released into the evironment following a permission by the health protection body;

(s) the requirements for monitoring, measuring, evaluation, verification and recording of major quantities, parameters and facts related to radiation protection;
(t) the monitoring requirements and monitoring plans;
(u) the requirements for conducting tests of sources of ionising radiation and of personal dosimetry services;
(v) the requirements for radiation protection during intervention in radiation emergencies;
(w) the intervention levels and secondary intervention levels for urgent and consecutive antiradiation measures;
(x) the requirements for the emergency response plan of a workplace containing sources of ionising radiation;
(y) particulars concerning the requirements for ensuring the quality of radiation defense.

(6b) Decree No 173/1995 Laws Coll. of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic concerning the Provision of Protection, Localisation and Liquidation Works, as amended by Decree No 383/1998 Laws Coll. of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic;
(6c) Law No 90/1998 Laws Coll. concerning Building Materials, as amended by Law No 264/1999 Laws Coll.;
(6d) Law No 264/1999 Laws Coll. concerning Technical Requirements for Products and Compliance Verification, and concerning the Amendments of Certain Laws;
(6e) Art. 2 (e) and Art. 17, Para.1, of Law No 130/1998 Laws Coll. concerning the Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy and Amending Law No 174/1968 Laws Coll. concerning State Specialised Control over Labour Safety, as amended by Law No 256/1994 Laws Coll. of the National Assemlbly of the Slovak Republic.;
(6f) For instance, Law No 140/1998 Laws Coll. concerning Medicines and Medical Aid, Amendment of Law No 455/1991 Laws Coll.concerning Commercial Enterprising (Law on Commerce), as amended by later acts and the Amendment of Law No 220/1996 Laws Coll. of the National Assemlbly of the Slovak Republic on Advertising, as amended in later acts, Law No 50/1976 Laws Coll. concerning Territorial Planning and Construction Procedures (Law on Construction), as amended by later acts, and Law No 130/1998 Laws Coll.;
(6g) Law No 73/1997 Laws Coll. of the National Assemlbly of the Slovak Republic concerning the Sojourn of Foreign Nationals on the Territory of the Slovak Republic, as amended by Law No 70/1997 Laws Coll. and Law No 69/2000 Laws Coll.;
(6h) Art. 34 of Law No 130/1998 Laws Coll.;
(6i) Law No 238/1991 Laws Coll. on Waste, as amended by Law No 255/1993 Laws Coll. of the National Assemlbly of the Slovak Republic.;
(6j) Art. 17, Para.9 of Law No. 130/1998 Laws Coll.;
(6k) Art. 4 (c) Law No 254/1994 Laws Coll. of the National Assemlbly of the Slovak Republic concerning the State Fund for the Liquidation of Nuclear Energy Establishments and Treatment of Used Nuclear Fuel and Radioactive Waste, as amended by Law No 78/2000 Laws Coll.;
(6l) Art.22 of Law No 130/1998 Laws Coll.

PART SIX
COMPETENCES OF THE STATE ADMINISTRATION IN THE HEALTHCARE SECTOR

Article 18
Health Protection Bodies

(1) State regulation in the area of health protection shall be carried out by health protection bodies, such as –
(a) the Ministry of Health;
(b) state health officers from the regional offices (hereinafter referred to „regional health officers“);
(c) state health officers from the district offices (hereinafter referred to „district health officers“);
(2) With a view to implementing the tasks of the Ministry of Health, indicated in Art. 19, the Ministry of Health shall establish the post of Chief Health Officer of the Slovak Republic (herenafter referred to „Chief Health Officer“), who shall be appointed and relieved of his duties by the Minister of Health of the Slovak Republic and who shall at the same time perform the function of Director of the State Health Institute of the Slovak Republic; the Minister of Health of the Slovak Republic shall also appoint and relieve of his duties the deputy to the Chief Health Officer.
(3) District health officers and regional health officers shall carry out the activities indicated in Art. 20 and 21 in cooperation with the board of the district physician at the district office and with the board of the regional physician at the regional office and in collaboration with the appropriate state health institutions;
(4) The district health officer shall be appointed and relieved of his duties by the head of the appropriate district office following the approval of the Ministry of Health. The regional health officer shall be appointed and relieved of his duties by the head of the appropriate regional office following the approval of the Ministry of Health.

Article 19
Competences of the Ministry of Health

(1) Within its competences in the area of health, the Ministry of Health shall –
(a) draft proposals concerning the main directions and the priorities in the development of state health policy;
(b) supervise all-state programmes of health protection and health assistance, implemented by health institutions, and provide professional guidance to those who supervise other branches and organisations;

(c) cooperate with other ministries and other central bodies of the state administration of the Slovak Republic, with the Slovak Red Cross, with the public insurance agency and other insurance agencies, set up in accordance with specific provisions[7], with Trade Union organisations, employers‘ organisations, professional organisations and professional healthcare associations.
(d) coordinate health protection activities in the Slovak Republic with that of other states;
(e) having regard to contemporary scientific knowledge about the health impact of physical, chemical and biological factors, determine the limits and values of permissible dose loads of such agents;
(f) establish exposure limits and the conditions for the deactivation and disposal of radioactive waste with a view to its potential health impact;
(g) establish the principles of monitoring dose loads of different agents in the living and working environment absorbed by the public;
(h) establish the principles of preventing the rise and spread of contageous and other large-scale diseases and of containing diseases when these occur, as well as the principles of preventing other health problems and occupational diseases;
(i) provide professional guidance on health protection;
(j) direct and implement state health control;
(k) provide professional guidance on health protection against the effect of ionising radiation in nuclear energy installations and other workplaces containing sources of ionising radiation;
(l) provide professional guidance on health education;
(m) direct and control the implementation of state regulation in the area of health protection;
(n) issue instructions for the removal of shortcomings discovered in the process of implementation of state health control, opinions concerning measures imposed on a national scale, as indicated in Art. 27, Para.2, and statements concerning matters of national importance, in accordance with Art. 27, Para.6;
(o) issue licences to conduct activities involving radiation exposure, licences to conduct major activities related to radiation protection and licences to carry out qualitative and quantitative analyses of agents in the living and working environments;
(p) set up commissions to examine the professional competency for activities inviolving radiation exposure, for major activities related to radiation protection and for qualitative and quantitative analyses of agents in the living and working environments;
(q) determine health protection measures within the framework of primary prevention;
(r) impose measures in the event of epidemics or risks of occurrence of epidemics, as well as mesures in the event of emergencies and other extraordinary situations, if these have to be implemented on a national scale;
(s) impose health protection measures for the Slovak Republic against the spread of contageous diseases coming from abroad;

[7] For instance, Law No 276/1993 Laws Coll. of the National Assembley of the Slovak Republic concerning the Insurance Fund of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic and the Financing of Health Insurance, and Law No 92/1994 Laws Coll. of the National Assembley of the Slovak Republic concerning Military Health Insurance Fund

(t) direct and organise vaccinations, decree the implemetation of exceptional vaccinations and approve application procedures for the use of vaccination substances;
(u) having regard to contemporary scientific knowledge, determine the principles of healthy consumption and recommended consumption quantities for separate groups of the population.

Article 20
Competences of the District Health Officer

On the territory of his district office, the district health officer shall –
(a) provide professional guidance on the implementation of health protection and health assistance programmes;
(b) implement state health control;
(c) issue instructions for the removal of the shortcomings discovered, opinions on measures imposed in accordance with Art. 27, Para.2, and statements in accordance with Art. 27, Para.6;
(d) decree disease prevention measures, with the exception of the measures indicated in Art. 4 (g)
(e) impose sanctions under Art. 28 and 29;
(f) ensure the public‘s health education;
(g) carry out basic data collection in the area of health protection, ensure its transfer, maintenance, analysis, the evaluation of the results, the feedback information and its publication, and on the basis of the results obtained, make also proposals for the measures to be taken;
(h) establish examination commissions for professional competency to conduct major epidemiological activities and issue professional competency certificates for such activities;
(i) make decisions about reimbursement of expenses (Art.35, Para. 2)
(j) cooperate with the appropriate trade unions, employers‘ organisations, professional organisations and professional associations in the area of health protection.

Article 21
Competences of the Regional Health Officer

On the territory of his regional office, the regional health officer shall –
(a) provide professional guidance to district health officers;
(b) direct and implement state health control;
(c) implement the initial stage of state management in matters exceeding the territorial framework of the district office and issue statements in accordance with Art.27, Para.6, in matters exceeding the territorial framework of the district office;
(d) function as appeal body in matters concerning decisions taken in the initial stages of state management by the district health officer;
(e) issue licences for activities involving exposure to radiation;
(f) establish commissions to examine professional competency to conduct work with extremely poisonous substances and preparations, poisonous substances and

preparations, preparations used for desinfection, as insecticides, and for deratisation, as well as commissions to examine professional competency to operate sources of ionising radiation and to purchase, sell and process mushrooms, and shall also issue professional competency certificates for such activities;

(g) cooperate with the appropriate trade unions, employers‘ organisations, professional organisations and professional associations in the area of health protection.

PART ELEVEN
SANCTIONS

Article 28
Fines

(1) In the event of failure to perform the duties laid down in this Law or comply with the generally applicable legal provisions issued for its implementation, the appropriate health protection body shall levy on a natural person holding an entrepreneurial authorisation or on a legal person a fine, which may be as substantial as SCr 500,000, depending on the magnitude of the hazard posed to health, healthy living or working conditions and on the scope of the damage done.

(2) In its decision to levy a fine, the health protection body shall also fix a time-frame for the removal of the discovered shortcomings. If the shortcomings are not removed within the indicated time-frame, another fine may be imposed, which may be as substantial as SCr 1,000,000.

(3) The fine may be levied within a year from the day on which the appropriate health protection body came to know of the failure to perform the said duties, but not later than 3 years from the day on which the obligation had to be performed.

(4) The health protection body, which has levied the fine, may allow for a delay in the payment of the fine or for payment in installments in case circumstances arise which preclude the immediate payment of the fine.

(5) A negative decision concerning a request to delay the payment of a fine or to pay it in installments may not be appealed against.

(6) The proceeds from the fines levied by the health protection bodies shall be revenue of the state budget.

Article 29
Other Sanctions

(1) Should, as a result of a breach of the provisions of this law, heavy health injuries occur or should there exist a risk of such injuries occurring, the health protection body may also impose other sanctions on a natural person authorised to conduct entrepreneurial activities or on a legal person until the damage has been rectified.

(2) For the purposes of this law, other sanctions shall be: the prohibition of the activity in question or a prohibition of operation, as well as the prohibition of the production, processing and introduction on the market of foodstuffs or other products which are hasardous to the health.

Article 30

The breach of obligations in the area of health protection by a natural person shall be considered as a healthcare offence in conformity with the special provisions.[12]

PART THIRTEEN
TRANSITORY AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 36

In actions concerning rights, interests safeguarded by the legislation and the obligations of legal persons in the area of health protection, which have not been legally concluded by the day of coming into force of this law, state district physicians in district offices and state regional physicians in regional offices shall act in accordance with the then existing provisions.

Article 36a

Licences to operate sources of ionising radiation, concession documents for the production and repair of sources of ionising radiation and licences for qualitative and quantitative analyses of agents from the living and working environments for the purposes of evaluaring their potential impact on the health of the public, which have been issued in accordance with the then existing provisions, shall remain valid until the date indicated in them but not later than a year after this law has entered into force.

Article 36b

(1) Licences to operate sources of ionising radiation and professional competency certificates to operate sources of ionising radiation, issued before 1 January 2001 shall remain valid until the date indicated in them but not later than two years after this law has entered into force.
(2) An action which has been initiated before the coming into force of this law shall fall under the then existing provisions.
(3) A qualified expert under the existing provisions means a specialised agent.
(4) Major activities related to radiation protection under Art.17f, Para.3 (a), (c) and (d) shall not fall under the provisions of of Art. 27 – 27l.

Article 36c

Cosmetic products labelled under the existing regulations may be introduced on the market until 10 March 2005 at the latest.

Article 37

[12] Law No 372/1990 Laws Coll. of the Slovak National Assembley concerning Offences, as amended in later acts.

The concept of „bodies in charge of hygiene services “, when used in a generally applicable legal text, shall be understood to refer to health protection bodies.

Article 38

(1) State regulation in the health protection sector, depending on the area of competence, shall be directed and implemented as follows –
(a) within the competences of the Ministry of Defence, by the the Ministry of Defence of the Slovak Republic;
(b) within the competences of the Ministry of the Interior, by the the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic;
(c) within the competences of the Ministry of Transport, the Post and Telecommunications, by the the Ministry of Transport, the Post and Telecommunications of the Slovak Republic;
(d) within the competences of the Prison and Justice Guards Corps of the Slovak Republic, by the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic;
(e) within the competences of the Slovak Information Service, by the Slovak Information Service.

Article 39

In order to ensure a unified approach in the health protection sector –
(a) the central bodies of the state administration indicated in Art. 38 and the Slovak Information Service shall act in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health;
(b) the Ministry of Health shall inform the central bodies of the state administration, indicated in Art. 38 and the Slovak Information Service about the measures imposed and the specialised health protection guidelines issued.

Article 40

The competences of the state administration bodies in the area of labour inspection[14] shall not be affected by this law.

Article 40a

(1) Natural persons authorised to conduct entrepreneurial activities (4) and legal persons who or which, before 1 January 2002, started operating equipment for which a working procedure is to be elaborated, shall fulfill this obligation within six months from the entry into force of this law.
(2) Whenever the obligations of the employer are evoked in this law, the employer referred to means a legal or a natural person, which or who employs natural persons

[14] Law No 174/1968 Coll. concerning State Specialised Control on the Safety of Labour.

under labour law relations or temporary labour law relations, as well as a legal or a natural person, which or who conduct the practical training of the students of a vocational school or a specialised school, a secondary school or a higher education institute.

Article 41

The following acts are hereby repealed:

1. Law No 53/1975 Coll. of the Slovak National Assembly concerning Fines Imposed for Breaches of the Legal Provisions on the Creation and Protection of Healthy Living Conditions, as amended in Law No 419/1991 Coll. of the Slovak National Assembly Amending Certain Regulations in the Healthcare Sector.
2. Art. 16 of Decree No 206/1988 Coll. of the government of the Slovak Republic concerning Poisons and Some Other Hazardous Substances.

Article 41a

The following acts are hereby repealed:

(1) Art. 6 of Decree No 206/1988 Coll. of the government of the Slovak Republic concerning Poisons and Some Other Hazardous Substances.
(2) of Decree No 45/1966 Coll. of the Ministry of Health concerning the Creation and Protection of Healthy Living Conditions.

Article 42

The present law shall enter into force on 1 January 1995.

- Law No 222/1996 Laws Coll. entered into force on 24 July 1996.
- Law No 290/1996 Laws Coll. entered into force on 1 January 1997.
- Law No 95/200 Laws Coll. entered into force on 1 July 2000, with the exception of Art.2, Para.1 (a), Items 1, 3 and 4, Sub-item III of Item 2 and Sub-item V, which shall enter into force on July 2001.
- Law No 470/2000 Laws Coll. entered into force on 1 January 2001.
- Law No 514/2001 Laws Coll. entered into force on 1 January 2002.
- Law No 553/2001 Laws Coll. entered into force on 1 January 2002.
- Law No 245/2003 Laws Coll. entered into force on 31 July 2003.
- Law No 256/2003 Laws Coll. entered into force on 1 August 2003
- Law No 472/2003 Laws Coll. entered into force on 1 December 2003, with the exception of the provisions of Art. 6b, Para. 4 (b), Art. 23, Para 6, Art.31, Para.3 and Art.31c, indicated in Section I, and the provisions of Art. 2 (e), Art. 6, Para 2 (v), Art.10, Para.2 and Art.10a and Art.12, Para. 3 –5 , indicated in Section II, which shall enter into force on the day on which the Accession Treaty of the Slovak Republic to the European Union enters into force.

Michal Kováč
Ivan Gašparovič
Jozef Moravčík

Annex to Law No 470/2000 Laws Coll.
(amending Law No 272/1994 Laws Coll.)