

# **LAW ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

## **CHAPTER 1.**

### **Article 1. Definitions**

In this Law:

1.1. ENVIRONMENT shall mean the system functioning in nature and comprising its interconnected components (the earth's surface and entrails, air, water, soil, flora and fauna, organic and inorganic matter), as well as natural and anthropogenic ecological systems.

1.2. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION shall mean the protection of the environment from physical, chemical, biological or other hazardous effects arising from the utilization of natural resources

1.3. NATURAL RESOURCES shall mean the elements of organic and inorganic nature which are used or may be used by man in order to satisfy his needs.

1.4. ECOLOGICAL SYSTEM shall mean the functional system of organic and inorganic elements, the components of which are joined by their interrelations, and the processes of metabolism and energy exchange.

1.5. NORMS OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY shall mean the restrictions approved by a competent state body determining the impact of economic activities on the environment

1.6. STANDARDS OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY shall mean the normative technical documents approved by a competent state body, prescribing the obligatory technical characteristics (norms, conditions, requirements) for production and other areas of standardization in the preservation of the environment and the health of the people.

1.7. LIMITATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES shall mean the establishment of norms of utilization of natural resources, taking into consideration the information related to the amount of natural resources, their renewal, and preservation for the future.

1.8. INJURIOUS EFFECTS TO THE ENVIRONMENT shall mean the deterioration or loss of the natural functions of the ecological system or its components.

1.9. ECOLOGICAL MONITORING shall mean a systematic observation of the environment, including its state and the dynamics of its components, as well as an assessment and forecast of the anthropogenic effects.

1.10. ECOLOGICAL EXAMINATION shall mean the compliance of planned, designed and executed economic activities with the laws, legislative acts and standards of environmental protection, ascertainment of the degree of existing and possible ecological threats, as well as the professional assessment of the expediency of such activities.

1.11. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION shall mean all of the information concerning the state of environmental quality.

1.12. ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES shall mean economic and other activities affecting the environment.

## Article 2. Objectives of the Law

2.1. This Law shall establish the main rights and duties of legal and natural persons guaranteeing:

- 1) the right of the population of the Republic of Lithuania to healthy and safe environment;
- 2) harmonic development of the interaction between the society and nature; and
- 3) the preservation of the species of animate organisms and their habitats.

2.2. Other laws and legislative acts regulating the utilization of natural resources and environmental protection shall be adopted on the basis of this Law.

## Article 3. Units of Environmental Protection

The units of environmental protection shall be the environment of the territory of the Republic of Lithuania and natural resources which are under the jurisdiction of the Republic of Lithuania.

## Article 4. Principles of Environmental Protection

4.1. In the Republic of Lithuania, environmental protection shall be the concern and duty of the State and of each of its inhabitants.

4.2. The policy and practice of the administration of environmental protection shall direct social and individual interests towards the improvement of environmental quality encourage the users of natural resources to seek ways and means to avoid or diminish

hazardous impact on the environment, and to make technological processes ecologically safe.

4.3. Natural resources must be utilized in a rational and composite way, taking into consideration the possibilities of preservation and renewal of nature, as well as natural and economic specifications of the Republic of Lithuania.

4.4. Environmental protection shall be based on comprehensive, correct and timely ecological information.

#### Article 5. Competence of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania in the Field of Environmental Protection

The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania, shaping the state policy of environmental protection shall:

- 1) approve the main trends of the policy of environmental protection and the utilization of natural resources;
- 2) approve the long-term and purposive programmes of the state pertaining to environmental protection, as well as the subsidies from the State budget aimed at financing the measures of environmental protection;
- 3) create the system of state bodies implementing the policy of environmental protection and the utilization of natural resources; and
- 4) ratify and denounce the main international treaties concerning environmental protection of the Republic of Lithuania and utilization of natural resources.

#### Article 6. The State Administration of Environmental Protection

6.1. In the Republic of Lithuania, the state administration of environmental protection, pursuant to their competence, shall be carried out by the Department of Environmental Protection, the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, and the local governments. Each of these institutions shall be responsible for the implementation of functions prescribed to them by laws.

6.2. The Department of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Lithuania, shaping and implementing the state policy of environmental protection shall:

- 1) prepare, and, in conjunction with the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, submit for approval to the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania the main trends of the policy of environmental protection and utilization of natural resources, as well as long-term and purposive state programmes related to the protection of the environment and utilization of natural resources;

- 2) prepare, and, in conjunction with the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, approve the proposals of environmental protection which are of national significance, as well as other projects of environmental protection, and provide the mechanism for their implementation;
- 3) prepare draft laws on environmental protection and adopt legislative acts concerning the issues of environmental protection and utilization of natural resources;
- 4) approve the limits of the utilization of natural resources, provide the order of the registration of natural resources and terms of their utilization;
- 5) organize ecological monitoring;
- 6) approve the legislative acts and standards of environmental protection;
- 7) coordinate the projects of economic activities and carry out the state ecological examination;
- 8) coordinate and, pursuant to its competence, implement international treaties and obligations of the Republic of Lithuania on the issues of environmental protection and utilization of natural resources; and, upon the authorization of the Supreme Council or Government of the Republic of Lithuania, sign such treaties;
- 9) carry out the state control of the utilization of natural resources and environmental protection and control the implementation of international treaties and obligations;
- 10) organize and coordinate purposive scientific research works in the field of environmental protection;
- 11) submit proposals to the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania concerning the establishment of protective zones, and declare areas of the environment national natural monuments; and
- 12) carry out functions prescribed by other laws.

6. 3. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania, implementing the national policy of environmental protection, shall:

- 1) prepare, and in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Protection, submit for approval to the Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania, programmes and proposals of national significance related to the utilization of natural resources and environmental protection;
- 2) establish, finance and supply programmes, plans, and projects for environmental protection of national significance, and finance purposive research works;
- 3) keep the registration of state national resources and, within the established limits distribute national resources to users;
- 4) organize ecological education and instruction;
- 5) prepare draft projects of norms and standards of environmental quality, and promote the introduction of ecologically safe technology and production by users of natural resources;
- 6) in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Lithuania, conclude international treaties of the Republic of Lithuania related to the utilization of natural resources and environmental protection, and implement them in accordance with their competence;
- 7) coordinate the activities of the bodies of state power and local governments concerning the utilization of natural resources and environmental protection; and

8) carry out other activities prescribed by laws.

6. 4. Local governments, implementing the policy of environmental protection on their territories:

1) shall organize the implementation of laws on environmental protection and decisions of the Department of Environmental Protection and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in the field of environmental protection, and within the limits of their jurisdiction, adopt decisions concerning the utilization of natural resources and environmental protection, ascribed to them by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, and supervise their implementation;

2) shall prepare, approve and implement the programmes, plans, and projects of environmental protection and utilization of national resources in the territory under their jurisdiction;

3) shall form and have at their disposal local government environmental protection funds, shall establish the amount of subsidies allocated for environmental protection, and shall document the necessity of subsidy from the state budget;

4) shall, within the established limits, distribute national resources which are at their disposal;

5) may, in agreement with the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Department of Environmental Protection, establish norms on their own territory which are stricter than state standards, and may create local nature preserves and monuments; and

6) shall carry out other activities prescribed to them by laws.

## CHAPTER 2.

### THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF CITIZENS AND PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

#### Article 7. Rights and Duties of Citizens and Public Organizations

Citizens and public organizations shall have the right:

1) to receive accurate and up to date ecological information;

2) to take part in the discussion and implementation of programmes and projects of economic activities;

3) to demand that economic activities which are hazardous to the environment be terminated;

4) to request state ecological examinations;

5) to carry out public ecological examinations;

6) to organize public inspections of environmental protection;

7) to demand that state authorities and institutions organize ecological education and instruction, and to freely advocate concepts of environmental protection; and

8) to insist upon the punishment of persons guilty of endangering the environment, and of officers, who have improperly carried out the duties of environmental protection ascribed to them;

#### Article 8. Duties of State Authorities, Administrators, and Inspectors in Guaranteeing the Rights of Citizens and Public Organizations

State authorities, administrators, and inspectors, pursuant to their jurisdiction, must:

- 1) establish ecologically based standards of environmental protection which can be achieved by technological means, supervise their changes, and inform the public thereof;
- 2) either comply with or justifiably decline the proposals of citizens or public organizations concerning environmental issues;
- 3) publicly announce plans of economic activities which may have a hazardous impact on the environment;
- 4) prevent the violation of laws, norms and standards of environmental protection by subjects engaged in economic activities;
- 5) either carry out or justifiably decline to carry out a state ecological examination if the public so requests;
- 6) evaluate the findings of state ecological examinations, and either take them up as matters of importance or justifiably turn them down;
- 7) guarantee that the damages caused to the environment by unlawful activities be redeemed, and persons guilty of these damages be punished;
- 8) organize ecological education and instruction; and
- 9) encourage the participation of citizens and public organizations in environmental protection.

#### Article 9. Duties of Citizens and Public Organizations

Citizens and public organizations of the Republic of Lithuania must protect the environment, use natural resources in an economical way, and avoid violation of the rights and interests of other users of natural resources.

#### Article 10. Rights and Duties of Foreign Citizens and Stateless Persons

Foreign citizens and stateless persons must abide by the rights and duties of the citizens of the Republic of Lithuania as established by this Law, if other laws of the Republic of Lithuania do not provide otherwise.

### CHAPTER 3.

## UTILIZATION AND REGISTRATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## Article 11. The Object of the Utilization of Natural Resources

The object of the utilization of natural resources shall be the existing natural resources which are in the jurisdiction of the Republic of Lithuania.

## Article 12. Objects of Special Utilization

12. 1. The objects of special utilization shall be:

- 1) protected territories: reserves of the state, national parks, regional parks, natural reserves, protective zones, and areas of local significance and special purpose;
- 2) the natural framework, identified and formed as the system of territories of ecological compensation, consisting of protected and other ecologically significant and sufficiently natural territories which maintain the stability of the landscape; and
- 3) natural monuments, species and communities of flora and fauna protected by the State.

12. 2. Protection of the objects used for special purpose shall be regulated by separate laws.

## Article 13. State Registration of Natural Resources

The procedure of state registration of natural resources, as well as the custody of the cadastre shall be determined by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Department of Environmental Protection.

## Article 14. Users of Natural Resources

14.1. Natural resources may be used by legal and natural persons.

14.2. The basis of the utilization of natural resources shall either be the right of ownership or the right of utilization.

14.3. The users of natural resources must:

- 1) evaluate the possible impact of economic activities on the environment;
- 2) utilize natural resources in a rational and economical way;
- 3) implement means of either eliminating or deteriorating hazardous impact on the environment;
- 4) take measures to avoid endangering the environment, and in the event that hazardous effects do occur, must immediately eliminate the cause of such effects and inform the appropriate officers and institutions of the occurrence;
- 5) avoid violation of the rights and legitimate interests of other users of natural resources;

- 6) redeem the damages caused by unlawful activities which have hazardously affected the environment; and
- 7) fulfill the legitimate requirements of environmental protection institutions and their officers.

#### CHAPTER 4.

### REGULATIONS OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

#### Article 15. Forecast of the Impact on the Environment

15.1. Legal and natural persons, applying for permit to engage in economic activities, shall, at their own expense, prepare and submit to the Department of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Lithuania documents concerning possible impact of such activities on the environment.

15.2. The Department of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Lithuania shall evaluate the documents concerning the possible impact of economic activities on the environment and present a motivated conclusion, which is requisite in order for a state institution to issue a permit to engage in economic activities.

15.3. The procedure of the preparation of documents concerning the possible impact of economic activities on the environment shall be established by the Department of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Lithuania in conjunction with the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.

#### Article 16. Planning of Economic Activities

16.1. Legal and natural persons wishing to construct, reconstruct, or expand units of economic activities must prepare project documentation. Such documentation must include means to utilize natural resources rationally, to avoid industrial accidents and eliminate their causes and consequences, and to guarantee the observation of the norms of environmental quality. Such project documentation shall be coordinated with the Department of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Lithuania.

#### Article 17. Construction, Reconstruction, or Expansion of Units of Economic Activities

17.1. Legal and natural persons may construct, reconstruct, or expand units of economic activities only if they have project documentation which is in compliance with the requirements provided for in Article 16 of this Law.



17.2. Parties involved in the construction, reconstruction, or expansion of units of economic activity who do not have project documentation as detailed in Article 16 of this law, or who are not complying with the requirements of environmental protection, or who, in the process of construction, reconstruction or expansion of these units violate restrictions of environmental protection, shall be liable in the manner established by law.

17.3. The imposition of liability shall not prevent institutions of administration and control of environmental protection established in Article 6 of this law, as well as their officials, from discontinuing, in the established manner, activities of construction, reconstruction or expansion.

#### Article 18. Pre-operation Review of Newly-Built, Reconstructed, or Expanded Units of Economic Activities

18.1. The operation of newly-built, reconstructed, or expanded units of economic activities shall be permitted only if they comply with the requirements of environmental protection set forth in the documentation of their construction project.

18.2. Officials of the Department of Environmental Protection shall be present in the review of newly-built, reconstructed, or expanded units of economic activities.

#### Article 19. Operation of Units of Economic Activities

19.1. Prior to operating units of economic activities, legal and natural persons must obtain a permit (ecological passport) for the utilization of natural resources and the discharge of pollutants into the environment in the manner established by the Department of Environmental Protection.

19.2. Legal and natural persons shall operate units of economic activities under the conditions established in the permit for the utilization of natural resources and the discharge of pollutants into the environment and shall not exceed the norms and standards of environmental quality.

19.3. Legal and natural persons, while operating units of economic activities which are potentially hazardous to the environment, must, at their own expense, monitor the degree of environmental pollution and its impact on the environment, guarantee that information concerning the pollution be available to the public, and provide conditions for pollution control.

19.4. Legal and natural persons, while operating units of economic activities, must keep records of the utilization of natural resources and the discharge of pollutants in the manner established by the Department of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Lithuania.

19.5. Legal and natural persons operating units of economic activities which do not require permits for the utilization of natural resources and the discharge of pollutants into the environment, must comply with the norms and standards of environmental quality established for such units.

#### Article 20. Production and Use of Toxic and Injurious Chemicals

20.1. Legal and natural persons using toxic and injurious chemicals must comply with the regulations promulgated by competent state institutions for the utilization, storage, transportation or dumping of such materials. These persons shall be responsible for all costs incurred for utilization, storage, transportation, and dumping.

20.2. Production or importation of toxic or injurious materials in or into the Republic of Lithuania shall be permitted only following the state examination.

20.3. Lists of toxic and injurious materials, prepared by respective departments, shall be approved or renewed by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania and the Department of Environmental Protection.

20.4. Regulations for the production, transportation, use, storage and dumping of chemicals having a hazardous impact on the ozone layer shall be established by the Department of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Lithuania.

20.5. The importation, stationing, or production of chemical weapons of mass destruction is prohibited in the Republic of Lithuania.

#### Article 21. Production and Use of Radioactive Matter

21.1. In the Republic of Lithuania, both the reprocessing of radioactive matter used for the production of nuclear weapons or for fuel elements of nuclear power plants and the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel is prohibited.

21.2. In the Republic of Lithuania, the importation, stationing or production of nuclear weapons is prohibited.

21.3. Regulations for the record-keeping, importation, use, transportation, storage, and dumping of radioactive matter, as well as norms of radiation safety shall be established by the Department of Environmental Protection and the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania.

#### Article 22. The Production, Propagation, and Use of Microorganisms

22.1. Regulations and standards concerning registration of the sources of microorganisms and other biological pollutants, and of their production, propagation, importation, transportation, use, storage and treatment, shall be established by the Department of Environmental Protection and the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania.

22.2. In the Republic of Lithuania, importation, stationing, and production of biological weapons is prohibited.

#### Article 23. Waste Management

23.1. Users of natural resources must keep records of waste and must comply with regulations concerning the identification, utilization, storage, dumping, and treatment of waste. Users shall also be responsible for costs incurred from the management, storage, dumping, and transportation of waste.

23.2. Legal and natural persons shall be liable for toxic, injurious, and radioactive waste which is the result of production until it is recycled or treated in the established manner.

23.3. Sites for the containment, storage, dumping, and treatment of toxic and radioactive waste shall be allotted by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in the established manner.

23.4. Toxic, injurious, and radioactive waste shall be stored, dumped, and treated in special installments or storage facilities.

23.5. The management of toxic, injurious, and radioactive waste shall be regulated by the Department of Environmental Protection. All other waste shall be managed by local governments.

23.6. The importation of waste into the Republic of Lithuania for storage, treatment, or dumping is prohibited.

23.7. The regulations for transit transportation of toxic and radioactive materials shall be established by international treaties of the Republic of Lithuania.

#### Article 24. Emergency Situations

24.1. An emergency situation is a hazardous environmental state which, as the result of nature, accidents, economic activity, or other events, exceeds standards of environmental

quality. Areas in which an emergency situation has occurred shall be declared zones of ecological danger or ecological disaster.

24.2. In accordance with the Department of Environmental Protection, areas in which the permissible concentrations of pollutants are constantly exceeded shall be declared zones of ecological danger by the respective local governments.

24.3. In accordance with the Department of Environmental Protection, areas in which, as the result of nature, accidents, economic activities, or other events, the environment has either degraded irremediably or has become unsuitable for living shall be declared zones of ecological disaster by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.

24.4. Areas which are declared zones of ecological disaster shall be marked by special signs.

24.5. In zones of ecological danger or disaster, activities hazardous to either the people or the environment shall be suspended, restricted, or prohibited. The administration of zones of ecological danger shall be determined by the local governments. In zones of ecological disaster the administration shall be determined by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Protection.

24.6. In the event of an emergency situation, the subjects of economic activities shall eradicate both the cause and the consequences, shall inform the public, the local governments, the Ministry of Health, the Government, and the Department of Environmental Protection, and shall fulfill other regulations established by the administration.

24.7. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the local governments shall have the right to utilize special services, organizations, and residents in order to eradicate the causes and consequences of ecological disasters, and to adopt decisions concerning the evacuation of inhabitants.

24.8. Costs incurred from the eradication of ecological disasters shall be the responsibility of the legal and natural persons at fault. In other cases they shall be the responsibility of the State.

## CHAPTER V

### THE SYSTEM OF MONITORING THE ENVIRONMENTAL STATE AND RESTRICTING NEGATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

#### Article 25. The System of Monitoring the Environmental State

25.1. A uniform system of ecological monitoring shall be established for the surveillance of the environmental state and its components. Local governments, ministries, departments, and other users of natural resources shall administer municipal, branch, and enterprise monitoring.

25.2. The content, structure, and procedures of enterprise, municipal, and complex monitoring shall be established in accordance with the monitoring regulations which are sanctioned by the Department of Environmental Protection upon agreement with the Government.

#### Article 26. The System of Restricting Negative Environmental Effects

26.1. The negative effects of economic activities on the environment shall be restricted by norms, standards, limitations, legal measures, and economic regulations.

26.2. In the Republic of Lithuania, standards of environmental quality shall be established concerning the concentration of pollutants in the environment and in the individual components of the environment, the discharge of pollutants into the environment, the utilization of chemicals and other substances which are hazardous to the environment, the utilization of natural resources, noise, vibration, electromagnetic fields and other effects, radiation safety, and general anthropogenic activities.

26.3. An ecological examination must be carried out before the production, manufacturing, and introduction of new technology takes place.

#### Article 27. The Ecological Examination

27.1. The ecological examination may be either state, departmental, or public.

27.2. The Department of Environmental Protection shall organize and carry out the state ecological examination. State, departmental, and public ecological examinations shall be executed according to the laws and regulations already established. Specialists from both Lithuanian and international organizations may be asked to join the state ecological examination commission.

27.3. The verdict of the state ecological examination is obligatory for all legal and natural persons.

### CHAPTER VI

## THE ECONOMIC MECHANISM OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### Article 28. Economic Means of Environmental Protection

Ecological and economic interests of the State shall be coordinated by the economic mechanism of environmental protection set forth in the laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania. This consists of:

- 1) taxes for the utilization of natural resources;
- 2) taxes for environmental pollution;
- 3) regulation of crediting;
- 4) state subsidies;
- 5) pricing policies;
- 6) economic sanctions and compensation for damages; and
- 7) other ecological taxes and measures.

### Article 29. Implementation Methods of Economic Environmental Protection Measures

The introduction of low waste technology and the manufacturing of ecological production shall be promoted by tax reduction, credit privileges, and state subsidies.

### Article 30. State Financing of Environmental Protection Measures

30.1. Environmental protection measures shall be financed by the users of natural resources, the state government, and local governments, in accordance with appropriate legislative acts.

30.2. State budget funds allocated for environmental protection shall be utilized in accordance with the directions and programs determined by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Department of Environmental Protection.

30.3. Additional sources of environmental financing shall be the State Fund for Environmental Protection and the local government funds for environmental protection.

30.4. The Supreme Council of the Republic of Lithuania shall establish the procedure for the formation and distribution of the State Fund of Environmental Protection.

## CHAPTER VII

## LIABILITY FOR VIOLATION OF THE LAW OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES CONCERNING ISSUES OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### Article 31. Legal Responsibility

Legal and natural persons who violate the regulations of the law of environmental protection shall be subject to disciplinary, administrative, material and criminal liability under the laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

### Article 32. Forms of the Compensation for Damage Caused to the Environment by Unlawful Activities

Legal and natural persons who, by way of unlawful activities, cause damage to the environment, to the life or health of a given person(s), or to the property or interests of other legal and natural persons, must compensate all losses, and, if possible, must to restore the environmental state of the object in question. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania, upon the agreement of the Department of Environmental Protection, shall establish the methods and rates to compensate for damages caused to the environment.

### Article 33. Claims for Compensation of Damage Caused by Unlawful Activities

The following natural and legal persons shall have the right to make claims for damages caused by unlawful activities:

- 1) legal and natural persons whose health, property, or interests have been damaged;
- 2) officers of the Department of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Lithuania, the procurator, and other public organizations, when damage has been done to the interests of the State.

### Article 34. Settlement of Disputes on Issues Concerning Environmental Protection

34.1. Local governments, the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Supreme Council, Arbitration, and the Court shall, within their jurisdiction, settle disputes on issues concerning environmental protection in the manner established by law.

34.2. Disputes between legal and natural persons of the Republic of Lithuania and foreign states shall be settled in the manner established by law of the Republic of Lithuania, unless international agreements of the Republic of Lithuania provide otherwise.

## CHAPTER VIII

### INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA IN THE AREA OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Article 35. The Participation of the Republic of Lithuania in International Cooperation on Issues Concerning Environmental Protection

35.1. The Republic of Lithuania, guiding itself by universally recognized and proclaimed principles, shall conclude international agreements on issues concerning environmental protection, and shall participate in the activities of international environmental protection organizations.

35.2. The Republic of Lithuania, cooperating with other states on issues concerning environmental protection, shall:

- 1) seek both regional and universal ecological safety;
- 2) resolve regional and global problems concerning environmental protection;
- 3) provide objective information on the ecological situation in Lithuania to the states concerned;
- 4) control and regulate general issues concerning natural resources;
- 5) cooperate in the eradication of negative consequences of ecological disasters and accidents;
- 6) develop scientific and technical relations; and
- 7) fulfill other international obligations concerning environmental protection.

Article 36. The Relation Between the Law of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Lithuania and International Agreements on Environmental Protection

36.1. The laws of the Republic of Lithuania must comply with international agreements, ratified by Lithuania, on issues concerning environmental protection and universally recognized norms of environmental protection.

36.2. If an international agreement of the Republic of Lithuania on issues concerning environmental protection establishes regulations other than those provided by the laws of the Republic of Lithuania, the regulations must conform with the norms and standards of environmental quality established in the Republic of Lithuania.

Bronius Kuzmickas



Vice President  
Supreme Council  
Republic of Lithuania

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