

## Glossary

**Domestic waste water:** wastewater from residential settlements and services which originates predominantly from human metabolism and household activities.

**Industrial waste water:** water discharged after being used in, or produced by, industrial production processes and which is of no further immediate value to these processes. Where process water recycling systems have been installed, process wastewater is the final discharge from these circuits. To meet quality standards for eventual discharge into public sewers, this process waste-water is understood to be subjected to ex-process in-plant treatment. Cooling water is not considered to be process wastewater for purposes of this questionnaire. Sanitary wastewater and surface runoff from industries are also excluded here.

**Urban waste water:** domestic wastewater or the mixture of domestic wastewater with industrial wastewater and/or runoff rain water.

In the attached tables are included in urban waste water polluting load of hotels, cafes and restaurants and of micro-enterprise facilities generally operating within urban centres which present qualitative characteristics equivalent to those produced by the human metabolism or to domestic activities and in which the pollutants consist primarily of biodegradable material.

**Optimal territorial environment (Ato):** a specifically delimited area of the national territory for the provision of water services under the authority of the regions after consulting their respective provinces (Law 36/94). The main criteria for establishing Ato boundaries are: a) observance of water basin unity and of the location of resources and constraints of use, including those based on custom, as relates to the urban centres concerned; b) overcoming fragmentation of management; c) achievement of adequate managerial dimensions defined in relation to physical, demographic and technical parameters and on the basis of political-administrative divisions ; d) creation of a tariff system to be applied to integrated water services to ensure full cover of operating costs and investment.

**BOD5 (biochemical oxygen demand):** index used to evaluate the pollution load of waste water or effluent. The BOD index measures the quantity of oxygen required for biochemical oxidation of organic compounds. Conventionally, a BOD5 value is determined that indicates the rate of oxygen uptake in the dark at a temperature of 20° over an elapsed period of five days. It can be used to measure general water quality and pollution levels. It is also used as a parameter to gauge the efficiency of waste water treatment plants.

**Urban waste water treatment plant:** a treatment facility for waste water from residential settlements and possibly also from industrial settlements (mixed plants) to which natural precipitation and road surface drainage water may be combined. Imhoff tanks are to be considered to all effects as treatment plants.