

Classification, transport and treatment of biologically contaminated solid waste in BE

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in the framework of the **Waste Task Force** of the Belgian Biosafety Professionals

Introduction

The environmentally sustainable, safe and legally compliant treatment of biologically contaminated waste requires a correct classification of this waste based on requirements set out by different legislations. Due to the multitude of these different legal frameworks, it is for the user not always clear how to classify, transport and treat such waste, thereby taking into account the biological hazards.

Types of legislation identified:

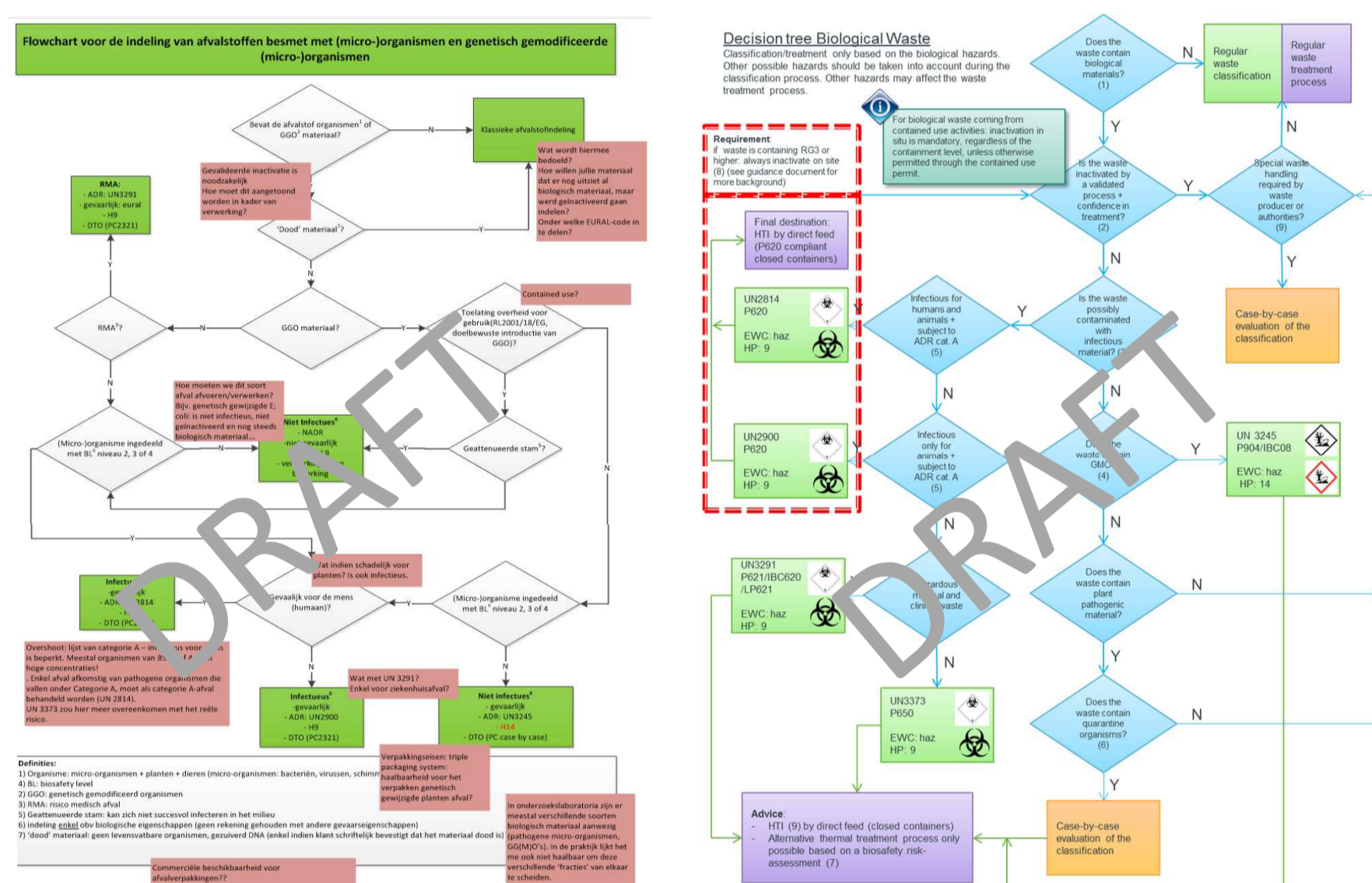
- Waste Framework Dir. 2008/98/EC & regional translation
- European List of Waste - Decision 2014/955/EC
- Contained use legislation Dir. 2009/41/EC & regional translation
- Worker protection Dir. 2000/54/EC & regional translation
- Quarantine organisms - Dir. 2000/29/EC & 2008/61/EC
- Transport regulations (e.g. ADR) ...

Objective

- Practical guide for biosafety professionals, laboratory and medical employees
 - Correct, safe and compliant classification, packaging, labelling and treatment of different types of biological waste
 - In compliance with the Belgian legal framework
- Flowchart and a guidance note

Method

- Identification of relevant legislation – see green box
 - Federal and regional – based on previous work
 - Transport regulations
- Multiple flow charts developed, starting from different viewpoints:



- Review options and check for compliance
- Restructure and redevelop
- Test with different types of known biological contaminated solid waste
- Several rounds of validation – organize review by competent authorities and scientific experts:
 - Packaging, labelling and transport: Federal Public Service Mobility
 - Inactivation on site: Section Biosafety and Biotechnology (SBB) of the Institute for Public Health (i.e. the technical expert to the competent authorities dealing with contained use of pathogens and GMOs)
 - OVAM - the Public Flemish Waste Agency, competent authority dealing with waste
 - FEBEM-FEGE - the Belgian federation of waste management companies
 - OWD - the Public Walloon Waste Agency
- Fine-tuning of flowchart

Outcome

- Included as an annex to the EURAL European Waste Catalog Manual of OVAM



Future steps

- The flowchart will also be submitted to the BIM (the Brussels Waste Agency) for their input.

Handling Solid Biological Waste

Classification/treatment only based on the biological hazards. Other hazards may affect the waste treatment process and should be taken into account for classification. Focus: contained use facilities (R&D, diagnostics), hospitals, pharmaceutical production

