

Position Paper

Brussels, 20 January 2017

PRIORITIES FOR FINALISING THE EP ENVI COMMITTEE REPORTS ON THE WASTE LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE:

A call for waste policy ambition in line with a functioning EU internal market to support the Circular Economy

On 24 January 2017, the European Parliament ENVI committee will vote on the **draft reports of Rapporteur Bonafè** on the Commission proposals for amending the **Waste Directive** and a series of waste stream specific Directives, including Directive 2012/19/EU on **Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE). Orgalime**, the voice of European manufacturers of products in scope of the WEEE, RoHS and Ecodesign Directives in their entirety, **calls on honourable Members of the European Parliament to adopt final Committee reports that embed the following principles**, which we have explained in more detail here:

- Securing the functioning of the Internal Market for products, especially in the area of articles 8 and 8a and 9 of the amended Waste Directive and the newly suggested annex on Circular Economy Instruments in both draft reports: A functioning Single Market is as much a benefit for European citizens and consumers as it is for the industry and the environment, and it is Europe's best asset in times of increasing globalisation. According to the Commission, the Single Market has added 2.77 million jobs and contributes 233 billion EUR to the EU GDP. Our societal challenges require common answers and solutions based on scientific evidence rather than 28 or more different regulatory approaches on products that are allowed to circulate freely in the EU.
- Setting Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) requirements at the level of a horizontal Waste Framework Directive, which are sufficiently generic and flexible to allow for accommodating the many different sector specific challenges, needs and issues case by case in appropriate manner.
- Pursuing a strict EU landfill policy and strict recycling and recovery targets
- Placing sufficient emphasis on improving the quality of recycling streams and stirring investment into modernised waste management infrastructure, including more digital solutions
- Acknowledging that producer financing obligations should focus on aspects under their control or influence to prevent misuse or unfair market practices.
- Complementing EPR obligations with "shared responsibility obligations" for <u>all</u> actors in all steps of the WEEE and other waste management chains for the same reason
- Promoting industrial symbiosis
- Calling for a proper **implementation and enforcement** of the existing EU waste legislation

We trust that European Regulators will shape the pending Waste proposals in a way that will reconcile environmental ambition with economic and factual realities in order to arrive at overall sustainable results to the benefit of European citizens, the environment and Europe's leading manufacturing sector employing over 10.9 million people in the EU.

Orgalime, the European Engineering Industries Association, speaks for 41 trade federations representing the mechanical, electrical, electronic, metalworking & metal articles industries of 24 European countries. The industry employs some 10.9 million people in the EU and in 2015 accounted for more than €1,900 billion of annual output. The industry accounts for over a quarter of manufacturing output and a third of the manufactured exports of the European Union.