

Basic information	
2000/0158(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Directive	Procedure completed
Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE Repealed by 2008/0241(COD) Amended by 2003/0084(COD) Amended by 2006/0302(COD) Amended by 2007/0212(COD) Subject 3.40.06 Electronics, electrotechnical industries, ICT, robotics 3.70.12 Waste management, domestic waste, packaging, light industrial waste 4.60.04.02 Consumer security	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	DELE EP Delegation to Conciliation Committee	FLORENZ Karl-Heinz (PPE-DE)	26/06/2002
	Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
	ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy	FLORENZ Karl-Heinz (PPE-DE)	19/06/2000
	ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy	FLORENZ Karl-Heinz (PPE-DE)	19/06/2000
	Former committee for opinion	Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy	AHERN Nuala (V/ALE)	13/09/2000
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meetings	Date
	Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	2393	2001-12-04
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2476	2002-12-19
	Environment	2355	2001-06-07
	Environment	2295	2000-10-10
	Environment	2321	2000-12-18

European Commission		
	Commission DG	Commissioner
	Environment	

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
13/06/2000	Legislative proposal published	COM(2000)0347 	Summary
08/09/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
10/10/2000	Debate in Council		
18/12/2000	Debate in Council		
24/04/2001	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
24/04/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A5-0148/2001	
15/05/2001	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T5-0246/2001	Summary
15/05/2001	Debate in Parliament		
06/06/2001	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(2001)0315 	Summary
04/12/2001	Council position published	11304/1/2001	Summary
13/12/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
21/03/2002	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
21/03/2002	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A5-0100/2002	
09/04/2002	Debate in Parliament		
10/04/2002	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	T5-0160/2002	Summary
02/08/2002	Parliament's amendments rejected by Council		
12/09/2002	Formal meeting of Conciliation Committee		
10/10/2002	Final decision by Conciliation Committee		Summary
10/10/2002	Report tabled for plenary, 3rd reading	A5-0438/2002	
08/11/2002	Joint text approved by Conciliation Committee co-chairs	3663/2002	
17/12/2002	Debate in Parliament		
18/12/2002	Decision by Parliament, 3rd reading	T5-0620/2002	Summary
19/12/2002	Decision by Council, 3rd reading		
27/01/2003	Final act signed		
27/01/2003	End of procedure in Parliament		
13/02/2003	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2000/0158(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive
Amendments and repeals	Repealed by 2008/0241(COD) Amended by 2003/0084(COD) Amended by 2006/0302(COD) Amended by 2007/0212(COD)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 175-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CODE/5/16394

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0148/2001	24/04/2001	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0246/2001 OJ C 034 07.02.2002, p. 0025-0115 E	15/05/2001	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A5-0100/2002	21/03/2002	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		T5-0160/2002 OJ C 127 29.05.2003, p. 0161-0490 E	10/04/2002	Summary
Report tabled for plenary by Parliament delegation to Conciliation Committee, 3rd reading		A5-0438/2002	10/10/2002	
Text adopted by Parliament, 3rd reading		T5-0620/2002 OJ C 031 05.02.2004, p. 0161-0178 E	18/12/2002	Summary
Council of the EU				
Document type	Reference		Date	Summary
Council position	11304/1/2001 OJ C 110 07.05.2002, p. 0001 E		04/12/2001	Summary
European Commission				
Document type	Reference		Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2000)0347 		13/06/2000	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(2001)0315  OJ C 240 28.08.2001, p. 0298 E		06/06/2001	Summary

Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(2001)2021 	12/12/2001	Summary
Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading	COM(2002)0353 	27/06/2002	Summary
Follow-up document	COM(2009)0633 	20/11/2009	Summary
Follow-up document	SEC(2009)1586 	20/11/2009	Summary
Follow-up document	COM(2013)0006 	17/01/2013	Summary
Follow-up document	COM(2017)0088 	27/02/2017	Summary
Commission document (COM)	COM(2018)0656 	24/09/2018	Summary

National parliaments

Document type	Parliament /Chamber	Reference	Date	Summary
Contribution	PT_PARLIAMENT	COM(2013)0006	01/07/2013	

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES1433/2000 OJ C 116 20.04.2001, p. 0038	29/11/2000	
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0269/2000 OJ C 148 18.05.2001, p. 0001	14/02/2001	
CSL/EP	Joint text approved by Conciliation Committee co-chairs	3663/2002	08/11/2002	
EU	Implementing legislative act	32004D0249 OJ L 078 16.03.2004, p. 0056-0059	11/03/2004	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Directive 2002/0096
OJ L 037 13.02.2003, p. 0024-0039

[Summary](#)

Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

2000/0158(COD) - 27/02/2017 - Follow-up document

The Commission presented a report on the implementation of EU waste legislation for the period 2010-2012.

Of the 27 Member States under the obligation to report, most have submitted replies to the implementation questionnaires for the directives this report covers, namely:

- [Directive 2008/98/EC](#) on waste,
- [Directive 86/278/EEC](#) on sewage sludge,
- [Directive 1999/31/EC](#) on landfilling,
- [Directive 94/62/EC](#) on packaging and packaging waste,
- **Directive 2002/96/EC** on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE),
- [Directive 2006/66/EC](#) on batteries and accumulators.

Quality of reporting: not all Member States have fulfilled the obligation laid down in the Directives to report to the Commission on their implementation every three years. Some did not submit replies to the Implementation Questionnaire 2010-2012.

The Commission noted the **highly variable nature of the quality and accuracy of the reports** and information provided. Answers frequently only referred to national legislation or to answers given in previous reporting periods, without providing further information on the implementation of the directives on the ground, even when this was explicitly requested.

The Commission considered that the triennial implementation reports prepared by the Member States have **not proven effective** for verifying compliance with the directives, their implementation and their impact.

Directive 2002/96/EC on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE): the current exercise covers the old WEEE Directive, which has since been replaced by the Directive 2012/19/EU.

The main findings are as follows:

- all Member States have set up collection systems and have introduced:
 - (i) provisions for the environmentally sound treatment of WEEE;
 - (ii) measures to ensure financing by producers of the collection, treatment, recovery and environmentally sound disposal of WEEE from private households;
 - (iii) measures to ensure that producers provide relevant information to consumers and to WEEE treatment facilities.
- more WEEE was collected, re-used/recycled and recovered between 2010 and 2012 than in the previous reporting period;
- **the amount of WEEE collected from households in the EU-27 increased** from 2.97 million tonnes by the end of 2009 to **3.02 million tonnes by the end of 2012**; 17 Member States met the target of collecting 4 kilogrammes per inhabitant of WEEE from households;
- most Member States have achieved the specific re-use / recycling and recovery targets of the Directive: as far as consumer equipment is concerned, 26 Member States have reached the target of re-use / recycling 65% and the 75% valuation target. They also achieved the 50% reuse / recycling target and the 70% recycling target for household appliances.
- most Member States reached the Directive's category-specific targets for re-use/recycling and recovery. With regard to **consumer equipment**, 26 Member States reached the 65% re-use/recycling target and the 75% recovery target. They also achieved the 50% re-use/recycling target and the 70% recovery target for **household appliances**.

General conclusions: the Commission considered that Member States should make greater efforts to **improve the quality, reliability and comparability of data** for assessing waste management performance. They could do this by benchmarking reporting methodologies and introducing a data quality check report, so that when reporting on the achievement of the targets set out in the legislation, Member States use the most recent and harmonised methodology.

The Commission recalled that in the **recent review of waste policy and legislation**, it proposed to repeal provisions obliging Member States to produce triennial implementation reports and to base compliance monitoring exclusively on quality statistical data that Member States must provide the Commission with annually.

Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

The Commission presents a report on the implementation of EU waste legislation, including the early warning report for Member States at risk of missing the 2020 preparation for re-use/recycling target on municipal waste.

The report is based on information provided in national implementation reports for the 2013- 2015 period on:

- [Directive 2008/98/EC](#) (Waste Framework Directive);
- Directive 2002/96/EC on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE);
- [Directive 94/62/EC](#) (Packaging Directive);
- [Directive 1999/31/EC](#) (Landfill Directive);
- [Directive 86/278/EEC](#) (Sewage Sludge Directive).

Municipal waste – early warning reports

In 2016, Europeans generated on average 480 kg of municipal waste per person, 46 % of which was recycled or composted, while a quarter was landfilled. Municipal waste represents only around 10 % of the total waste generated in the EU, but it is one of the most complex streams to manage due to its diverse composition, its large amount of producers and fragmentation of responsibilities.

The [revised Waste Framework Directive](#) includes new and more ambitious targets: 55 % municipal waste preparing for re-use/recycling target to be achieved by 2025, 60 % by 2030 and 65 % by 2035¹². It also introduces a system of early warning reports to assess Member States' progress towards these targets three years ahead of the respective deadlines, 14 Member States have been identified as at risk of missing the 2020 target of 50%. These are: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Spain. Country-specific actions to close the gap have been identified, as well as common priorities, including:

- cascade national recycling targets down to the municipal level with responsibility for waste collection systems, and ensure that there are consequences for municipalities that fail to meet targets.
- introduce measures (incl. taxes) to phase out landfilling and provide economic incentives to support the waste hierarchy;
- introduce mandatory requirements to sort bio-waste;
- improve Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes;
- introduce measures to encourage households to sort waste, including higher collection frequency for separated streams as compared with that for mixed waste.

Construction and demolition waste

The Waste Framework Directive sets a 2020 target of 70 % preparation for re-use, recycling and other material recovery for this waste stream. Member States' performances vary significantly, with over half reporting that they already met the 2020 target in the 2013- 2015 period, and some even achieving over 90% recovery. However, Cyprus, Greece, Slovakia, and Sweden are still below 60 %. The report sets out key actions.

Hazardous waste

The analysis of hazardous waste management across the EU, including on PCBs/PCTs, suggests that there are serious gaps in the implementation of key legal obligations. These include inadequate planning, data inconsistencies and statistical gaps between generation and treatment, and misclassification of waste. The report sets out general list of priority actions.

Waste electrical and electronic equipment

During the 2013-2015 period, the amount of waste equipment collected from private households in the EU 28 grew by 8 %. In 2014, an average of 6.21 kg of waste equipment per person was collected from private households. In 2015, 23 Member States met the minimum collection target of 4 kg of household WEEE per person with Sweden and Denmark collecting as much as 12 kg while Cyprus, Latvia, Malta and Romania missed the target by a considerable margin. The Commission sets out recommendations for improvement.

Packaging waste

In 2015, the total packaging waste generated around 3.4 % of the total waste generated. The amount of waste generated has been slowly increasing in the recent years. Since 2005, the average overall packaging recycling rate in the EU has steadily increased (to 65.8 % in 2015). However, between 2013 and 2015 the amount of packaging waste generated grew by 6 % across the EU, suggesting that more work on waste prevention is needed.

The [revised Packaging Directive](#) introduced more ambitious overall recycling targets for packaging (65 % in 2025 and 70 % in 2030), and higher material-specific targets (such as 55 % in 2030 for plastic). This will require increased efforts across the EU to organise separate collection schemes more efficiently in order to capture more recyclables, including through improved EPR schemes. Most Member States are meeting current overall recycling targets, although Hungary (since 2012) and Malta (since 2013) missed them by a considerable margin. Several Member States missed one or more material-specific targets. The Commission has engaged with the Member States concerned and developed targeted advice via the compliance promotion and other activities to improve performance.

Landfilling

Landfilling is the least preferable waste treatment option. Large differences across the EU persist: in 2016, 10 Member States still landfilled over 50 % of municipal waste, while five reported rates above 70 %. The [revised Directive](#) requires Member States to reduce the landfilling of municipal waste to a maximum of 10 % by 2035, and it introduces a ban on the landfilling of separately collected waste, including biodegradable waste. As regards meeting the targets for biodegradable waste reduction, the completeness of the data submitted by Member States varies. According to the reported data, in 2015, half of Member States had already met the 35 % target for 2016.

15 Member States are not fully meeting the obligation laid down in the Directive to treat waste before landfilling. Despite the closures of non-compliant landfills reported by the Member States, the number of facilities that are not in line with the requirements of the Directive remains a matter of concern.

Sewage sludge

The Directive has been in force for over 30 years and is well implemented across the EU. All Member States have set concentration limit values for heavy metals in soil that are in line with the requirements of the Directive - or indeed much stricter.

The report concludes that full implementation of waste legislation is crucial if the EU is to reap the environmental and economic benefits of the circular economy and compete in a world of increasingly scarce resources. Good progress is possible if the Member States concerned take action urgently to implement the actions identified in the report and the accompanying country-specific reports.

Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

2000/0158(COD) - 12/12/2001 - Commission communication on Council's position

The Commission welcomes the adoption of the common position and notes that this is overall in line with the original Commission proposal.

Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

2000/0158(COD) - 18/12/2002 - Text adopted by Parliament, 3rd reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution approving the joint text by the Conciliation Committee. (Please refer to the document dated 08/11/02).

Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

2000/0158(COD) - 04/12/2001 - Council position

The common position, adopted unanimously, accepts 31 of the 82 amendments proposed by the European parliament at first reading. Among the amendments not accepted by the Council, it should be noted that these refer in particular to: the reference to extend producer responsibility; the ban on the disposal of unsorted WEEE; "job creation in the field of waste management"; mentioning the term "producer responsibility"; the financial mechanism for the implementation of producer responsibility; information to users on the ban on disposal of unsorted WEEE; information to be provided by producers for the management of the WEEE; inspection and monitoring system; the scope of the Directive; the definition of "producers"; "consumables" in the definition of WEEE; mentioning "whole appliances and components" in the definition of reuse; adding a definition of "collection facilities" the use of certified management facilities"; rules for calculating the targets of Article 6; on the definition of new targets for certain categories of WEEE; the development of new waste management technologies; internalisation of waste management costs as well as on a mechanism for the financing of WEEE from private households; a ban on disposal of unsorted WEEE; information to users; the making of WEEE; distance selling; information requirements for producers; waste management plans; enforcement rules; category 1 of Annex IB; separation collection of WEEE. The main changes adopted by the Council in addition to those resulting from Parliaments concern: - exempting WEEE used in connection with military and security activities; - providing for specific temporary exemption for small businesses in relation to Articles 7 and 8; - the introduction of the clause "at least free of charge" for the take-back of WEEE by distributors; - provides precision on the responsibility falling on distributors and allows for alternative arrangements for free-take back by distributors; - adding requirements in order to ensure that appliances are treated unless they are reused as a whole; - changing the date for the achievement of the separate collection targets (36 months instead of 31.12.2005 in the Commission's proposal); - adding the possibility for producers to implement treatment requirements through third parties acting on their behalf. In addition, it sets out quality standards for treatment facilities; - setting out supplementary conditions to be included in the permit for treatment facilities; - providing for requirements in relation to the calculation of targets, in particular for keeping of records by producers and third parties; - changing the date for achievements of the targets to 46 months instead of 31.12.2005 in the Commission proposal. It also introduces quantified targets for recycling and recovery of category 10 appliances; - rewording the clause referring to the financial requirements; - introducing a new provision calling on producers to finance the management of "orphan products"; - introducing requirement for producers using distance-selling techniques; - providing for precision on the producers responsibility for WEEE from users other than private households; - providing for additional requirements for information to be provided to users; - providing for additional requirements for information to be submitted by producers using distance-selling techniques; - providing for additional competence to the Committee for adapting the Directive to scientific and technical progress; - providing for possibility for Member States to transpose certain provisions by means of environmental agreements; - making certain derogations possible for Greece and Ireland in relation to certain requests; - providing for precision introduced in several categories on the products to be taken into consideration of the purposes of the Directive.

Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

2000/0158(COD) - 15/05/2001 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament voted to endorse the report by Mr Karl-Heinz FLORENZ (EPP/ED, D) concerning the waste electrical and electronic equipment. (Please refer to the previous text). It should also be added that Mrs Margot Wallstrom, Environment Commissioner, pointed to the significant dangers in the increase of electrical and electronic waste. She also stressed the need for EU-wide coordination. She then listed the substantial number of amendments that she could accept in full or in principle. However, there were a number that would require further negotiation between the institutions.

Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

2000/0158(COD) - 06/06/2001 - Modified legislative proposal

A substantial number of amendments were accepted in full or in part, or in principle by the Commission. The following were accepted in full: - most of the amendments regarding the scope of the Directive, including those relating to medical equipment. - most of the amendments relating to definitions, except the references to "consumables" in the WEEE. - on collections, systems to handle waste may be set up by producers individually or collectively. - most amendments on recovery including that increasing the quantified targets for recycling and recovery of WEEE - on information requirements, those extending the obligations of producers to users, and the possibility of penalties for failure to comply with separate-collection obligations. The following amendments were accepted in part or in principle: - on collection, there are amendments establishing a number of obligations. The Commission accepts part, but cannot permit Member States to depart from the free take back provision. It has doubts about the requirement to conduct recovery operations pursuant to certified management systems. The reference to 6kg/person/year is accepted but reworded. The definition of "collection facility" can be accepted in principle but is reworded. - on treatment requirements, most amendments are accepted in principle. The requirements to be complied with in case of export of WEEE de facto amend the regulation on waste shipment. It is not appropriate to derogate from general rules on this in relation to recovery of WEEE, and the amendment is not accepted. The Commission suggests restricting the scope of the provision to shipment for disposal. - on financing, the amendment that producers may be called upon to finance or co-finance collection from households can be accepted in principle. Responsibility for historical waste may be shared according to market share at time of a rising of cost, but the word "collectively" is deleted. - most of the amendments on reporting requirements may be accepted but are subject to rewording. - the change to the transposition deadline can be accepted, subject to possible review at the time of adoption of the directive. Some twenty two amendments were not accepted, amongst which was the introduction of limits to the reuse of whole appliances. This would be difficult to implement.

Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

2000/0158(COD) - 11/03/2004 - Implementing legislative act

ACT : Commission Decision 2004/249/EC concerning a questionnaire for Member States reports on the implementation of Directive 2002/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). CONTENT : to recall, under Directive 2002/96/EC Member States are to send to the Commission a report on the implementation of the Directive. The report should cover in detail both the incorporation of the Directive into national law and its implementation. It should be drawn up on the basis of the questionnaire in this Decision. This Decision establishes the questionnaire for the abovementioned report.

Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

2000/0158(COD) - 13/06/2000 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE : to present a proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste electrical and electronic equipment. CONTENT : the purpose of this Directive is, as a first priority, the prevention of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), and in addition, the re-use, recycling and other forms of recovery of such wastes so as to reduce the disposal of waste. It also seeks to improve the environmental performance of all economic operators involved in the life cycle of electrical and electronic equipment and in particular operators directly involved in the treatment of waste electrical and electronic equipment. The proposed Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment will contribute to the protection of human health and the environment as required by Article 174 of the Treaty. The principle objectives of this proposal are to protect the soil, water and air from pollution caused by current management of WEEE, to avoid the generation of waste, which has to be disposed of and to reduce the harmfulness of WEEE. It seeks to preserve valuable resources, in particular energy. Another objective of the proposed Directive is the harmonisation of national measures on the management of WEEE. The objectives are to be achieved by means of a wide range of measures, including measures on the separate collection of WEEE, the treatment of WEEE and the recovery of such waste. In addition, producers should take the responsibility for certain phases of the waste management of their products. This financial or physical responsibility creates an economic incentive for producers to adapt the design of their products to the prerequisites of sound waste management. Separate collection of WEEE has to be ensured through appropriate systems, so that users can return their electrical and electronic equipment. Furthermore, in order to ensure improved treatment and re-use /recycling of WEEE, producers have to set up appropriate systems. Member States shall ensure that any establishment or undertaking carrying out treatment operations obtains a permit from the competent authorities. The derogation from the permit requirement may apply to recovery operations concerning WEEE if an inspection is carried out by the competent authorities before the registration in order to ensure compliance with Article 4 of Directive 75/442/EEC. The inspection shall verify: - the type and quantities of waste to be treated; - the general technical requirements to be complied with; - the safety precautions to be taken. The inspections shall be carried out once a year.

Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

2000/0158(COD) - 10/04/2002 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

By adopting the report by Mr Karl-Heinz FLORENZ (EPP-ED, D), the European Parliament approved the common position along with the amendments proposed by the committee responsible (please refer to the summary dated 21/03/02). In particular, the Parliament passed a set of amendments which repeat its first-reading demand for an average compulsory collection target of 6 kg of electro-scrap per inhabitant, per year, from private households, to be achieved by 31 December 2005. Moreover, Parliament wants Member States to prove that the collection target has been reached and also voted to back the ban with inspection and monitoring facilities but rejected the idea of introducing penalties for consumers who fail to sort out their electro-scrap. Parliament also repeated its first-reading demand that individual producer be made to bare the costs of managing the waste from their products, though with a derogation allowing the Member States to use collective financing schemes on condition that they can prove that individual ones would be disproportionately costly. It voted to allow Member States that have already introduced other financing arrangements to retain them, but for no longer than 10 years. MEPs raised the targets for recovery of large household appliances such as fridges and washing machines to 90% (from the Council's 80%) and included automatic dispensers in this. They left the Council's re-use and recycling target for large household appliances at 75%. They raised the recovery target for items such as PCs, phones, radios and hi-fi equipment to 85% (from the Council's 75%) and left the Council's re-use an recycling target for those items at 65%. They want the deadline for these targets brought forward to 31 December 2005 (from the Council's 46 months after the directive becomes law). Lastly, Parliament also wants ozone-depleting gases to be removed from all equipment containing them, not just refrigerators and freezers. Other amendments tighten up the provisions on information for users about the new rules and require products to be marked to show that they must not be binned.

Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

2000/0158(COD) - 20/11/2009

This Commission Staff Working Document accompanies the Commission Communication on the implementation of the Community waste legislation (2004-2006):

- Directive 2006/12/EC on waste,
- Directive 91/689/EEC on hazardous waste,
- Directive 75/439/EEC on waste oils,
- Directive 86/278/EEC on sewage sludge,
- Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste,
- Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste,
- Directive 2002/96/EC on waste electrical and electronic equipment.

To recall, each year or every two years Member States have to report to the Commission on the achievement of the collection, re-use, recycling and/or recovery targets for certain waste streams such as packaging waste, waste electrical and electronic equipment, and end-of-life vehicles.

The 2004-2006 report reveals that **EU waste law is being poorly implemented and enforced in many Member States**. The assessment highlights the need for significant efforts by Member States to ensure that waste management meets the standards set by EU legislation.

Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

2000/0158(COD) - 27/01/2003 - Final act

PURPOSE : to protect the soil, water and air against pollution, through better disposal of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE).
COMMUNITY MEASURE : Directive 2002/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE).
CONTENT : the Council adopted a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste electrical and electronic equipment (so-called WEEE Directive). It has as its objective the protection of the soil, water and air against pollution, through better disposal of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). The Directive provides for: - a binding annual collection target of four kilograms of WEEE per person from private households; - free of charge collection facilities at Member State level; - the possibility for producers to put into practice individual or collective financing schemes for the collection of WEEE from private households; - financing by producers of collection, treatment, recovery and disposal costs for WEEE from users other than private households (the financial impact of this provision on producers is expected to be carefully considered by the Commission); - financing by producers, or by users other than private households, of the costs of "historical waste" management (WEEE from products put on the market between now and 2005); - clear marking by producers of electrical and electronic equipment in order to facilitate their identification and dating, as well as the later treatment and disposal of WEEE; - adoption of measures at Member State level in order to minimise the disposal of WEEE together with other types of waste. **TRANSPOSITION** : 13 August 2004. **ENTRY INTO FORCE** : 13 February 2003.

Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

2000/0158(COD) - 27/06/2002 - Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading

Of the 46 amendments adopted by the European Parliament, 17 are accepted by the commission in full, 1 in part and 17 in principle. The remaining 11 amendments were not accepted. Those amendments accepted include advancing the date by which re-use, recycling and recovery targets have to be achieved to 31 December 2005. The Commission also supports the higher targets for automatic dispensers, and the obligation for Member States to encourage the development of new technologies. It is in favour of extending information requirements for users on the obligation no longer to dispose of WEEE together with unsorted urban waste. Distributors may refuse contaminated WEEE. It supports the provision of information and manuals for treatment facilities, including re-use centres and recycling plants. The Commission accepts in principle that Member States shall ensure that producers can set up and operate individual and/or collective take back systems. This also applies for the option for producers to set up take-back systems from private households. The date of 31 December 2007 for the adoption of new targets for the years beyond 2008 is acceptable without prejudice to the

Commission's right of initiative. The Commission will not accept the option for Member States to depart from the principle of free take-back for consumers as this may undermine the motivation for consumers and the integration of waste management costs into the product price. The obligation for Member States to ensure that exported used electrical and electronic equipment is suitable and intended for re-use is rejected because Member States cannot control what is done with the equipment outside their borders. The Commission feels that the new binding target of six kilograms from private households is very ambitious but is prepared to accept such a target. As data collection and transmission take time, the Commission considers the target date of 31 December 2005 as unrealistic and rejects this part of the amendment. The Commission agrees to permit the maintenance of existing financing agreements for 10 years. It also agrees with sharing the financing of historical waste amongst producers according to their market share. It agrees in principle with allowing producers to show the costs for historical waste in the product price and that these costs should represent the actual costs. With regard to collective financing schemes, Member States may use these if they can demonstrate that the introduction of individual financing schemes would involve disproportionately high costs. Member States must notify such systems to the Commission with an appropriate justification. The principle of internalisation of waste management costs in the product price is supported, though the Commission feels this is a matter for a recital, rather than a legally binding provision. It may be difficult to determine these costs and control their internalisation in every instance. The extension of the obligation to mark electrical equipment with the crossed out dustbin to all equipment is acceptable in principle though it seems unnecessary for large, bulky equipment. Similarly, the obligation to apply a mark to identify equipment put on the market after a specific date can be supported although modalities might still need to be defined. The Commission opposes the amendments on increasing recovery targets for three groups of product categories without simultaneous increase of the re-use and recycling rates. The increase margin between recovery and re-use /recycling may create an incentive for incineration of waste fractions, which are not necessarily suited for environmentally sound incineration. It should be noted that for most fractions of WEEE, re-use and/or recycling are preferable to incineration with energy recovery.

Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

2000/0158(COD) - 20/11/2009

This report aims to inform the other Community institutions, the Member States and the public about the **implementation of the EU legislation on waste over the period 2004-2006**. It covers [Directives 2006/12/EC on waste](#), 91/689/EC on hazardous waste, 75/439/EEC on waste oils, 86/278/EEC on sewage sludge, [94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste](#), [1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste](#), 2002/96/EC on waste electrical and electronic equipment, and [2000/53/EC on end-of-life vehicles](#).

As regards the implementation of this Directive, the report recalls that the amount of waste from electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) in the EU is presently estimated at 8.3-9.1 million tonnes annually, increasing to about 12.3 million tonnes by 2020 according to recent estimates. WEEE needs to be managed in a controlled way due to its quantities and often hazardous nature, but also because it contains valuable resources. The WEEE Directive aims to lower the environmental impacts of the disposal of this waste stream and optimise its collection, reuse, recycling and recovery at high environmental and health standards. The EU's major trading partners have followed the European example and brought into force similar legislation (e.g. China, Korea, Japan, some US states).

Implementation: despite the existence of the Directive, only one third of electrical and electronic waste in the Community is reported as appropriately treated. The other two thirds are going to landfills and potentially to sub-standard treatment sites in or outside the EU. Illegal trade of electrical and electronic waste to non-EU countries continues to be widespread. Inadequately treated products pose major environmental and health risks. The collection target of 4 kg per person per year does not properly reflect the situation in individual Member States and has not been met by five Member States in 2006 (two other did not report). All the ten applicable recycling targets were met by only five Member States and the nine recovery targets merely by four.

In 2009, infringement cases for non-conformity with the WEEE Directive were pending against 14 Member States and for failure to report against one. There were also eight pending infringement cases for non-conformity with the related restrictions on hazardous substances (RoHS) Directive.

In December 2008 the European Commission proposed to [recast the WEEE Directive](#) in order to address some of the observed implementation deficiencies, tackle the fast increasing waste stream of such products, and strengthen the enforceability of this legislation.

General conclusions: whilst Community legislation is reasonably well transposed into national legislation, although sometimes with significant delays, the lack of adequate enforcement causes widespread failure in achieving the agreed environmental protection objectives in practice. The implementation and "real-world" application of waste legislation in the reporting period 2004-2006 remained unsatisfactory in many areas. As demonstrated by a large number of infringement cases, the state of practical implementation remains critical in respect of the Waste Framework Directive, the Landfill Directive, and the Waste Shipment Regulation where coordinated efforts are required to bring the situation in line with the legislation.

In particular, it is advisable that, together with the Commission, Member States and The European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL) increase their actions to bridge the implementation gap of the Landfill Directive. Also in various Member States the results of the WEEE, Packaging and ELV directives remained below the agreed binding targets and numerous infringement cases continued to be open.

Even though progress was made in some Member States, huge implementation efforts need to be undertaken in many countries. **Some reported problems are particularly common in countries which joined the Community in 2004 where over 90% of waste continues to be landfilled.**

Efforts need to be stepped up in order to bring the waste management infrastructure in line with the requirements of the Community legislation, including:

- creating separate collection systems for different waste streams,
- education of citizens,
- investments in pre-treatment of waste before its final disposal.

These efforts are crucial to make the letter of law effectively protect the environment and human health.

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2000/0158(COD) - 17/01/2013

The Commission presents a report on the **implementation of the EU legislation on waste over the period 2007 - 2009**. It covers [Directives 2006/12/EC on waste](#), 91/689/EC on hazardous waste, 75/439/EEC on waste oils, 86/278/EEC on sewage sludge, [94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste](#), 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste, 2002/96/EC on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), and [2000/53/EC on end-of-life vehicles](#).

The Communication recalls that evidence shows that full implementation of EU waste legislation would save EUR 72 billion a year, increase the annual turnover of the EU waste management and recycling sector by EUR 42 billion and create over 400 000 jobs by 2020. However, the report states that illegal waste operations or missing infrastructure in Member States are causing missed opportunities for economic growth, which the EU cannot afford, and leading to environmental threats. It is therefore paramount to take decisive steps to bridge the implementation gap in waste management and move towards a resource efficient society.

According to the information provided by Member States and the available statistical figures, the level of implementation of the WEEE Directive is by and large satisfactory, with only a few Member States missing single targets. The report recalls that the WEEE Directive aims at promoting and optimising the collection, re-use, recycling and recovery of waste from electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE).

In 2008, the Commission launched a recast of the WEEE Directive in order to adapt the collection targets to the reality of the different Member States, to strengthen provisions against illegal shipments, and to reduce administrative burdens. The new WEEE Directive was adopted on 4 July 2012.

All Member States have transposed the relevant provisions of the WEEE Directive into their national laws.

Based on the national implementation reports for the period 2007 to 2009 and the data submitted on target achievement, it appears that **the level of compliance with the Directive was in general satisfactory**. In the reporting years 2007 and 2008, the EU-15 countries had to comply with the targets laid down in the Directive. In 2008, also Slovenia had to fulfil this requirement. The other Member States will have to show compliance from the reporting year 2009 onwards. Of those countries that needed to comply in 2008, only Italy and Slovenia were significantly below the current collection target of 4kg. A positive trend for collection and recovery is clearly visible from the yearly data reported up to now.

All reporting Members States indicated the establishment of collection systems for WEEE.

Municipal collection was the dominant option chosen - private individual systems exist only in a few cases in addition to the collective ones. National systems differ in their complexity and efficiency, proximity and availability to inhabitants. In addition, the level of development differs from country to country and between rural and urban areas.

An increasing amount of WEEE was collected, re-used/recycled and recovered over this reporting period in all Member States for which data was available. The vast majority of Member States was able to reach the collection targets provided by the Directive, and to reach the category-specific re-use/recycling and recovery targets. Where Member States failed to comply with the targets of the Directive, usually they did not comply with selected targets only (and not with the whole set of targets). In 2007 and 2008, the waste-stream specific reuse/recycling targets were not met by up to three reporting Member States.