

EUROPEAN UNION



Committee of the Regions



European Economic and Social Committee

JOINT STATEMENT

Concerning the Waste Framework Directive

Representatives of the European Parliament and of the Council have, with the assistance of the European Commission, negotiated a package of compromise amendments that has been approved by the Comité des Représentants Permanents (COREPER).

The compromise package will be submitted to your vote during the June plenary session. We, the rapporteurs from the Committee of the Regions (CoR), the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), would like to urge the Members of the European Parliament to **give without further amendments a broad support to the package** successfully negotiated by the rapporteur, Ms. Caroline Jackson (EPP/UK)

We firmly believe that the package is a well-balanced compromise between political visions and pragmatic solutions, between ambition and enforceability. In particular, the Parliament has achieved the addition of new articles on prevention, on re-use and recycling, including targets for specified waste materials from households as well as for construction and demolition waste, and on the management of biowaste.

The establishment of operational common goals in the waste framework directive will help us move towards the policy objective of the Thematic Strategy on Waste Prevention and Recycling, which is transforming the European Union into a recycling society. The proposed targets:

- Give a clear signal by indicating the direction towards which all involved actors should be heading
- Provide for the necessary flexibility to take into account the widely diverging starting points in Member States.
- Are at the same time ambitious and achievable. A mechanism is established that allows for a rolling adaptation of these targets in the light of the progress made. The first adaptation can if necessary already take place in 2014.

We thank you for taking our view into consideration.



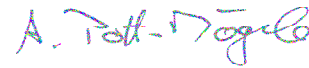
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