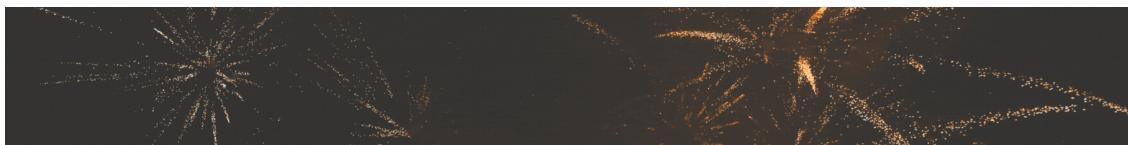





BULLETIN N° 107 - 6 January 2023



Hello from Brussels. As always, we bring you all the latest news on circular economy from Europe and beyond. As Brussels is leaving behind the festive season to return to business as usual, **Stockholm is taking over the rotating Council Presidency.**

Before you continue, make sure you do not miss out on our latest news 

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Swedish Presidency of the Council of the EU: On 1 January, Sweden took over the rotating Council Presidency from the Czech Republic, which left a number of environmental

dossiers yet to be concluded. Politico has published an [article](#) with all the people that will shape Stockholm's moves in the coming months, including, Lars Danielsson, the Swedish ambassador to the European Union and chief negotiator in thorny issues, such as the bloc's response to the soaring energy prices, Jessika Roswall, the country's first European minister, Christian Danielsson, a veteran EU adviser who will act as state secretary to Roswall, Gertrud Ingestad, director general for human resources and security at the European Commission, Jessica Polfj rd, Karin Karlsbro and Sara Skyttedal, the EU lawmakers who represent the coalition government and of course, Ylva Johansson, Sweden's Commissioner for Home Affairs. Similarly, Contexte highlights the work of Torbj rn Haak, Sweden's Permanent representative in Brussels, who will be heading EU Council environment negotiations. The news outlet reported that Haak will now be responsible for overseeing the work of Coreper 1, that comprises the EU27 ambassadors responsible for several files including those related to the environment, energy, and transport.

EU Institutions Legislative Priorities for 2023-2024: The European Parliament, the Council of the EU and the Commission have signed a [Joint Declaration](#) on the EU Legislative Priorities for the years 2023-2024. The Declaration, published in the EU's Official Journal on 23 December, draws on the Commission's 2023 [Work Programme](#) and puts political emphasis on key legislative proposals that either have already been presented by the Commission or will be by the next European Elections in 2024. The European Green Deal, the Union's flagship policy is topping the list of priorities, in a bid to enhance the bloc's competitiveness and to achieve a digital transition. Several legislative dossiers are included in the Green Deal umbrella, including reducing water, air and microplastic pollution, the fight against environmental crime and soil health. The conclusion of the climate package and that of the plan for the promotion of renewable energies are also among the Green Deal dossiers to be completed by the end of EC President Ursula von der Leyen's mandate.

News from the European Commission: The EU Executive's [draft agenda](#) of the weekly meetings of the College of Commissioners until June has been published by Contexte. According to the news outlet's report, the legislative text on critical raw materials is scheduled for 14 March, on microplastics for 17 May and on the right to repair for 31 May. Notably, crucial initiatives such as the revision of the Waste Framework Directive (WFD) and the soil health legislation are missing from Q1, while the revision of the REACH regulation is not on the agenda.

REPowerEU: The three emergency regulations: on the [gas price cap](#), the [joint gas](#)

[purchases](#) and on the [accelerated deployment of renewable energies](#), which were formally adopted on 19 December, were published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 29 December 2022, paving the way for their entry into force. The market correction mechanism to protect citizens and the economy against excessively high prices is scheduled to apply as of 15 February 2023 and will be activated if prices exceed 180€/MWh for three days. Once triggered, it will remain active for at least 20 days.

Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM): On 12 January, the MEPs of the Parliament's environment committee are scheduled to meet to be debriefed by Rapporteur Mohammed Chahim (S&D, Netherlands) on the outcome of the provisional [agreement](#) on the proposed regulation establishing a CBAM, reached in mid December.

Early Warning Report (ERW) on waste management: On 4 January 2023, the Commission set a new timeline for its upcoming EWR on waste management, indicating that it expects to publish it towards the end of the second quarter 2023, according to IssueTracker. The EWR would take stock of Member States' progress towards the attainment of recycling targets of municipal waste and packaging waste by 2025 and landfill waste by 2035. It would further identify and list Member States at risk of not meeting the 2025 recycling targets set for municipal waste and packaging waste and provide them with recommendations on improving their performance and meeting targets.

Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR): The European Parliament's ENVI committee, is set to discuss the draft report by Alessandra Moretti on 12 January 2023. The deadline for ENVI Committee MEPs to submit amendments to the draft Report is provisionally set for 17 January 2023. On this basis, the Rapporteur and Shadow Rapporteurs may negotiate compromise amendments.

Critical Raw Materials (CRMs): Germany announced earlier in the week it is completing its CRMs [strategy](#), in a bid to address the challenges the German industry is facing to secure its supplies, Table Media reported. Berlin's strategy has defined three priorities, namely the advancement of recycling and the circular economy, the diversification of supply chains and the establishment of a "fair and sustainable " market. According to Contexte's report, Germany wants to introduce mandatory recycling rates and build up "strategic state reserves in the public interest", while it also announced the creation of a public-private fund to increase production capacity in Germany, inside and outside the EU. The fund will support "projects for the extraction of raw materials, processing and recycling of raw materials". The news outlet also added that Berlin is "in favour of coherent

environmental, social and governance standards for the import of raw materials and their processed products within the framework of the future European regulation on critical raw materials."



EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles: The European Parliament's Environment committee (ENVI) has issued a draft report produced by Delara Bukhardt on the Commission's textiles proposal. Through the latter, the EU Executive wants to ensure that all textile products placed on the EU market are durable, repairable and recyclable, to a great extent made of recycled fibres, free of hazardous substances, produced in respect of social rights and the environment. FEAD has provided members with the draft report. LAST REMINDER: We kindly ask you to send us your comments by today, **6 January 2023.**

Revision of EU rules on Food Contact Materials (FCM): The Commission has opened a public consultation on its initiative related to food safety policy. This includes rules on food contact materials (e.g. food packaging, kitchen and tableware and food processing equipment) and is part of the Farm-to-Fork strategy. LAST REMINDER: The deadline to send us your feedback on FEAD's draft response to the Commission's FCM questionnaire is set for **6 January 2023.**

Carbon Removal Certifications: The Commission has published a proposal to establish a Union certification framework for carbon removals to contribute to the EU climate objective. It should develop the necessary rules to monitor, report and verify the authenticity of these removals. The aim is to expand sustainable carbon removals and encourage the use of innovative solutions to capture, recycle and store CO₂ by farmers, foresters, and industries. The Commission's deadline for feedback on the proposal is on 15 February 2023. FEAD has provided members with a questionnaire before preparing a draft response. The deadline for you to send us your written responses to the questionnaire is **11 January 2023.**

Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive: on 26 October 2022, the European Commission published the [proposal for a revised Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive](#). This adopted act is open for feedback until 16 February 2023. To prepare our feedback, we

kindly ask you to send us any input and documents you think would help us to build a FEAD position by [13 January 2023](#).

Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR): The European Commission released on 30 November its PPWR revision proposal. The adopted act is open for feedback for a minimum period of 8 weeks, until 17 February 2023. FEAD has provided members with a draft feedback on the Commission's proposal and we would like to kindly ask you to send us your comments on the document by [16 January 2023](#).

Classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals (CLP): On 19 December, the Commission proposed a revised CLP Regulation and introduced new hazard classes for endocrine disruptors and other harmful chemical substances to better protect people and the environment from hazardous chemicals. The deadline to send us your feedback on the Commission's proposal is [30 January 2023](#).



Lídia Pereira, the Portuguese MEP of the European People's Party (EPP) will serve as the new rapporteur for the text on the certification of carbon absorption. Pereira was appointed within her group on 21 December as rapporteur for the draft regulation on EU certification for carbon removal, according to information by Contexte, which also reported that the German MEP **Tiemo Wölken** will be the shadow rapporteur for the group of Socialists and Democrats (S&Ds).



Spain busts group that smuggled thousands of tonnes of electronic waste to Africa: Spanish police have broken up a criminal group that smuggled

Amazon Packages Burn in India, Final Stop in Broken Recycling System: Muzaffarnagar, a city about 80 miles north of New Delhi, is famous in

over 5,000 tonnes of hazardous electronic waste from Spain's Canary Islands to several African countries, authorities said Tuesday. Police arrested 43 people suspected of having illegally shipped 331 containers of used electronics to Africa over the past two years, the finance ministry said in a statement. The network allegedly forged customs documents for the exported waste to make it seem that the containers held second-hand goods, in an operation valued at over 1.5 million euros. *Read more from [France24](#).*

India for two things: colonial-era freedom fighters who helped drive out the British and the production of jaggery, a cane sugar product boiled into goo at some 1,500 small sugar mills in the area. Less likely to feature in tourism guides is Muzaffarnagar's new status as the final destination for tons of supposedly recycled American plastic. *Read more from [Bloomberg](#).*



Safe and efficient waste shipments: The way towards a circular economy: The EU is strongly committed to achieving climate neutrality by 2050 and the transition to a circular economy is a prerequisite towards this objective. In this context, safe shipments of waste are key, as they enable the re-looping of valuable secondary raw materials back into the economy and incentivise circular economy business models. However, it is clear to the waste management industry that the ongoing revision of the rules on the shipments of waste do not sufficiently consider and acknowledge this vital enabling role.

Achieving a circular and more resource efficient economy requires major changes in our production and consumption models and is intrinsically based on logistical chains across the EU and around the world. Our ambitious circular economy relies on cross-border supply chains, as market openness goes hand-in-hand with better economic performance. It is not questioned, that as in any other sector, rules are needed, and therefore the EU Waste Shipment Regulation (WSR) should set a clear legal framework that will ensure their safety, efficiency, and alignment with environmentally sound practices.

Read FEAD's opinion article at the [Industrial Process News \(IPN\)](#).

TWEETS OF THE WEEK



Greta Thunberg
@GretaThunberg

this is what happens when you don't recycle your pizza boxes

9:05 AM · Dec 30, 2022

140.2M Views 428K Retweets 67.3K Quote Tweets 3.5M Likes



European Commission
@EU_Commission
EU official organization

Today, Sweden takes over the rotating Presidency of the @EUCouncil at a time of historic challenges.

Until 30 June 2023, we will work hand in hand with Sweden to build together the future of Europe.

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