



Common statement by EUROCITIES, Municipal Waste Europe, and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions

on the European Commission's proposal for the revision of the directive on waste and landfill

EUROCITIES, Municipal Waste Europe (MWE), and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), all European umbrella associations representing cities and local authorities, welcome the new package and the new approach taken by the Commission towards the review of the waste directives taking into account the focus on achieving a circular economy. European local authorities and cities have extensive experience in providing sustainable waste management as a service of general interest and play a crucial role in achieving the European waste management objectives, particularly with regard to separate collection, resource recovery and final disposal.

Each of our associations will respond individually to the European Parliament's reports by the rapporteur Simona Bonafè. Our associations are nevertheless united in calling for the following to be set out in the final adopted revised directives:

- A broad definition of municipal waste at European level, without a restrictive quantity criterion, allowing member states to choose how to implement their national waste policies in their territories.
- The partnership and coordination between producers and local authorities entailed in the Extended Producer Responsibility schemes needs to be clear, transparent and well balanced in order to ensure full and correct implementation of the directive's requirements and the ability to achieve recycling targets.
- Municipal waste accounts only for 5-10% of the total amount of waste generated in the EU, therefore it is also important that the legislators address waste more widely by progressively targeting other sectors.
- Increase the availability of funding for local authorities and cities to support the implementation of the directive's new requirements which lead to the creation of a circular economy.
- The creation of knowledge platforms on key priority areas to promote and enable the active exchange of best practice between key stakeholders including local authorities and cities to ensure a fast transition towards strong circular economy for the EU.
- Waste prevention measures both in terms of common requirements and best practice sharing.