



PPWR

COMMISSION LAUNCHES WORK ON PPWR RECYCLED CONTENT REQUIREMENTS

The European Commission has launched several public consultations to prepare the implementation of recycled-content requirements under the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR). On 14 August, the Commission opened three calls for evidence covering two implementing acts and one delegated act that will define how companies must meet the regulation's recycled-content obligations from 2030 onwards. The first act will establish rules for calculating and verifying recycled plastic content in packaging, the second will set sustainability criteria for plastic recycling technologies, and the third will define the conditions under which recycled plastic and products containing recycled plastic can be imported from non-EU countries. Stakeholders can submit feedback until 16 September, with the Commission targeting adoption of the measures in the fourth quarter of 2026. In parallel, a separate consultation is open until 10 September on an implementing act aimed at harmonising certain rules for packaging Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes, including requirements for producer registers and the reporting of packaging data to national authorities. The measure, initially expected in early 2026, is intended to improve consistency and administrative efficiency across Member States as the PPWR implementation process moves forward. [Read more.](#)

SOURCE: CONTEXTE 25/08/2026

EUROPEAN AGENDA

COMMISSION CLARIFIES ROLE OF BIO-BASED MATERIALS IN CIRCULAR ECONOMY POLICIES

The European Commission has provided further insight into how bio-based materials will be treated under forthcoming EU circular economy legislation, following a parliamentary question from Finnish MEP Katri Kulmuni (Renew). The MEP called on the Commission to recognise bio-based materials as "circular materials" alongside recycled materials in the upcoming Circular Economy Act and to ensure their inclusion within the Ecodesign framework. The discussion reflects growing interest in the role that renewable, bio-based feedstocks can play in reducing dependence on fossil-based materials and supporting the EU's sustainability objectives.

In its response, the Commission highlighted several policy initiatives expected to support the development and uptake of bio-based materials, including the forthcoming Biotech Act II, the future Circular Economy Act, and work on bio-based plastics under the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR). At the same time, Brussels reiterated its commitment to a technology- and material-neutral approach under the Ecodesign framework, arguing that policy should assess the overall environmental benefits and impacts of all materials rather than favouring specific technologies. The Commission also noted that revisions to the EU's environmental footprint methodologies are underway to better reflect differences between fossil-based and bio-based materials, particularly regarding carbon sequestration and lifecycle impacts. These developments could help shape how bio-based solutions are recognised and incentivised within future EU sustainability policies. [Read more.](#)

SOURCE: CONTEXTE 27/08/2026

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

DRAFT PLASTICS TREATY TEXT DRAWS CRITICISM AHEAD OF RENEWED GLOBAL NEGOTIATIONS

International negotiations on a global plastics treaty are set to resume following the publication of a new informal draft text on 8 August, intended to restart discussions after talks stalled in 2025. However, the document has prompted criticism from governments and civil society organisations for failing to include concrete measures to limit plastic production and consumption. French officials expressed disappointment that the draft does not reflect calls made by more than 90 countries, including through the 2025 Nice Declaration, for binding and ambitious measures to address the growing plastics crisis. While France welcomed references to tackling the most problematic plastic products, such as certain single-use items, it stressed that the document should be viewed as a starting point rather than a final compromise and called for further improvements during upcoming negotiations. Closed-door discussions among negotiators will continue in September as countries seek to bridge remaining differences ahead of the next formal rounds of talks.

At the same time, environmental organisations have strongly criticised the draft, arguing that it omits key provisions on plastic production levels, hazardous chemicals, and human health impacts. NGOs including the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL) and the Break Free From Plastic coalition contend that the proposed measures fall short of scientific recommendations needed to end plastic pollution and risk producing a weak agreement acceptable to major plastic-producing nations. The coalition has urged governments to reject the current text before the next negotiating session scheduled for March 2027. Further informal meetings are planned in the coming months, including discussions in Bangkok at the end of September. According to Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee Chair Julio Cordano, feedback from these meetings will inform a revised draft expected to be published in early November, providing the basis for the next phase of treaty negotiations. [Read more](#)

SOURCE: CONTEXTE 26/08/2026

COMMISSION PROPOSES EXPANDING LIST OF NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE ELIGIBLE FOR SIMPLIFIED EU SHIPMENTS

The European Commission has launched a public consultation on two delegated acts under the Waste Shipments Regulation, aimed at facilitating the movement of certain non-hazardous waste streams across the European Union. Open from 18 August to 15 September, the proposals form part of the environmental simplification measures announced alongside the Commission's environmental omnibus package in late 2025. The first draft act would expand the Regulation's "green list" of waste eligible for shipment within the EU without prior notification or consent from national authorities. Based on feedback received during an earlier consultation, the Commission is considering adding several new waste categories, including textile waste, certain aluminium and steel construction waste, permanent magnets recovered from waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), wind turbines and end-of-life vehicles, as well as specific WEEE streams that will no longer be covered by the Basel Convention from 1 January 2027. The measure is intended to improve access to secondary raw materials and support the development of a more circular European economy.

A second delegated act would introduce a harmonised maximum contamination threshold of 10% for glass waste already included on the green list, addressing differing practices among Member States and providing greater legal certainty for operators involved in cross-border shipments. The Commission expects both acts to be formally adopted in the fourth quarter of 2026, following the completion of the consultation process and stakeholder review. Together, the measures are designed to streamline waste movements, enhance recycling opportunities, and improve the functioning of the EU market for secondary materials. [Read more](#)

SOURCE: CONTEXTE 26/08/2026

CLIMATE POLICY

COMMISSIONERS TO FOCUS ON AI AND CLIMATE CHANGE AT ANNUAL STRATEGY RETREAT

The European Commission will devote its annual back-to-school seminar on 4 September to examining the long-term implications of artificial intelligence and climate change across EU policy areas. The

For contact: info@citpa-europe.org

meeting, which brings together the College of Commissioners, is intended to move beyond day-to-day legislative discussions and provide an opportunity for strategic reflection on challenges expected to shape Europe over the coming decades. According to sources cited by Contexte, the two main themes under discussion will be the impact of AI and climate change on the full spectrum of EU policies, reflecting their growing importance as cross-cutting issues affecting competitiveness, industry, sustainability, security, and social policy.

The seminar is expected to encourage Commissioners to assess how these transformative trends could affect their individual portfolios and the EU's broader policy agenda in the years ahead. Under the leadership of Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, the exercise aims to strengthen long-term policy coordination and ensure that future legislative and investment priorities are aligned with emerging technological and environmental realities. While the agenda has not yet been finalised, sources involved in the preparations indicate that additional strategic topics may be added before the meeting takes place. [Read more.](#)

SOURCE: CONTEXTE 27/08/2026
