

***Minutes of the third meeting of the  
WEEE-Public Interest Network  
held on 28th September in Amsterdam (NL)***

**Participants :** Marco Jadot (IBGE), Christoph Becker (RAL), Patricia Carvalho (LIPOR), Maria Vidal (ARC), Viktoria Dezsö (Hungary), Guy Raithby-Veall (London Remade) Liesbet Noé (Interafval), Bjorn Halldorsson (SORPA, Iceland), Maarten Goorhuis (NVRD), Christof Delatter (Interafval), Caroline Saintmard (ACR+)

**Apologized :** Nicolas Garnier (AMORCE), Yves Decelle (SITA), Krista Thomas (RREUSE), Christopher Carvell (Milton-Keynes), S. Fusellier (Nantes métropole)

**Introduction of the Meeting by Christof Delatter (INTERAFVAL)**

Everybody introduces him/herself. **Chr. Delatter** reminds that WEEE-PIN was created within ACR+ and is now open to :

- other LRAs
- other networks of LRAs (ex: CEMR)
- other networks with close interests (ex: RREUSE)

No comments are done about the minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

**Chr. Delatter** explains that the EU stakeholder consultation will be delayed because the ÖKOPOL and UNU studies are not finished yet. As soon as these are available, they will be communicated to all WEEE-PIN members.

**Chr. Becker** suggests that the Deutsche Umwelthilfe (member of BEE) is associated to the network to build influence on treatment standards.

**WEEE-PIN position paper**

**General comments**

C. Saintmard reports **N. Garnier's** opinion :

- WEEE-PIN should represent Local and Regional public authorities
- there is a need for a European Regulation authority in the field of WEEE regulation
- social aspects should not be neglected, in relation with the promotion of reuse.

As far as the position paper is concerned, it is clear that it is too long. **M. Goorhuis** proposes to stick more to the text of the Directive and avoid expressing too much general opinions and wishes.

We should have a more structured text, with an executive summary (easy to read, publish and send out).

**B. Halldorsson** also suggests to be pro-active and not reactive (= to state what WEEE-PIN wants).

### **Particular comments**

The position paper is reviewed; changes agreed can be found in an updated document attached to these minutes.

WEEE-PIN members are asked to react on this paper within the forthcoming week (by 17<sup>th</sup> October).

As soon as ready, the whole text will be communicated to CEMR, with a draft backing letter allowing the national umbrella organizations of LRAS, members of CEMR, to support easily WEEE-PIN position by signing and sending back the text to European Commission.

The executive summary will be sent to a range of diffusion channels (ex: Resource Recovery Forum, ACR+ members, national waste administrations/ ministries...) and made available at LIPOR's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary conference (24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> October).

### **Results of press release from 25<sup>th</sup> April 2007**

**C. Saintmard** comments that several articles were published by the EU environmental press on the basis of the previous press release:

- EUWID (31/05/07)
- ICLEI newsletter (issue May 07)
- Request for info from Perchards

Also to be noticed:

- Request for info from RTBF (O. Coroenne)
- Interest from Agra-net (conference 18 – 19 Sept)

### **Activities of last weeks**

#### ***Greenweek***

Attendance of C. Saintmard at the WEEE-session. No LRAs nor public authorities represented. Discussion between EEB & 3 representatives of Private sector.

#### ***Visit of Costa-Rican delegation in Bxl (ACR+ premises)***

On the request of Waste NL – this visit reminds that EU legislation may be an example for the rest of the world.

Interest of the delegation (Environment and Health ministry) to be kept informed of WEEE-PIN works.

#### ***Demands of participation***

- Hampshire County Council (UK)
- Kris Krauze (PL)
- Luminita Kornéa (RO)

**C. Saintmard** proposes to remind Hampshire; **V. Dezső** Luminita Kornéa + colleague from Bulgaria; **Chr. Delatter** will do the same with Pentti Rantala (Eurocities) and Kris Krauze.

#### ***AGRA-NET conference***

Chr. Delatter spoke to the name of WEEE-PIN on 19<sup>th</sup> September. Very good feedback about his presentation. Few participation but strong lobby from EU Industry towards the EU Commission...

### **News from the WEEE-sector**

#### ***INSEAD project***

Info received by C. Saintmard. Contacts taken with Pr. Luk Van Wassenhove. Members of this project are likely the members of EICTA (European Digital Technology Industry) Potential interest for future collaboration? **C. Saintmard** will ask WEEE-PIN to be kept informed of their activities.

**M. Goorhuis** communicates the report of the Dutch government which recently looked at PR systems. This report is attached to these minutes.

**P. Carvalho** shares the interest of her contacts in ERP Portugal to meet WEEE-PIN representatives.

**Interesting website** : <http://www.ewaste.info>

### **The way forward**

#### ***Data collection exercise***

**C. Saintmard** makes a first point of the situation regarding the information gathered through the questionnaires.

Information was collected from {Austria, Catalonia, Finland, Flanders, France, Iceland, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, UK (Devon, Luton, Merseyside, East Sussex, Essex, North Ireland, Scotland), Walloon Region}, mainly thanks to CEMR network. Good quality even if the description of national or regional situations needs further contacts with respondents.

According to V. Dezső's suggestion, the first part of the questionnaire (description of regulations) can easily be communicated to a range of Environmental ministries in the East of Europe (using perhaps the TAIEX network and Christoph Becker's contacts). It will then be possible to function separately with LRA's regarding more precisely the WEEE Directive implementation problems.

#### ***Letter to Commissioner Dimas***

On 16<sup>th</sup> October, Chr. Delatter is meeting H. Blockland and C. Jackson. He may ask them for advice on the best way to contact the Commissioner and see which follow-up can be given to WEEE-PIN letter from 2<sup>nd</sup> August.

**Forum (on ACR+ website)**

No progress made on the issue, considering the complexity of ACR+ website and the temporary absence of a communication manager in ACR+. It is suggested to function with the bulk of e-mails of all WEEE-PIN members.

**Before her departure, C. Saintmard will :**

- send to all the list of all WEEE-PIN members to ease communication among them
- communicate to Chr. Delatter the list of people to which an invitation to join WEEE-PIN has been sent.
- send to Liesbet Noé (INTERAFVAL) the questionnaires received todate, allowing her to make a first report on this data collection exercise, intended to engage other people to join and raise their interest.

Considering the forthcoming consultation from the EU Commission and the work which will be needed in that framework (and consequently the timing to be ensured), **WEEE-PIN is looking forward to knowing as soon as possible who will take over C. Saintmard's position** in WEEE-PIN. There is an urgent need indeed to follow-up its activities.

<b>Next WEEE-PIN meetings</b>
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- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2007 in Brussels (either ACR+, IBGE or Interafval premises)
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2007 in Oporto

<b>Press release from representatives of participating Cities and Regions</b>
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It is agreed that no press release will be published this time but preferably once the position paper (executive summary) is publishable.

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