



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION ON THE WEEE DIRECTIVE

ACR+ WEEE-PIN calls for clear targets, clear financial producer responsibility and some more reorientation of the existing directive

[Brussels, 29 May 2008] In the framework of the review of the WEEE directive (Directive 2002/96/EC), stakeholders have been invited by European authorities to comment on some proposed policy options concerning the targets and the scope of the directive, the producer responsibility provisions and the WEEE treatment requirements. The stakeholder consultation will be running until 5 June 2008. In this context, the WEEE-Public Interest Network (WEEE-PIN)¹ has just submitted its position and formulated a list of recommendations.

Targets

As far as the targets are concerned, WEEE-PIN favours mandatory collection targets expressed as a percentage of the total quantities of EEE put on the market. However, WEEE-PIN believes that the determination of **appliance-based recycling targets** complemented by **material-based recycling targets** is of higher importance and will also foster collection. Moreover, WEEE-PIN members strongly recommend **introducing reuse targets** together with developing standard quality criteria for reused WEEE.

Scope

Under the scope of the WEEE Directive, it is necessary to keep the different approach for B2B and B2C equipment with integration of the grey-zone products (which are generally used in households) in the B2C scheme. At the same time, it is not acceptable to use a fixed list of products due to the rapid evolution of products put on the market.

Producer Responsibility

Taking into consideration the proposed options for producer responsibility provisions, WEEE-PIN is in favour of harmonising the implementation of financial responsibilities based on the following principles:

- **clear financial responsibilities of producers**, starting from the moment the consumer discards WEEE;
- measures to guarantee **transparency** and accessibility on the operation of producers' compliance schemes – details on fund raising and treatment channels;
- simplification of administrative procedures through the creation of a **centralised database for the producers**.

¹ The WEEE-PIN was created within ACR+ (Association of Cities and Regions for Recycling and sustainable Resource management) to represent local and regional public authorities on WEEE issues at European level.



Furthermore, WEEE-PIN suggests integrating the 'producer responsibility' definition into the Waste Framework Directive, enforcing all the elements mentioned in the European Parliament proposal at the same time as cumulative obligations.

Treatment

Concerning the treatment requirements, WEEE-PIN recommends that appropriate treatment standards and specifications such as including a definition of "remove" should be incorporated into the directive.

WEEE-PIN strongly believes that, if the above-mentioned proposals are taken in account, better regulation and better environmental results can be achieved.

More information:

ACR+ WEEE-PIN opinion paper:

<http://www.acrplus.org/WEEE-PIN>

Stakeholder consultation on EU website:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/weee/events_weee_en.htm

*The **Association of Cities and Regions for Recycling and sustainable Resource management** (ACR+) is an international network of members who share the common aim of promoting the sustainable consumption of resources and management of waste through prevention at source, reuse and recycling. ACR+ currently has about 90 members, mainly local and regional authorities as well as national networks of local authorities representing around 750 municipalities. ACR+ also welcomes other key players in the sustainable resource-product-waste management, such as NGOs, academic institutions or private organisations, as partner members.*

For further information:

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