

# Procedure file

| Basic information   |  |
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| <p>COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)<br/>Directive</p> <p>2000/0158(COD)</p> <p>Procedure completed</p>  |  |
| <p>Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE</p> <p>Amended by <a href="#">2003/0084(COD)</a><br/>Amended by <a href="#">2006/0302(COD)</a><br/>Amended by <a href="#">2007/0212(COD)</a><br/>Repealed by <a href="#">2008/0241(COD)</a></p> <p>Subject<br/>3.40.06 Electronics, electrotechnical industries, ICT, robotics<br/>3.70.12 Waste management, domestic waste, packaging, light industrial waste<br/>4.60.04.02 Consumer security</p> |  |

| Key players                   |   |   |            |
|-------------------------------|---|---|------------|
| European Parliament           | Committee responsible                                   | Rapporteur  | Appointed  |
|                               | <b>DELE</b> EP Delegation to Conciliation Committee     |   | 26/06/2002 |
|                               |   | PPE-DE <a href="#">FLORENZ Karl-Heinz</a>               |            |
|                               | Former committee responsible                            |   |            |
|                               | <b>ENVI</b> Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy |   | 19/06/2000 |
|                               |   | PPE-DE <a href="#">FLORENZ Karl-Heinz</a>               |            |
| Council of the European Union |   | <b>ENVI</b> Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy | 19/06/2000 |
|                               |   | PPE-DE <a href="#">FLORENZ Karl-Heinz</a>               |            |
|                               | Former committee for opinion                            |   |            |
|                               | <b>ITRE</b> Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy  |   | 13/09/2000 |
|                               |   | V/ALE <a href="#">AHERN Nuala</a>                       |            |
|                               | Council configuration                                   | Meeting   | Date       |
|                               | <a href="#">Agriculture and Fisheries</a>               | <a href="#">2476</a>                                    | 19/12/2002 |
|                               | <a href="#">Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN</a>   | <a href="#">2393</a>                                    | 04/12/2001 |
|                               | <a href="#">Environment</a>                             | <a href="#">2355</a>                                    | 07/06/2001 |
|                               | <a href="#">Environment</a>                             | <a href="#">2321</a>                                    | 18/12/2000 |
|                               | <a href="#">Environment</a>                             | <a href="#">2295</a>                                    | 10/10/2000 |
| European Commission           | Commission DG<br><a href="#">Environment</a>            | Commissioner  |            |

| Key events |   |                      |         |
|------------|---|----------------------|---------|
| 08/09/2000 | Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading |                      |         |
| 10/10/2000 | Debate in Council                                       | <a href="#">2295</a> |         |
| 18/12/2000 | Debate in Council                                       | <a href="#">2321</a> |         |
| 24/04/2001 | Vote in committee, 1st reading                          |                      | Summary |

|            |   |   |         |
|------------|---|---|---------|
| 24/04/2001 | Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading        | <a href="#">A5-0148/2001</a>  |         |
| 15/05/2001 | Debate in Parliament                                    |  |         |
| 15/05/2001 | Decision by Parliament, 1st reading                     | <a href="#">T5-0246/2001</a>  | Summary |
| 13/12/2001 | Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading |   |         |
| 21/03/2002 | Vote in committee, 2nd reading                          |   | Summary |
| 09/04/2002 | Debate in Parliament                                    |  |         |
| 10/04/2002 | Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading                     | <a href="#">T5-0160/2002</a>  | Summary |
| 02/08/2002 | Parliament's amendments rejected by Council             |   |         |
| 12/09/2002 | Formal meeting of Conciliation Committee                |   |         |
| 10/10/2002 | Final decision by Conciliation Committee                |   | Summary |
| 17/12/2002 | Debate in Parliament                                    |  |         |
| 18/12/2002 | Decision by Parliament, 3rd reading                     | <a href="#">T5-0620/2002</a>  | Summary |
| 19/12/2002 | Decision by Council, 3rd reading                        |   |         |
| 27/01/2003 | Final act signed  |   |         |
| 27/01/2003 | End of procedure in Parliament                          |   |         |
| 13/02/2003 | Final act published in Official Journal                 |   |         |

### Technical information

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Procedure reference        | 2000/0158(COD)  |
| Procedure type             | COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)  |
| Procedure subtype          | Legislation   |
| Legislative instrument     | Directive   |
|                            | Amended by <a href="#">2003/0084(COD)</a><br>Amended by <a href="#">2006/0302(COD)</a><br>Amended by <a href="#">2007/0212(COD)</a><br>Repealed by <a href="#">2008/0241(COD)</a> |
| Legal basis                | EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 175-p1   |
| Stage reached in procedure | Procedure completed   |
| Committee dossier          | CODE/5/16394  |

### Documentation gateway

|  |  |            |      |         |
|--|--|------------|------|---------|
| Legislative proposal                           | COM(2000)0347  | 13/06/2000 | EC   | Summary |
| Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report | <a href="#">CES1433/2000</a><br><a href="#">OJ C 116 20.04.2001, p. 0038</a> | 29/11/2000 | ESC  |         |
| Committee of the Regions: opinion              | <a href="#">CDR0269/2000</a>   | 14/02/2001 | CofR |         |

|   |      |   |            |        |         |
|---|------|---|------------|--------|---------|
|   |      | <a href="#">OJ C 148 18.05.2001, p. 0001</a>  |            |        |         |
| Committee draft report  |      | PE297.210   | 19/02/2001 | EP     |         |
| Committee opinion   | ITRE | PE286.143/DEF   | 08/03/2001 | EP     |         |
| Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading                           |      | <a href="#">A5-0148/2001</a>  | 24/04/2001 | EP     |         |
| Committee draft report  |      | PE297.210/AC1   | 25/04/2001 | EP     |         |
| Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading                                    |      | <a href="#">T5-0246/2001</a><br>OJ C 034 07.02.2002, p. 0025-0115 E                 | 15/05/2001 | EP     | Summary |
| Modified legislative proposal   |      | COM(2001)0315,<br><a href="#">OJ C 240 28.08.2001, p. 0298 E</a>                    | 06/06/2001 | EC     | Summary |
| Council position  |      | <a href="#">11304/1/2001</a><br><a href="#">OJ C 110 07.05.2002, p. 0001 E</a>      | 04/12/2001 | CSL    | Summary |
| Commission communication on Council's position  |      | SEC(2001)2021   | 12/12/2001 | EC     | Summary |
| Committee draft report  |      | PE312.625   | 07/02/2002 | EP     |         |
| Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading                                  |      | <a href="#">A5-0100/2002</a>  | 21/03/2002 | EP     |         |
| Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading   |      | <a href="#">T5-0160/2002</a><br><a href="#">OJ C 127 29.05.2003, p. 0161-0490 E</a> | 10/04/2002 | EP     | Summary |
| Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading                                |      | <a href="#">COM(2002)0353</a>   | 27/06/2002 | EC     | Summary |
| Report tabled for plenary by Parliament delegation to Conciliation Committee, 3rd reading |      | <a href="#">A5-0438/2002</a>  | 10/10/2002 | EP     |         |
| Joint text approved by Conciliation Committee co-chairs                                   |      | <a href="#">3663/2002</a>   | 08/11/2002 | CSL/EP |         |
| Committee draft report  |      | PE287.616   | 05/12/2002 | EP     |         |
| Text adopted by Parliament, 3rd reading   |      | <a href="#">T5-0620/2002</a><br>OJ C 031 05.02.2004, p. 0161-0178 E                 | 18/12/2002 | EP     | Summary |
| Implementing legislative act  |      | <a href="#">32004D0249</a><br><a href="#">OJ L 078 16.03.2004, p. 0056-0059</a>     | 11/03/2004 | EU     | Summary |
| Follow-up document  |      | <a href="#">SEC(2009)1586</a>   | 20/11/2009 | EC     | Summary |
| Follow-up document  |      | <a href="#">COM(2009)0633</a>   | 20/11/2009 | EC     | Summary |
| Follow-up document  |      | <a href="#">COM(2013)0006</a>   | 17/01/2013 | EC     | Summary |
| Follow-up document  |      | <a href="#">COM(2017)0088</a>   | 27/02/2017 | EC     | Summary |
| Follow-up document  |      | <a href="#">COM(2018)0656</a>   | 24/09/2018 | EC     | Summary |

#### Additional information

European Commission

[EUR-Lex](#)

#### Final act

## Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

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**PURPOSE** : to present a proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste electrical and electronic equipment.

**CONTENT** : the purpose of this Directive is, as a first priority, the prevention of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), and in addition, the re-use, recycling and other forms of recovery of such wastes so as to reduce the disposal of waste. It also seeks to improve the environmental performance of all economic operators involved in the life cycle of electrical and electronic equipment and in particular operators directly involved in the treatment of waste electrical and electronic equipment. The proposed Directive on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment will contribute to the protection of human health and the environment as required by Article 174 of the Treaty. The principle objectives of this proposal are to protect the soil, water and air from pollution caused by current management of WEEE, to avoid the generation of waste, which has to be disposed of and to reduce the harmfulness of WEEE. It seeks to preserve valuable resources, in particular energy. Another objective of the proposed Directive is the harmonisation of national measures on the management of WEEE. The objectives are to be achieved by means of a wide range of measures, including measures on the separate collection of WEEE, the treatment of WEEE and the recovery of such waste. In addition, producers should take the responsibility for certain phases of the waste management to the prerequisites of sound waste management. Separate collection of WEEE has to be ensured through appropriate systems, so that users can return their electrical and electronic equipment. Furthermore, in order to ensure improved treatment and re-use/recycling of WEEE, producers have to set up appropriate systems. Member States shall ensure that any establishment or undertaking carrying out treatment operations obtains a permit from the competent authorities. The derogation from the permit requirement may apply to recovery operations concerning WEEE if an inspection is carried out by the competent authorities before the registration in order to ensure compliance with Article 4 of Directive 75/442/EEC. The inspection shall verify: - the type and quantities of waste to be treated; - the general technical requirements to be complied with; - the safety precautions to be taken. The inspections shall be carried out once a year.?

## Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

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The committee adopted the report by Karl-Heinz FLORENZ (EPP-ED, D) proposing a large number of amendments to the proposal under the codecision procedure (1st reading). The amendments focused on the following points: Separate collection: whereas the Commission was only seeking a collection target of 4 kg per head per year and the creation of efficient collection systems, the committee called for all WEEE to be collected separately and for a target of at least 6 kg per head per year; Costs for historic products: whereas the Commission was proposing that the disposal of products already in existence before the entry into force of the Directive should be financed by all existing producers, the committee wanted the costs for collection, treatment and environmentally sound disposal to be internalised within the product price and for disposal of such products to be financed collectively by all producers in proportion to their share of the market; Treatment: the committee insisted on the use of state-of-the-art recovery and recycling technologies. Treatment systems could be set up by producers collectively and/or individually; Recovery: the committee wanted tougher recovery, re-use and recycling targets for 2005, and therefore increased the proposed targets by around 5-10%. For example, for large household appliances such as washing machines or fridges, it increased the recovery target from 80% to 90% of weight, and the target for re-use and recycling from 75% to 85% of weight; Information: the committee wanted consumers to be properly informed about the arrangements for ending the disposal of WEEE alongside household waste. Penalties would be imposed on consumers who did not separate WEEE from household waste; Categories of EEE covered: the committee modified some of the categories listed by the Commission. For lighting equipment, it wanted to allow exemptions, such as light bulbs, incandescent lamps and household lighting equipment. It also added leisure and sports equipment to the toys category.

## Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

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The European Parliament voted to endorse the report by Mr Karl-Heinz FLORENZ (EPP/ED, D) concerning the waste electrical and electronic equipment. (Please refer to the previous text). It should also be added that Mrs Margot Wallstrom, Environment Commissioner, pointed to the significant dangers in the increase of electrical and electronic waste. She also stressed the need for EU-wide coordination. She then listed the substantial number of amendments that she could accept in full or in principle. However, there were a number that would require further negotiation between the institutions. ?

## Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

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A substantial number of amendments were accepted in full or in part, or in principle by the Commission. The following were accepted in full: - most of the amendments regarding the scope of the Directive, including those relating to medical equipment. - most of the amendments relating to definitions, except the references to "consumables" in the WEEE. - on collections, systems to handle waste may be set up by producers individually or collectively. - most amendments on recovery including that increasing the quantified targets for recycling and recovery of WEEE - on information requirements, those extending the obligations of producers to users, and the possibility of penalties for failure to comply with separate-collection obligations. The following amendments were accepted in part or in principle: - on collection, there are amendments establishing a number of obligations. The Commission accepts part, but cannot permit Member States to depart from the free take back provision. It has doubts about the requirement to conduct recovery operations pursuant to certified management systems. The reference to 6kg/person/year is accepted but reworded. The definition of "collection facility" can be accepted in principle but is reworded. - on treatment requirements, most amendments are accepted in principle. The requirements to be complied with in case of export of WEEE de facto amend the regulation on waste shipment. It is not appropriate to derogate from general rules on this in relation to recovery of WEEE, and the amendment is not accepted. The Commission suggests restricting the scope of the provision to shipment for disposal. - on financing, the

amendment that producers may be called upon to finance or co-finance collection from households can be accepted in principle. Responsibility for historical waste may be shared according to market share at time of a rising of cost, but the word "collectively" is deleted. - most of the amendments on reporting requirements may be accepted but are subject to rewording. - the change to the transposition deadline can be accepted, subject to possible review at the time of adoption of the directive. Some twenty two amendments were not accepted, amongst which was the introduction of limits to the reuse of whole appliances. This would be difficult to implement. ?

## Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

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The common position, adopted unanimously, accepts 31 of the 82 amendments proposed by the European parliament at first reading. Among the amendments not accepted by the Council, it should be noted that these refer in particular to: the reference to extend producer responsibility; the ban on the disposal of unsorted WEEE; "job creation in the field of waste management"; mentioning the term "producer responsibility"; the financial mechanism for the implementation of producer responsibility; information to users on the ban on disposal of unsorted WEEE; information to be provided by producers for the management of the WEEE; inspection and monitoring system; the scope of the Directive; the definition of "producers"; "consumables" in the definition of WEEE; mentioning "whole appliances and components" in the definition of reuse; adding a definition of "collection facilities" the use of certified management facilities"; rules for calculating the targets of Article 6; on the definition of new targets for certain categories of WEEE; the development of new waste management technologies; internalisation of waste management costs as well as on a mechanism for the financing of WEEE from private households; a ban on disposal of unsorted WEEE; information to users; the making of WEEE; distance selling; information requirements for producers; waste management plans; enforcement rules; category 1 of Annex IB; separation collection of WEEE. The main changes adopted by the Council in addition to those resulting from Parliament's concern: - exempting WEEE used in connection with military and security activities; - providing for specific temporary exemption for small businesses in relation to Articles 7 and 8; - the introduction of the clause "at least free of charge" for the take-back of WEEE by distributors; - provides precision on the responsibility falling on distributors and allows for alternative arrangements for free-take back by distributors; - adding requirements in order to ensure that appliances are treated unless they are reused as a whole; - changing the date for the achievement of the separate collection targets (36 months instead of 31.12.2005 in the Commission's proposal); - adding the possibility for producers to implement treatment requirements through third parties acting on their behalf. In addition, it sets out quality standards for treatment facilities; - setting out supplementary conditions to be included in the permit for treatment facilities; - providing for requirements in relation to the calculation of targets, in particular for keeping of records by producers and third parties; - changing the date for achievements of the targets to 46 months instead of 31.12.2005 in the Commission proposal. It also introduces quantified targets for recycling and recovery of category 10 appliances; - rewording the clause referring to the financial requirements; - introducing a new provision calling on producers to finance the management of "orphan products"; - introducing requirement for producers using distance-selling techniques; - providing for precision on the producers responsibility for WEEE from users other than private households; - providing for additional requirements for information to be provided to users; - providing for additional requirements for information to be submitted by producers using distance-selling techniques; - providing for additional competence to the Committee for adapting the Directive to scientific and technical progress; - providing for possibility for Member States to transpose certain provisions by means of environmental agreements; - making certain derogations possible for Greece and Ireland in relation to certain requests; - providing for precision introduced in several categories on the products to be taken into consideration of the purposes of the Directive.?

## Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

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The Commission welcomes the adoption of the common position and notes that this is overall in line with the original Commission proposal.?

## Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

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The committee unanimously adopted the report by Karl-Heinz FLORENZ (EPP-ED, D) amending the Council's common position under the codecision procedure (2nd reading). It reinstated, sometimes in reworked form, a large number of amendments adopted by Parliament at 1st reading concerning the key areas of separate collection, treatment, recovery, financing and information for users. On collection, the committee reiterated Parliament's call for a general ban on the disposal of WEEE with unsorted urban waste, backed up with inspection and monitoring facilities and the possibility of penalties for flouting the rules, and for all WEEE to be collected separately. Another amendment was designed to circumvent the risk of WEEE being dumped in non-EU countries under the guise of re-use. The committee also set a mandatory collection target of 6kg of electro-scrap per head, per year, for each household, to be achieved by 31 December 2005, rather than the voluntary target of 4kg which the Council proposed should be met within the vaguer "36 months" of entry into force of the directive. On treatment, the committee reintroduced a 1st reading amendment stipulating that WEEE should be treated using state-of-the-art recovery and recycling technology and that such treatment systems could be set up by producers collectively and/or individually. On recovery, the report amended the deadline proposed by the Council for the achievement of the recovery targets (within 46 months of the Directive's entry into force) and reinstated the date originally proposed by the Commission (31 December 2005). The committee also reinstated Parliament's 1st reading amendments raising the targets for recovery and for re-use and recycling by 10% from the Council's rates for most types of equipment. In addition, it adopted a new amendment stipulating that producers should endeavour to sell products designed and manufactured in such a way as not to prevent whole appliances or parts from being re-used or recycled. The amendment was aimed at stopping the practice, begun after Parliament's 1st reading, of installing "clever chip" devices designed to prevent recycling, for example, by preventing ink jet cartridges from being re-used in printers. On the difficult issue of financing, one of the retabled 1st reading amendments called for mandatory individual producer responsibility for the management of WEEE, rather than giving producers the choice of collective or individual schemes as the Council was proposing. A Member State could use collective financing schemes only where it could demonstrate that individual financing schemes would involve disproportionately high costs. The committee also stipulated that the costs of collection, treatment and environmentally-sound disposal should be internalised within the product price and proposed that Member States where other financing agreements were already in place before the directive entered into force should be able to maintain those agreements for a maximum of 10 years. On the vexed question of "historical waste", the committee wanted the costs of waste from products put on the market before the new legislation entered into force, including products whose producers were untraceable, to be shared amongst producers according to market share, rather than the proportional contribution under "one or more systems" proposed by the Council. The committee proposed a transitional period - lasting a maximum of 10 years - allowing producers to display the costs of collecting, treating and disposing of historical waste at the point of sale of new products.

Lastly, the committee reintroduced a number of 1st reading amendments tightening up the provisions on information for users about the new rules and requiring products to be marked to show that they must not be binned. ?

## Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

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By adopting the report by Mr Karl-Heinz FLORENZ (EPP-ED, D), the European Parliament approved the common position along with the amendments proposed by the committee responsible (please refer to the summary dated 21/03/02). In particular, the Parliament passed a set of amendments which repeat its first-reading demand for an average compulsory collection target of 6 kg of electro-scrap per inhabitant, per year, from private households, to be achieved by 31 December 2005. Moreover, Parliament wants Member States to prove that the collection target has been reached and also voted to back the ban with inspection and monitoring facilities but rejected the idea of introducing penalties for consumers who fail to sort out their electro-scrap. Parliament also repeated its first-reading demand that individual producer be made to bear the costs of managing the waste from their products, though with a derogation allowing the Member States to use collective financing schemes on condition that they can prove that individual ones would be disproportionately costly. It voted to allow Member States that have already introduced other financing arrangements to retain them, but for no longer than 10 years. MEPs raised the targets for recovery of large household appliances such as fridges and washing machines to 90% (from the Council's 80%) and included automatic dispensers in this. They left the Council's re-use and recycling target for large household appliances at 75%. They raised the recovery target for items such as PCs, phones, radios and hi-fi equipment to 85% (from the Council's 75%) and left the Council's re-use and recycling target for those items at 65%. They want the deadline for these targets brought forward to 31 December 2005 (from the Council's 46 months after the directive becomes law). Lastly, Parliament also wants ozone-depleting gases to be removed from all equipment containing them, not just refrigerators and freezers. Other amendments tighten up the provisions on information for users about the new rules and require products to be marked to show that they must not be binned.?

## Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

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Of the 46 amendments adopted by the European Parliament, 17 are accepted by the commission in full, 1 in part and 17 in principle. The remaining 11 amendments were not accepted. Those amendments accepted include advancing the date by which re-use, recycling and recovery targets have to be achieved to 31 December 2005. The Commission also supports the higher targets for automatic dispensers, and the obligation for Member States to encourage the development of new technologies. It is in favour of extending information requirements for users on the obligation no longer to dispose of WEEE together with unsorted urban waste. Distributors may refuse contaminated WEEE. It supports the provision of information and manuals for treatment facilities, including re-use centres and recycling plants. The Commission accepts in principle that Member States shall ensure that producers can set up and operate individual and/or collective take back systems. This also applies for the option for producers to set up take-back systems from private households. The date of 31 December 2007 for the adoption of new targets for the years beyond 2008 is acceptable without prejudice to the Commission's right of initiative. The Commission will not accept the option for Member States to depart from the principle of free take-back for consumers as this may undermine the motivation for consumers and the integration of waste management costs into the product price. The obligation for Member States to ensure that exported used electrical and electronic equipment is suitable and intended for re-use is rejected because Member States cannot control what is done with the equipment outside their borders. The Commission feels that the new binding target of six kilograms from private households is very ambitious but is prepared to accept such a target. As data collection and transmission take time, the Commission considers the target date of 31 December 2005 as unrealistic and rejects this part of the amendment. The Commission agrees to permit the maintenance of existing financing agreements for 10 years. It also agrees with sharing the financing of historical waste amongst producers according to their market share. It agrees in principle with allowing producers to show the costs for historical waste in the product price and that these costs should represent the actual costs. With regard to collective financing schemes, Member States may use these if they can demonstrate that the introduction of individual financing schemes would involve disproportionately high costs. Member States must notify such systems to the Commission with an appropriate justification. The principle of internalisation of waste management costs in the product price is supported, though the Commission feels this is a matter for a recital, rather than a legally binding provision. It may be difficult to determine these costs and control their internalisation in every instance. The extension of the obligation to mark electrical equipment with the crossed out dustbin to all equipment is acceptable in principle though it seems unnecessary for large, bulky equipment. Similarly, the obligation to apply a mark to identify equipment put on the market after a specific date can be supported although modalities might still need to be defined. The Commission opposes the amendments on increasing recovery targets for three groups of product categories without simultaneous increase of the re-use and recycling rates. The increase margin between recovery and re-use/recycling may create an incentive for incineration of waste fractions, which are not necessarily suited for environmentally sound incineration. It should be noted that for most fractions of WEEE, re-use and/or recycling are preferable to incineration with energy recovery.?

## Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

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The Conciliation Committee reached an agreement on a joint text for the directive. The compromise package may be summarised as follows: - Collection and recovery of waste equipment: the Member States have until 2005 to introduce take-back systems and collection facilities for all electrical and electronic equipment. Electrical and electronic equipment must not end up in unsorted municipal waste but must be collected separately. On the key question of a binding collection rate for electrical waste, the compromise reached requires evidence to be provided of a binding collection rate of 4 kg of electrical waste per inhabitant a year by the end of 2006 at the latest. A series of individual quotas has also been agreed for the recovery of particular categories of waste equipment. For example, by 31 December 2006 recycling quotas of 50% for small household appliances (toasters, vacuum cleaners, etc) and 75% for large household appliances (refrigerators, etc) must be achieved; - Financing in respect of waste equipment from private households: the financing arrangement agreed is based on the principle that consumers should be able to return waste appliances free of charge. Producers are responsible for financing the collection and disposal of this waste equipment. Parliament also managed to push through its position on 'individual financing' whereby individual producers finance the disposal of their own products. The aim is to ensure that the individual liability of producers is directly reflected in more recycling-friendly product design. Although the costs are to be borne by individual producers, the collection and treatment can still be carried out collectively. As a result of pressure from Parliament, it was also agreed that each producer should provide a guarantee that disposal will be financed when electrical and electronic equipment is purchased. This will prevent producers who disappear from the market from failing to comply with their financing

obligations. A special form of financing was agreed for the disposal of appliances marketed before 2005 ('historical waste'). As there are a large number of 'no-name' products and appliances whose producers can no longer be traced or no longer exist, the disposal of this waste equipment can only be financed collectively. This means that the costs involved will be borne proportionately by the producers on the market when the relevant costs occur. For a transitional period, however, producers will have the option of showing consumers these costs at the time of the purchase of new equipment ('visible fee'); - Labelling of equipment: it was agreed that producers of electrical and electronic equipment should be required to label their products clearly to allow easier identification and dating. Parliament had argued that this was crucial with regard to the future individual financing of disposal, in that only if producers could be clearly identified could they be made liable for subsequently financing the disposal costs. It was also agreed that consumers must be informed through appropriate labelling that waste equipment should not be disposed of with household waste and that all waste equipment is to be collected separately; - Product design: Parliament's efforts focused specifically on the need for reuse and recycling. To discourage practices adopted by individual producers who build in various electronic devices ('clever chips') to prevent equipment from being reused or recycled (for example, ink jet cartridges for printers), a new article has been inserted in the text of the Directive providing that dismantling and recovery should be facilitated at the production stage. In particular, technical design features which prevent equipment from being reused are to be avoided.?

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## Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

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The European Parliament adopted a resolution approving the joint text by the Conciliation Committee. (Please refer to the document dated 08/11/02). ?

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## Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

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**PURPOSE** : to protect the soil, water and air against pollution, through better disposal of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). **COMMUNITY MEASURE** : Directive 2002/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). **CONTENT** : the Council adopted a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste electrical and electronic equipment (so-called WEEE Directive). It has as its objective the protection of the soil, water and air against pollution, through better disposal of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). The Directive provides for: - a binding annual collection target of four kilograms of WEEE per person from private households; - free of charge collection facilities at Member State level; - the possibility for producers to put into practice individual or collective financing schemes for the collection of WEEE from private households; - financing by producers of collection, treatment, recovery and disposal costs for WEEE from users other than private households (the financial impact of this provision on producers is expected to be carefully considered by the Commission); - financing by producers, or by users other than private households, of the costs of "historical waste" management (WEEE from products put on the market between now and 2005); - clear marking by producers of electrical and electronic equipment in order to facilitate their identification and dating, as well as the later treatment and disposal of WEEE; - adoption of measures at Member State level in order to minimise the disposal of WEEE together with other types of waste. **TRANSPPOSITION** : 13 August 2004. **ENTRY INTO FORCE** : 13 February 2003.?

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## Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

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**ACT** : Commission Decision 2004/249/EC concerning a questionnaire for Member States reports on the implementation of Directive 2002/96/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). **CONTENT** : to recall, under Directive 2002/96/EC Member States are to send to the Commission a report on the implementation of the Directive. The report should cover in detail both the incorporation of the Directive into national law and its implementation. It should be drawn up on the basis of the questionnaire in this Decision. This Decision establishes the questionnaire for the abovementioned report.?

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## Environment and health: waste electrical and electronic equipment WEEE

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The Commission presents a report on the implementation of the EU legislation on waste over the period 2007 - 2009. It covers [Directives 2006/12/EC on waste](#), [91/689/EC on hazardous waste](#), [75/439/EEC on waste oils](#), [86/278/EEC on sewage sludge](#), [94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste](#), [1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste](#), [2002/96/EC on waste electrical and electronic equipment \(WEEE\)](#), and [2000/53/EC on end-of-life vehicles](#).

The Communication recalls that evidence shows that full implementation of EU waste legislation would save EUR 72 billion a year, increase the annual turnover of the EU waste management and recycling sector by EUR 42 billion and create over 400 000 jobs by 2020. However, the report states that illegal waste operations or missing infrastructure in Member States are causing missed opportunities for economic growth, which the EU cannot afford, and leading to environmental threats. It is therefore paramount to take decisive steps to bridge the implementation gap in waste management and move towards a resource efficient society.

According to the information provided by Member States and the available statistical figures, the level of implementation of the WEEE Directive is by and large satisfactory, with only a few Member States missing single targets. The report recalls that the WEEE Directive aims at promoting and optimising the collection, re-use, recycling and recovery of waste from electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE).

In 2008, the Commission launched a recast of the WEEE Directive in order to adapt the collection targets to the reality of the different Member States, to strengthen provisions against illegal shipments, and to reduce administrative burdens. The new WEEE Directive was adopted on 4 July 2012.

All Member States have transposed the relevant provisions of the WEEE Directive into their national laws.

Based on the national implementation reports for the period 2007 to 2009 and the data submitted on target achievement, it appears that the level of compliance with the Directive was in general satisfactory. In the reporting years 2007 and 2008, the EU-15 countries had to comply with the targets laid down in the Directive. In 2008, also Slovenia had to fulfil this requirement. The other Member States will have to show

compliance from the reporting year 2009 onwards. Of those countries that needed to comply in 2008, only Italy and Slovenia were significantly below the current collection target of 4kg. A positive trend for collection and recovery is clearly visible from the yearly data reported up to now.

All reporting Member States indicated the establishment of collection systems for WEEE.

Municipal collection was the dominant option chosen - private individual systems exist only in a few cases in addition to the collective ones. National systems differ in their complexity and efficiency, proximity and availability to inhabitants. In addition, the level of development differs from country to country and between rural and urban areas.

An increasing amount of WEEE was collected, re-used/recycled and recovered over this reporting period in all Member States for which data was available. The vast majority of Member States was able to reach the collection targets provided by the Directive, and to reach the category-specific re-use/recycling and recovery targets. Where Member States failed to comply with the targets of the Directive, usually they did not comply with selected targets only (and not with the whole set of targets). In 2007 and 2008, the waste-stream specific reuse/recycling targets were not met by up to three reporting Member States.