

## **Report from meeting of Waste Expert group – Waste Shipment Regulation**

**20 June 2025, 9:30 – 13:00, Borchette**

### **Participants:**

- COM: DG ENV Unit B3 representatives
- Member States: AT, BE, BG, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FR, IE, IT, LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, SI, SK;
- Stakeholders: CEFIC, CEPI, Cembureau, EBRA EEB, EERA, EBRA, EIA, EPRO, ETRMA, EUBP, EUCOBAT, Eucopro, Euratex, EuRIC, EuroCommerce, Eurofer, Eurometaux, European, FEAD, HWE, ICA, ITI, MWE, Plastics Europe, PRE, Recharge, T&E, VinylPlus,

### **1. Introduction and adoption of agenda**

COM welcomed the participants of the meeting and presented its agenda. It informed the participants that the objective of the meeting is to inform them about and discuss the state of play in the implementation of various aspects of the Waste Shipment Regulation (EU) 2024/1157 (WSR).

### **2. Digital procedures and DIWASS**

COM presented a brief state of play as regards the implementation of the digital procedures under the new WSR, notably the development of the Digital Waste Shipment System (DIWASS). COM recalled that DIWASS will allow for direct use of the system via a Graphical User Interface (i.e. a website), as well as offer a central hub, through which the local systems operated in some MS, as well as commercial software may interconnect (via Application Programming Interface or API). For such interconnection, such systems and software should meet the interoperability criteria established in an implementing act, that is expected to be adopted by the Commission in July. COM thanked MS experts for their engagement in the intensive works to prepare this implementing act. COM presented also a timeline for next steps, indicating that, by the end of the summer, all technical documentation for the API connection will be finalised. API testing could start from second half of July for those aspects where documentation is ready. COM also explained how the training process for using the GUI is planned – MS experts will be trained by the COM, so that they can subsequently, in accordance with Article 26(4) of the implementing act on interconnection of systems, offer trainings for economic operators. Such trainings for economic operators should be expected at the earliest in 2026. Using DIWASS will become mandatory for EU operators and competent authorities (CAs) from 21 May 2026.

One Member State asked for confirmation if the inspection systems are covered by the implementing act in respect to their access to DIWASS via API and whether they need to perform tests. COM confirmed and indicated that the performing tests for inspection systems is voluntary.

Another MS sought clarifications on how the support and helpdesk will be organised. COM confirmed that it would provide support in the form of instruction manuals on the use of the system as well as a training workshop for CAs later this year with a view to instruct MS colleagues so they can prepare training for economic operators in their jurisdictions early 2026. Also, it is envisaged to open DIWASS for registration of operators well before May 2026, whereas submission of notification can only start from 21 May 2026.

One business organisation inquired about the languages in which DIWASS will be available and how confidentiality will be secured as regards the information that companies introduce in the system. COM confirmed that DIWASS would be available in all EU languages and that works on ensuring publication of information on shipments of waste in format established in Annex XII to the WSR are advancing, assuring that the confidentiality aspects regulated in this Annex are taken into account.

A few business organisations asked when the system will be available for testing and whether back up solutions are being prepared in case of technical failures, in order to ensure continuity on the ground. COM reiterated the information on trainings and explained that a number of back up elements are overall in place to safeguard the use of Commission applications, such as back up servers or helpdesk support for the platform on which DIWASS runs. In cases where the interconnection between local systems and DIWASS fails, the GUI is available as back up, also for those MS where a local system is to be used in principle.

Another business organisation expressed concern regarding the ease of access to documents by carriers and asked for flexibility by allowing carriers to present paper movement documents. The Commission explained that confidentiality of information is taken into account in both the WSR and the implementing act. It also explained that DIWASS will allow for downloading the notification and movement documents also by the carriers, so that these documents could be presented to inspection authorities, also in cases where there is no internet access.

Finally, one business organisation asked whether DIWASS will manage but more importantly harmonise the administrative fees imposed by CAs. The Commission clarified that DIWASS would not manage these fees and confirmed that as soon as a request is submitted in the system the information is available to all involved CAs.

### **3. Intra EU-shipments: harmonization in classification of waste for the purpose of waste shipments**

COM informed that it plans to launch a [public consultation](#) in July to gather views on waste that could be green listed for intra EU shipments, including which type of e-waste could continue to be green listed, and views on criteria to distinguish green listed waste from waste subject to notification. The consultation would run until the end of October.

As regards e-waste, COM recalled that the Basel Convention includes all e-waste in its PIC procedure since 1 January 2025 and that, in the context of OECD, no agreement was reached

regarding incorporating these changes into the OECD Decision. In the EU delegated acts were adopted in 2024, to implement the Basel changes into EU law:

- prohibiting all e-waste exports to non-OECD countries from 1 January 2025;
- subjecting all exports to OECD and imports from any third country to the notification procedure;
- for intra-EU shipments hazardous e-waste remain subject to notification procedure but non-hazardous e-waste that can be classified under GC010 or GC020 are considered green listed until the end of 2026. The public consultation will contribute to identify if an extension of such regime within the EU should be pursued and how.

During the discussion, some private stakeholders questioned the relevance to justify the need for green listed shipments, underlying their importance for competitiveness but also environmental reasons and recalled that all Member States were following the same requirements and legislations and considered that it would be important to ensure that the classification in the country of origin would prevail. Another business organisation underlined the need to consider circular economy aspects while adopting criteria linked to the green listing.

COM clarified that the upcoming consultation will not affect the current green list classification but may explore expanding this classification to additional waste streams, and that such expansion would have to be duly underpinned with evidence, not only principle justification. Regarding classification mismatches between the country of dispatch and the country of destination, COM recalled that the WSR is very clear in its Article 29, confirming the long-standing policy that in cases of disagreement between the CAs the strictest approach prevails.

Some Member States enquired about the lack of implementation by one third country of the e-waste amendments of the Basel convention. COM confirmed that this country didn't opt out in the context of the Basel Convention and informed that it is in touch with the relevant authorities in order to clarify the situation.

Answering to a Member State remark, COM explained that the question of the end-of-waste criteria is gathering growing attention in the preparations of the Circular Economy Act. Some technical work is undertaken in relation to establishing such criteria for plastic waste.

#### **4. New rules on the export of waste from the EU**

The Commission indicated having received 30 requests from non-OECD countries wishing to continue importing waste from the EU, which cover different type of waste. Information about which countries applied and for which types of waste can be found on the [COM website](#).

The delegated act establishing the list of non-OECD countries to which exports of certain EU waste would be allowed after 21 May 2027 has to be adopted by 21 November 2026.

Regarding OECD countries COM recalled its role in monitoring waste movements to such countries, paying particular attention to plastic waste.

Specifically regarding plastic waste, COM reminded the participants about the requirement to apply the PIC procedure for all shipments of plastic waste, including waste classified under B3011, to 3<sup>rd</sup> countries from **21 May 2026**, as well as the upcoming ban on plastic waste shipments to non-OECD countries starting from 21 November 2026.

During the discussion, in reply to an environmental NGO, COM explained that it -among other elements- looks at the non-OECD countries' treatment capacities and confirmed that stakeholders are invited to share with COM data and information about applicant countries regarding the waste management situations.

Participants raised questions on the audit obligations, also for Member States, the qualifications of auditors and about possibilities to use audit reports commissioned in the context of other notifications. Some stakeholders indicated that further guidance is needed to ensure fair competition and asked about the state of play on bilateral agreements within the OECD to waive audit obligations. One stakeholder underlined that preparing for the audits would be challenging in practice, taking into account that this obligation starts to apply only 6 months after the list is established for non-OECD countries to which exports of certain waste from the EU will be allowed.

COM clarified that the responsibility to comply with the audit obligations lies with the EU exporter and that an audit report can be referred to in multiple shipments, provided that they comply with requirements of Article 46 and Annex X to the WSR. COM underlined that the audit register it will manage, will provide information about companies that have been audited, while the reports will not be in that register and there will also not be an active role for COM to check these audit reports. The audit report is one piece of information to be assessed by the CAs in the context of notification procedures or green-listed movements of waste. Waving the obligation for audits in the OECD would be possible only under international agreement between the EU and other countries. COM also recalled, that the audits do not need to be performed by EU accredited companies. National accreditation in the country of destination is possible.

COM invited the participants to provide their views on the scope and content of potential guidance regarding the audit obligations by 15 September.

## **5. Enforcement**

COM briefly reported back from the first meeting of the Waste Shipment Enforcement Group (WSEG). This meeting exchanged operational experiences, and confirmed the need for increased coordination to address illegal shipments of waste at national and supranational levels. A Member State underlined the importance to include all relevant national competent authorities in this group and to foster communication.

## **6. Any other business**

COM used the meeting also as an opportunity to recall the transitional rules of Article 85(3), (5) and (6) of the WSR. COM underlined that according to these provisions, if a notification is

submitted before 21 May 2026, and the CA of destination acknowledges it, the Waste Shipment Regulation (EC) 1013/2006 applies to such notification procedure. Also, the treatment of waste should be completed by 21 May 2027 or – in case of pre-consented facilities – by 21 May 2029. COM pointed out that the notifiers should bear it in mind when deciding if to submit notification under the former WSR, or do it via DIWASS after 21 May 2026, in which case such limitations on the treatment of shipped waste do not apply. COM underlined also, that notifications that were submitted by 21 May 2026, but the CA of destination did not provide its acknowledgement before that date, should be resubmitted in DIWASS by the notifiers.