



« Packaging »

CEN/TC 261

Date:
2017-03-08

Doc. Number:
N 535

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Minutes of CEN/TC 261 “Packaging” meeting held on 8 February 2017 in Paris – France

☞ For information

☞ Next meeting scheduled on Thursday 31 January 2018 in Paris

1. Welcome of participants and opening of the meeting

Françoise Gérardi welcomed all the Members to this meeting and thanked for the good level of participation.

She had a thought to Arne G. Andersen (Norway packaging association) who has passed away in November 2016. Until last year he has contributed greatly to the work of CENTC 261 with his strong enthusiasm and excellent knowledge.

2. Roll call of delegates

Françoise Gérardi requested each participant to kindly introduce himself. (See attendance list in Annex A).

3. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted (Doc. TC 261 N 532).

At the point 6 of the agenda it was decided to deal with point 6.4 before point 6.3 as a part of the SC 4 report concerns the Directive 2015/720.

4. Appointment of the decisions committee

The above committee is composed by the following members:

- ◆ Claudia LAABS for the German language
- ◆ John SWIFT for the English language
- ◆ Alain GENTY for the French language
- ◆ Annick GALPIN for the Secretariat.

➤ **See decision N 02/2017**

5 Chairmanship of CEN/TC 261

At the last meeting Françoise Gérardi has announced she will be no longer involved in any professional activity and she will stop the chairmanship of CEN/TC 261. She accepted to manage this meeting for handing on to a new chairman and thanking all the members for the work done together, the strong involvement and the good atmosphere of the meetings.

Annick Galpin, as secretary of CEN/TC 261, proposed to nominate Emmanuel Guichard as new chairman of CEN/TC 261. The CV of Emmanuel Guichard is given in doc SC 4 N 522.

All the members agreed with this proposal and welcomed Emmanuel Guichard.

Emmanuel Guichard thanked all the members and said few words about his experience and activity in the area of food. He noted the challenge he has to fulfill for succeeding to Françoise Gérardi.

➤ **See decision N 03/2017**

The nomination of Jean-Marc Nony as new chairman of CEN/TC 261/SC 4 was also confirmed by TC 261 members.

➤ **See decision N 05/2017**

6 Packaging and environment

6.1 COM (2015) 614 final: Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the council, the European economic and social Committee and the committee of the regions
- Closing the loop - An EU action plan for the Circular Economy

6.2 COM (2015) 596 final: Proposal for a directive of the European parliament and of the council amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste

Françoise Gérardi proposed to inform on what are under discussion at European level which could impact our standardization activity.

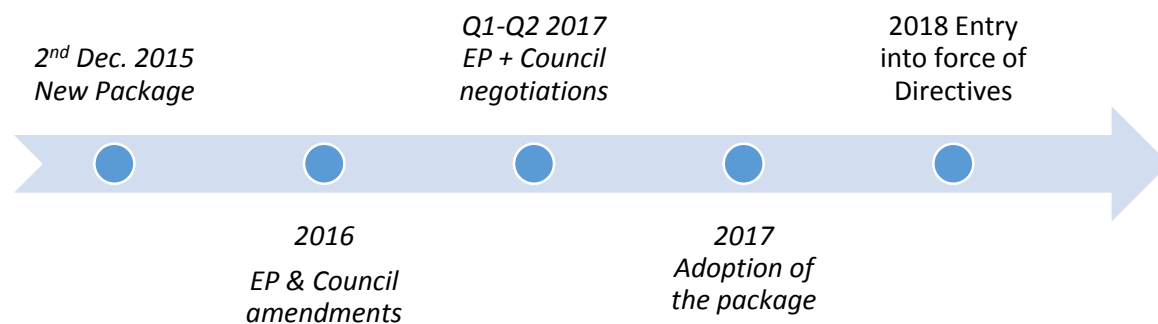
She asked Jean-Marc Nony to present an update of the “Circular Economy Package” on the packaging directive without going into the details of the proposed modifications. He focused on the following:

- Circular Economy Package overview
 - Legislative revision process
 - European Parliament

(Slides are given in Annex B)

The aim is still to turn the framework directive on waste into a “parent” directive and adapt the “daughter” directives (Packaging and packaging Waste Directive, Landfill Directive, WEEE, etc.) accordingly.

The process timeframe is maintained.



At European Parliament level, negotiations are in process for the Packaging & Packaging Waste Directive.

In particular the following amendments have been approved:

- new specific targets for re-used packaging:
 - 5% packaging waste by 2025;
 - 10% by 2030 of all packaging by weight without compromising food hygiene and the safety of consumers.
- recycling target:
 - 70% by weight of all packaging waste generated and
 - 60% for plastics(Both targets 5% higher than Commission's proposal) by 2025.

Jean-Marc Nony underlined that the 4 revised directives should be published in 2017.

Françoise Gérardi thanked Jean-Marc Nony for this presentation and noted that CEN/TC 261 has to be aware of the development of the PPWD in order to be ready to react to any modification which can impact our standards.

6.4 CEN/TC 261/SC 4 “Packaging and Environment”

Jean-Marc Nony reported on the content of the discussion held yesterday at the meeting of CEN/TC 261/SC 4.

The meeting was dedicated to the following items:

- Evolution of the European directives and communication;
- How to update EN standards;

- How to give an answer to the presentation made by Expra on the proposal related to **"Measuring recycling objectively and fairly: The need for quality standards"**;
- Draft standardisation request for the development of a standard for home-compostable plastic carrier bags.

Evolution of the European directives and communication

See the presentation given in points 6.1 and 6.2 above.

How to update EN standards?

The following standards need to be updated to take account of the change of the European legislation on chemical classification and labelling:

EN 13428 *"Packaging - Requirements specific to manufacturing and composition - Prevention by source reduction"* and

CEN/TR 13695-2 *"Packaging - Requirements for measuring and verifying the four heavy metals and other dangerous substances present in packaging, and their release into the environment - Part 2: Requirements for measuring and verifying dangerous substances present in packaging, and their release into the environment"*

Modified versions of these standards have been prepared. SC 4 has adopted a decision to request an action to CEN/CENELEC in order to find a solution for updating the EN 13428 and CEN/TR 13695-2.

Françoise Gérardi gave the floor to Thierry Legrand. He suggested to adopt an amendment and to ask a derogation to CEN/BT (as *Amendments shall be restricted to European Standards with a date of availability of less than 4 years in the past and be avoided whenever possible*).

This action needs to be accompanied by a strong argumentation in order to convince CEN/BT and the European Commission.

In this case he also suggested to ask for a revision of CEN/TR 13635-2 as it is not a harmonized standard.

CEN/TC 261 members agreed with this proposal.

➤ **See decisions N 07/2017 and N 08/2017**

In the same way Francesco Degli Innocenti proposed to adopt an amendment for EN 13432 *"Packaging - Requirements for packaging recoverable through composting and biodegradation - Test scheme and evaluation criteria for the final acceptance of packaging"*.

This EN shall be amended in order to be in line with the EU Ecolabel for growing media, soil improvers and mulch that has been changed with the COMMISSION DECISION (EU) 2015/2099 of 18 November 2015. It will concern a modification of Table A.1 Maximum element content of packaging material and whole packaging.

CEN/TC 261 members agreed with this proposal. Thierry Legrand insisted for getting a strong argumentation.

➤ **See decision N 09/2017**

How to give an answer to the presentation made by Expra on the proposal related to **"Measuring recycling objectively and fairly: The need for quality standards"**?

Jean-Marc Nony indicated that Expra (Extended Producer Responsibility Alliance) made a very interesting presentation at the SC 4 meeting (refer to doc SC 4 N 499). SC 4 decided to investigate on what could be possible to standardise in order to harmonise the practices in Europe.

SC 4 decided to reactivate the WG 3 "Material recovery" and to ask SC 4 members to nominate experts in order to analyse Expra proposal and to make recommendations to SC4.

Draft standardisation request for the development of a standard for home-compostable plastic carrier bags

Jean-Marc Nony gave the position taken by SC 4 towards the modified draft standardisation request.

- SC 4 recommended to TC 261 to accept the draft request with modifications which have to be completed by the ad hoc group. The draft modified request is acceptable in its principle as it takes into account the TC 261 comments.
- SC 4 asked its WG 2 to be operational and ready for doing the work. A meeting shall be organised before end of June 2017. The expertise shall also be updated.

Françoise Gérardi thanked Jean-Marc Nony for this report and proposed to continue the discussion on the draft standardisation request.

She reminded the conclusions of the last meeting between CEN/TC 261, CEN-CENELEC, and DG Environment held on October 2016 (see doc CEN/TC 261 N 523). She noted that the new draft modified request sent by the European Commission to CEN (doc CEN/TC 261 N 531) took into account a large part of the comments and modifications proposed by CEN/TC 261.

Thierry Legrand reported on the meeting of the ad hoc group held on 7 February 2017. The aim of this meeting was to study the comments he received on the draft request and also the comments and position taken by SC 4.

During this meeting, all the comments have been studied and accepted or not depending on the discussion. The main comments concerned the status of harmonized standard, the link to the Essential requirements of the Directive 94/62/EC, the reference to EN 13432 and the addition of "lightweight" to plastic bags.

In parallel of the discussion the draft request has been modified in accordance with the accepted comments.

He presented the draft request with the proposals of modifications introduced in the text. Only the wording of the last paragraph of article 1.3 had to be finalised. Francesco Degli Innocenti proposed a new paragraph which has been accepted.

(See the CEN/TC 261 draft modified request in Annex C).

Following this presentation and the agreement given by CEN/TC 261 members on the modified draft standardisation request presented by Thierry Legrand, Françoise Gérardi proposed to TC 261 members to endorse the recommendation of SC 4 and to welcome the second draft standardisation request in its principle as it takes into account the TC 261 comments.

They ask CCMC to send comments and proposed modifications in the draft request to the European commission.

➤ **See decision N 06/2017**

7. CEN/TC 261 activities

Françoise Gérardi proposed to report on the progress of activities of WG 1 and WG 2..

7.1 –CEN/TC 261/WG 1: Management standards for packaging of foodstuffs

As Jörg Höppner could not participate to this meeting, Françoise Gérardi reminded that last year CEN/TC 261 members have decided to launch a consultation to ask stakeholders for their use of EN 15593 and ISO/TS 22002-4 or other relevant references and which documents they use as a basis for certification. (See Decision N 04/2016).

A first consultation was launched at WG 1 level.

A second consultation was launched at CEN/TC 261 level (see doc N 514).

The results of the consultation related to the use of the referential are given in doc N 527. These results indicated that people use all the referenced documents depending on their needs. There is no argument aiming at deleting EN 15593 "Packaging - Management of hygiene in the production of packaging for foodstuffs – Requirements".

John Swift noted that BSI was not able to answer to the questionnaire as it did not use this type of referential. He underlined the fact that the presence of EN standard in national collection prevents from adopting an international standard on the same subject.

In conclusion CEN/TC 261 members maintained EN 15593 in the collection of Standards.

7.2 CEN/TC 261/WG 2: Packaging – Ease of opening

Françoise Gérardi reminded that at the last meeting it was decided to launch the process for a new work item to adopt ISO 17480 "Packaging – Accessible design – Ease of opening" as EN ISO 17480 in order to replace CEN/TS 15945 "Packaging - Ease of opening - Criteria and test methods for evaluating consumer packaging". (See Decision N 006/2016).

The secretariat circulated the following draft decisions:

- ❖ Draft decision N 009/2016 related to the adoption of ISO 17480 as EN ISO.
Decision not adopted.
- ❖ Draft decision N 010/2016 related to the withdrawal of CEN/TS 11945.
Decision adopted.

John Swift noted that BSI registered the default vote, which was to abstain. ISO 17480 is in fact already adopted and being used in the UK as a BS ISO. In order to be adopted as an EN ISO, BSI changed its vote from "abstention" to "positive vote". He asks if it is possible for instance to run the ballot again or to reissue the NWIP.

Note from the secretariat

Following the meeting France has also decided to change its vote from "negative vote" to "abstention".

With these 2 modifications the decision N 009/2016 is adopted without need to run again the process of adoption.

These 2 decisions CEN/TC 261 N 009 and N 010/2016 will be sent to CCMC for action.

8. CEN/TC 261/SC 5 “Primary packaging and transport packaging”

Françoise Gérardi gave the floor to John Swift for the presentation of the SC 5 activities.

John Swift indicated that the last meeting was an efficient meeting covering all issues of all WG's and with a good representation. He focussed on some main issues:

- **Production**
SC 5 has adopted and published 7 EN standards in 2016.
- **Report of WGs**
John Swift focussed on the following items:

WG 12 "Marking"

Within ISO/TC 122 the proposal to establish an ISO standard on the basis of EN 16679 "Packaging – Tamper verification features for medicinal product packaging" has been adopted. This EN 16679 supports the implementation of the Directive 2011/62/EU amending Directive 2001/83/EC (Falsified Medicines Directive).

WG 14 "Test methods and test scheduled"

A NWI proposal "packaging – complete, filled, transport packaging and unit loads – programme horizontal impact test" is under vote at TC level.

WG 16 "Transport of dangerous goods"

WG 16 is working in parallel with ISO/TC 122/SC 3/WG 8. The main work consists of revising standards.

WG 21 "Packaging made of glass"

WG 21 proposed to revise 2 standards at CEN level, to activate a PWI and to help ISO/TC 63 for the revision of 2 ISO standards.

WG 22 "Metal packaging-wall thickness max 0,49 mm"

New convenor nominated in 2016: Alain D'haese from FEA (European Aerosol Federation). He will propose the revision of 2 standards and other in the future.

WG 26 "Packages made from flexible materials"

WG 26 progressed in the elaboration on EN related to Tubes and to Bags.

WG 27 "Child resistant packaging"

The work is conducted jointly with ISO/TC 122/SC 3/WG 3. The work is mainly devoted to the updating of existing standards.

WG 31 "returnable transport systems"

The WG 31 has to clarify whether ISO standards (ISO 19709 series) established on the basis of EN standards (EN 13199 series) should be adopted by CEN/TC 261 as EN/ISO. SC 5 will launch a consultation.

WG 34 "Pallets"

WG 34 has to solve a question regarding EN 13626 and ISO13194.

- **Systematic review**

SC 5 studied the results of the systematic review and took the following decision:

- Confirmation of 21 EN standards
- Revision of:
 - EN 12726:2000 « Packaging - Cork mouth finish with a bore diameter of 18,5 mm for corks and tamper evident capsules »
 - EN 14848:2005 « Aerosol containers - Metal containers with 25,4 mm aperture - Dimensions of valve »

John Swift would like to remind CEN/TC 261 voters that active participation in Standardisation is required for NWIPs to be approved. (At least 5 members).

He also announced that in 2018 he will be retired. Then next year it will be his last meeting as chairman of CEN/TC 261/SC 5. With Petar Luzajic they have a proposal for the replacement. Stephen Wilkins who is involved in the standardisation since a long time will be proposed.

Françoise Gérardi thanked John Swift for this report and the work done in SC 5.

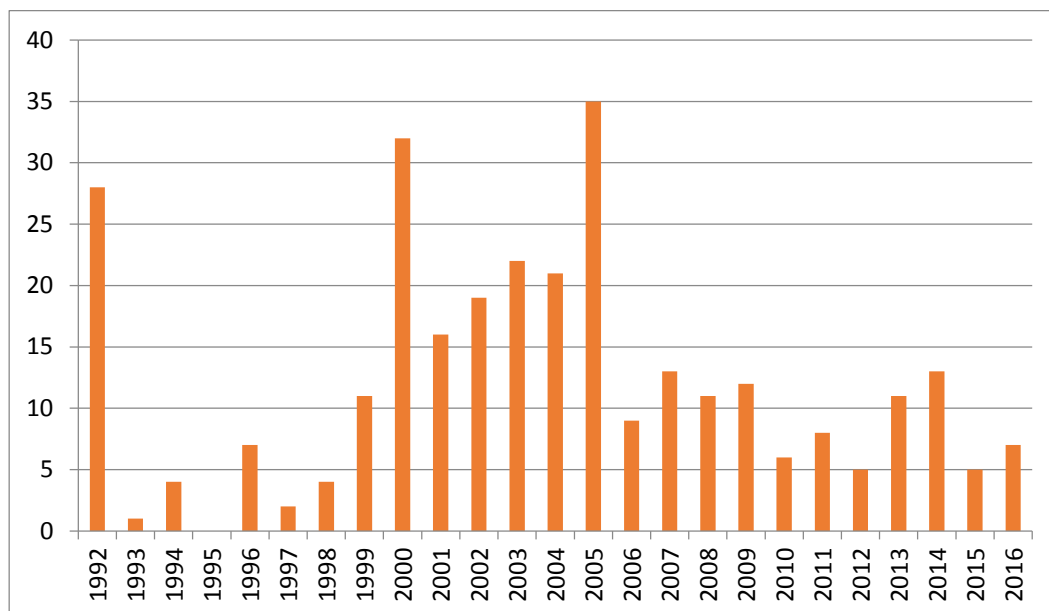
She also kept in mind very constructive and friendly relations during all those years for conducting the work within SC 5 and also the contribution to the work on Packaging and Environment.

She welcomed the proposal of Stephen Wilkins who knows perfectly the standardisation of packaging.

9. Work programme and collection of standards

The document N 521 gives the main data about the collection of standards of CEN/TC 261 and the collection of standards. The document N 520 presents the work programme.

The secretariat presented the state of production of standards for TC 261.



The number of published standards and CEN reports as of 31 December 2015 is given below.

TC 261	Published standards and CEN Reports	Current Work programme
WG 1	1	
WG 2	1	
SC4	24	0
SC5	207	11
TOTAL	233	11

The collection of 233 published standards can be classified by type of standard.

- | | |
|----------------------------|------|
| • Management | • 7 |
| • Terminology | • 15 |
| • Marking | • 4 |
| • Dimensions | • 87 |
| • Test methods | • 88 |
| • Performance requirements | • 21 |
| • Information | • 11 |

Françoise Gérardi indicated that all 233 standards contribute to the harmonisation of the various national collections. They constitute a valuable and important collection for industry and all stakeholders.

10. Any other business

Annick Galpin announced that it was also its last meeting as she will stop its activity at the end of June 2017.

11. Adoption of the decisions

Decisions N 002 to N 010/2017 were adopted during the course of the meeting.
The document CEN/TC 261 N 533 provides all the decisions.

12 Date and place of the next meeting

The next CEN/TC 261 meeting will take place in Paris in 2018.
The CEN/TC 261 and CEN/TC 261/SC 4 and SC 5 will meet at the following dates:

- **Tuesday 30 January 2018 (morning): CEN/TC 261/SC 4.**
- **Tuesday 30 January 2018 (afternoon): CEN/TC 261/SC 5.**
- **Wednesday 31 January 2018 (day): CEN/TC 261.**

Françoise Gérardi thanked all the participants for their collaboration within all these years. She appreciated this task and enjoyed these meetings and the discussion with the European commission.

She noted that CEN/TC 261 has a lot of work to do and leave the chair to Emmanuel Guichard.

She thanked Thierry Crignou from AFNOR for the cocktail organized today. It was a great moment of exchange for all of us.

CEN/TC 261 members wished to express their heartfelt thanks to her for her unparalleled commitment to the work of CEN/TC 261, and wished Françoise Gérardi a long and happy retirement.

They also expressed their tanks to Annick for all the work done since the creation of CEN TC 261 in 1990.

Annex A: Attendance list



Assignment of Exploitation Rights

Including the 'List of Participants'

Date of meeting: 2017-02-08

Place of meeting: AFNOR – FRANCE

* CEN/TC 261 « Packaging »

Secretary: Annick GALPIN

Secretariat: AFNOR – Country: FRANCE

Chairperson: Françoise GERARDI – Country: FRANCE

(* Only complete that part which is appropriate)

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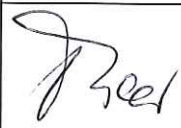


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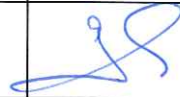


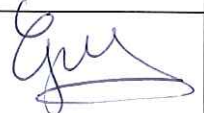
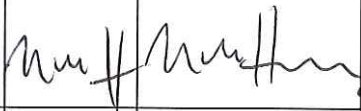
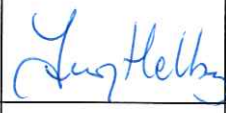





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¹ Nominating organization = Name of the CEN member organization or liaison organization represented.










² Employer = Organization of which the expert is an employee.

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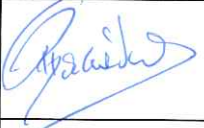

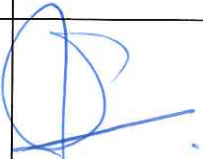

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ZIEGAHN Karl-Friedrich	DIN ziegahn@kit.edu	GERMANY	KIT

⁴ Nominating organization = Name of the CEN member organization or liaison organization represented.

⁵ Employer = Organization of which the expert is an employee.

Annex B



European Circular Economy Package – an update

Référence document

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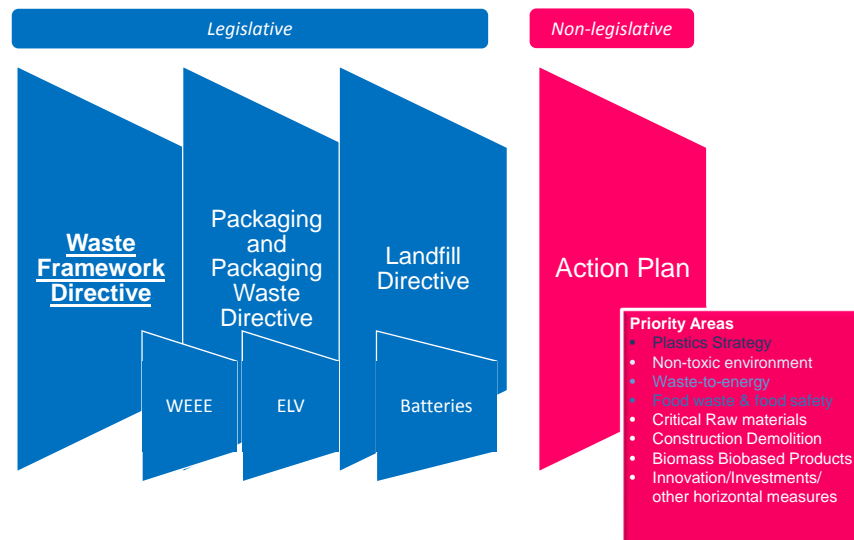
CONTENT

- Circular Economy Package overview
- Legislative revision process
- European Parliament

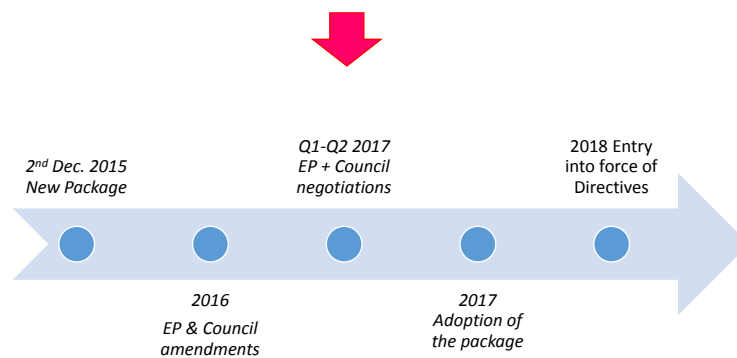
Référence document

Page 2

Circular Economy Package



Legislative revision



European Parliament

PACKAGING & PACKAGING WASTE DIRECTIVE

- The ENVI Committee has adopted its Reports for all Directives on January 24th
- The Parliament at large **must ratify these Reports** in plenary session **March 13-16**
- Possibility of **last minute additions** – either new or defeated earlier among previous Committee's amendments before negotiating dialogue with the Council
- The Council's Working Party on the Environment is still working on its position
- **Malta**, the country holding the Presidency, considers this file a priority, despite some Member States chilling the debate
- Notably, in November, Germany proposed the postponement of the targets by three years

European Parliament

- APPROVED AMENDMENTS
 - new specific targets for re-used packaging: **5% packaging waste by 2025**; 10% by 2030 of all packaging by weight *without compromising food hygiene and the safety of consumers*
 - **recycling target: 70%** by weight of all packaging waste generated and **60% for plastics** (both targets 5% higher than Commission's proposal) by 2025
 - MS to take measures to **minimize the environmental impact** of packaging & sustained **reduction of not recyclable and excessive packaging** (incl. EPRs)
 - **Life Cycle Analysis** approach when preventing waste and in the use of bio-based materials
 - Commission to strengthen design for re-use, incentives for secondary raw materials
- REJECTED AMENDMENTS
 - derogation to Article 18 PPWD
 - national restrictions on single use non-recyclable packaging

Annex C



Brussels, **XXX**
[...] (2016) **XXX** draft

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of XXX

on a standardisation request to the European Committee for Standardisation in support of the implementation of Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste as amended by Directive (EU) 2015/720 regarding the reduction of the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags

(Text with EEA relevance)

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of **XXX**

on a standardisation request to the European Committee for Standardisation in support of the implementation of Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste as amended by Directive (EU) 2015/720 regarding the reduction of the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European standardisation, amending Council Directives 89/686/EEC and 93/15/EEC and Directives 94/9/EC, 94/25/EC, 95/16/EC, 97/23/EC, 98/34/EC, 2004/22/EC, 2007/23/EC, 2009/23/EC and 2009/105/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Council Decision 87/95/EEC and Decision No 1673/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council,¹ and in particular Article 10(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Directive (EU) 2015/720² of the European Parliament and of the Council amends Directive 94/62/EC³ and has as objective the reduction of the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags, thereby limiting the negative impact on the environment by these bags, especially when they are littered.
- (2) Pursuant to Article 8a of Directive 94/62/EC, in order to ensure Union-wide recognition of biodegradable and compostable lightweight plastic carrier bags and to provide consumers with the correct information about the composting properties of such bags the Commission shall adopt an implementing act laying down the specifications of labels or marks of such bags.
- (3) In accordance with recital 16 of Directive (EU) 2015/720 the Commission should ask the European Committee for Standardisation to develop a separate standard which should set technical characteristics for home-compostable packaging. As such standard could should be used together with EN 13432:2000 as a reference to develop the specifications for labelling or marks of organically recoverable (compostable) and/or of home-compostable lightweight plastic carrier bags, in line with Article 8a of Directive 94/62/EC, it should specify the requirements and procedures, including test scheme and evaluation criteria, to determine the home-compostability and anaerobic treatability ^[A1] of lightweight plastic carrier bags. Timely adoption of the requested

¹ OJ L 316, 14.11.2012, p. 12.

² Directive (EU) 2015/720 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2015 amending Directive 94/62/EC as regards reducing the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags. OJ L 115, 6.05.2015, p. 11

³ European Parliament and Council Directive 94/62/EC of 20 December 1994 on packaging and packaging waste. OJ L 365, 31.12.1994, p. 10.

standard should ensure that the standard is available to be used when detailing and finalising these specifications.

- (4) The standard to be adopted is a harmonised standard within the meaning of Regulation (EU) 2012/1025 as it will be a European standard adopted on the basis of a request made by the Commission for the application of Union harmonisation legislation.
- (5) Harmonised standard EN 13432:2000 on 'Requirements for packaging recoverable through composting and biodegradation — Test scheme and evaluation criteria for the final acceptance of packaging' provides presumption of conformity with the essential requirements defined by Directive 94/62/EC according to its Article 9 and as set in Annex II point 3(c) and 3(d). In practice the EN 13432:2000 sets out the characteristics that a material should possess to be considered biodegradable through composting in municipal or industrial biological waste treatment facilities.

Harmonised standard EN 13432:2000 addresses four characteristics of packaging and packaging materials:

- (1) chemical characteristics (minimum volatile solids content and limit values for heavy metals and other toxic and hazardous substances),
 - (2) biodegradability under controlled composting conditions at high temperature (58°C),
 - (3) disintegration during biological treatment and
 - (4) ecotoxicity evaluated by means of higher plants.
- (6) Ultimate biodegradability ~~Biodegradation~~ is defined in Harmonized standard EN 13432:2000 as the breakdown of an organic chemical compound by micro-organisms
- in the presence of oxygen to carbon dioxide, water and mineral salts of any other elements present (mineralization) and new biomass or
 - in the absence of oxygen to carbon dioxide, methane, mineral salts and new biomass.
- (7) Biodegradation may occur in various conditions and through various processes, ranging from uncontrolled conditions present the free environment to controlled conditions in industrial installations. Harmonised standard EN 13432:2000 covers uniquely the biodegradation under controlled conditions in industrial installations.
- (8) Lightweight pPlastic carrier bags meeting the criteria of and labelled as in conformity with Harmonised standard EN 13432:2000 risk to be seen by consumers as being also home-compostable. As a result these bags may then be disposed of on a home-compost bin or heap or in small-scale closed systems for home-composting of organic waste from private households, where they might ~~do~~ not biodegrade and compost because the conditions for organic recycling as defined in the above harmonised standard are not present.
- (9) Home-composting and industrial composting are two distinct processes. Biodegradation through industrial composting occurs in municipal or industrial biological waste treatment facilities with controlled and optimized conditions for the composting of the material, whereas biodegradation through home-composting occurs in typically less controlled conditions that are present in compost heaps or bins or in

small-scale closed systems for home-composting of organic waste from private households.

- (10) Compared to industrial composting, the volumes which are composted under home composting conditions are relatively small. Because a home composting process is less monitored and controlled (e.g. lower turning frequency, less optimal moisture conditions) and the temperature in home composting systems is lower, the duration of the process is longer when compared to industrial composting systems.
- (11) There is a clear need for a normative document on home-compostability of lightweight plastic carrier bags, which currently does not exist.
- (12) The intention to request a harmonised standard relating to home-compostable lightweight plastic carrier bags in support of the implementation of Directive (EU) 2015/720-amending Directive 94/62/EC as regards reducing the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags is stated in point 3.3 of the annual Union work programme for European standardisation for 2016.⁴
- (13) The Commission has established guidelines⁵ for the execution of standardisation requests and the European standardisation organisations have agreed to apply those guidelines.
- (14) The European standardisation organisations, the European stakeholders' organisations receiving Union financing, the Committee established under Article 21 of Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste and other relevant European stakeholders have been consulted.
- (15) The European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) has indicated that the work covered by the request falls within CEN's area of competence.
- (16) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established by Article 22 of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1
Requested standardisation activities

The European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) is requested to draft a harmonised standard for home-compostable lightweight plastic carrier bags in order to support the implementation of Article 8a of Directive 94/62/EC. The requested standard(s) shall meet the requirements set out in Annex I.

Article 2
Establishment of the work programme

CEN shall prepare the work programme taking up all requested deliverables, responsible technical bodies and a timetable for the execution of the work in line with the deadlines set out in Annex II. CEN shall submit the work programme to the Commission [by xx [month]

⁴ COM(2015) 686 final of 8.01.2016.

⁵ SWD(2015) 205 final 27.10.2015, Vademecum on European standardisation in support of Union legislation and policies PART III Guidelines for the execution of standardisation requests

20xx] [no later than three months after the notification of this Decision by the Commission] and provide it with access to an overall project plan.

CEN may decide how many standards are needed in order to execute the request referred to in Article 1.

Article 3 *Agreement on the work programme*

In its work programme, CEN shall follow the possible priorities identified by the Commission for the execution of the request referred to in Article 1.

CEN shall inform the Commission of any amendments to the work programme.

Article 4 *Reporting*

CEN shall report annually to the Commission on the execution of the request referred to in Article 1. It shall submit the first annual report to the Commission [by xx [month] 20xx] [13 months after notification of this Decision by the Commission].

CEN shall provide the Commission with the final report by 31.12.2018^[A2].

Article 5 *Harmonised standards*

~~CEN shall include in each harmonised standard [A3] a clear and precise description of the relationship between its content and the corresponding requirements defined in Annex II point (c) Article 9(a) in combination with Article 8a of Directive 94/62/EC that it aims to cover.~~ Each harmonised standard developed on the basis of the request referred to in Article 1 shall refer to this Decision.

CEN shall include in each revised or amended harmonised standard information concerning significant changes that were introduced by it.

Article 6 *Validity*

If CEN does not accept the request referred to in Article 1 within one month of receiving it, the request may not constitute a basis for the drafting of standards.

Article 7 *Addressees*

This Decision is addressed to the European Committee for Standardisation.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

[...]

(PE/PO/PH)

The President (choose the correct position)

Vice-President (choose the correct position)

Member of the Commission (choose the correct)

Annex I: Requirements for the harmonised standard

1. General requirements

1.1 Quality of the specifications

The requested standard shall be based on reliable, accurate and reproducible procedures and methods, which take into account the generally acknowledgeable state of the art.

1.2 Product types covered

If applicable, the standards shall include the necessary definitions of the product types and their main characteristics and of the parameters to be measured and/or calculated.

1.3 Relation with existing standards

Before preparing the work programme referred to in Article 2, CEN shall, in particular, examine whether relevant European or international standards and other relevant globally used technical specifications developed by organisations whose development processes are based on the principles recognised by the World Trade Organisation in the field of standardisation already exist. CEN shall ensure that the new standard builds on the existing relevant standards.

The standard shall, to the extent possible and where appropriate, follow the structure and logic of harmonised standard EN 13432:2000. Where harmonised standard EN 13432:2000 defines criteria and test schemes for biodegradability and compostability of packaging in industrial installations, the harmonised standard to be developed shall define criteria and test schemes for biodegradability and compostability of **lightweight** plastic carrier bags when introduced into home-composting heaps or bins or small-scale closed systems, taking into account the typical uncontrolled home-composting conditions, including lower temperatures.

This standard will not provide presumption of conformity with the essential requirements defined by Directive 94/62/EC. The **home compostable lightweight** plastic carrier bag shall be recoverable as required by Directive 94/62/EC and, as a minimum shall be recoverable by means of organic recovery in agreement with the harmonised standard EN 13432.

Conformity with the harmonised standard for home-compostable **lightweight** plastic carrier bags shall automatically imply conformity with harmonised standard EN 13432:2000. [A4]

2. Relevant requirements ~~and the support to the environmental objectives of Directive 94/62/EC~~

~~The standard shall support the environmental objectives of Directive 94/62/EC.~~

The standard shall relate to **lightweight** plastic carrier bags that are biodegradable and can decompose when introduced into home-composting heaps, bins or small-scale closed systems if conditions are favourable. The standard shall include criteria for home composting methods and conditions for home composting.

The requirements shall take account of:

- different types of home-composting practices and methods (e.g. open bins or heaps or small-scale closed systems) and related degradation activity and strength;
- inherent biodegradability of the material exposed to mesophilic conditions (e.g. lower temperatures than in industrially processed organic recycling and uncontrolled humidity and air concentration levels);
- disintegration during home-composting;
- negative effects on the biological process and the quality of the resulting compost caused by:
 - substances or materials that are liable to create problems in the home-composting or biodegradation process;
 - materials, combinations of materials or designs of packaging that are liable to create problems in home-composting or biodegradation;
 - the presence of substances or materials that are liable to have a negative influence on the quality of the compost produced with home-composting.
- Where relevant, potential negative effects on human health and safety when coming into contact with the resulting compost.

3. Elements to be addressed by the European Standard

The standard shall include at least the following elements:

- Description of the meaning of 'biodegradability' and the meaning thereof for home-composting
- Description of the difference between industrial composting and home-composting in particular in order to provide transparent and reliable information to consumers/households across the EU
- Explanation of home-composting (e.g. characteristics, conditions, environmental aspects) including a description of the different methods that are available for home-composting, such as open compost heaps or bins, small-scale closed systems,
- Description of the criteria and factors which have to be taken into account for home-composting (e.g. climate conditions such as temperature, oxygen and humidity)
- Compilation of current knowledge and experience of home-composting across EU (including different practices)
- Indicative, comparative list of home-composting of various materials across EU at household level
- Overview of existing legislation/regulatory framework covering home-composting
- Overview of existing national standard specifications and certification schemes for home compostable products as benchmark

- Test scheme and evaluation criteria for lightweight plastic carrier bags that are compostable in home-composting~~recoverable through home-composting and biodegradation~~.

Annex II: standard and deadlines for adoption

Table [1]: Requested harmonised standard for home-compostable lightweight plastic carrier bags

Reference information	Deadline for adoption ⁶
1. European standard for home-compostable plastic carrier bags	[DecemberMM/2019YYYY] /[XX months after notification of this Decision to CEN

⁶ 'Adoption' refers to the relevant European standardisation organisation making a standard available to its members or the public.