



Landmark vote by the ENVI Committee of the European Parliament BINDING RECYCLED CONTENT TARGET VOTED BY MEPs FOR BEVERAGE BOTTLES

Brussels, 10.10.2018

Members of the ENVI Committee of the European Parliament voted today on the Report amending the Single Use Plastics (SUP) Directive proposed by the European Commission. Led by [Ms. Frederique RIES](#), Rapporteur for the ENVI Committee of the European Parliament (BE, ALDE), the Report set a target of 35% of recycled content in beverage bottles by 2025.

EuRIC strongly welcomes this landmark vote. Over the last decades, European legislation primarily focused on the supply side by setting collection and recycling targets which play a key role in increasing recyclables and recycled materials available on the market. It is time to boost the demand for recycled materials for streams such as plastics, stresses EuRIC.

This is precisely what the target of 35% recycled content in beverage bottles by 2025 does by sending a strong market signal that will steer the demand for recycled plastics, rewarding its substantial environmental benefits in terms of CO₂ and energy savings, which market prices have consistently failed to acknowledge. Moreover, keeping plastics in the loop will contribute to the reduction of marine litter.

Next steps

The target of 35% recycled content in beverage bottles by 2025 is not set in stone in the European legislation. The Report voted today by the ENVI Committee will have to be voted in plenary by all Members of the European Parliament later this month while the Council is also amending the SUP Directive proposal of the European Commission. Compromises, including on the recycled content target in beverage bottles voted by the ENVI Committee, will have to be reached between the European Parliament and the Council. Nevertheless, with today's vote, the ENVI Committee has made crystal clear that time has come to set binding recycled content targets for plastics.

EuRIC – The European Recycling Industries' Confederation – is the umbrella organisation for recycling industries. Through its Member Federations from 20 EU & EFTA countries, EuRIC represents across Europe over:

- *5,500+ companies generating an aggregated annual turnover of about 95 billion €, including large companies & SMEs, involved in the recycling of various resource streams;*
- *300,000 local jobs which cannot be outsourced;*
- *Million tons of waste recycled per year (metals, paper, plastics, glass and beyond).*

Recyclers play a key role in a circular economy. By turning wastes into resources, recycling is the link which reintroduces recycled materials into the value chains again and again.

EuRIC Secretariat: euric@euric-aisbl.eu
<https://www.euric-aisbl.eu>