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ANNEX 1

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**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**

*The measures presented in this action plan will all need to be taken forward in line with the better regulation principles, including where appropriate an impact assessment.*

Actions	Timetable
<b>Production</b>	
Emphasis on circular economy aspects in future <b>product requirements under the Ecodesign directive</b> .	2016 onwards
<b>Ecodesign work plan 2015-2017 and request to European standardisation organisations</b> to develop standards on material efficiency for setting future Ecodesign requirements on durability, reparability and recyclability of products.	December 2015
Proposal for an <b>implementing regulation</b> on televisions and displays	End 2015 or beginning 2016
Examine options and actions for a more coherent policy framework of the different strands of work of EU product policy in their contribution to the circular economy	2018
Include guidance on circular economy into <b>Best Available Techniques reference documents (BREFs)</b> for several industrial sectors	2016 onwards
<b>Guidance and promotion of best practices</b> in the mining waste management plans	2018
Establishing an open, <b>pan-European network of technological infrastructures for SMEs</b> to integrate advanced manufacturing technologies into their production processes	2016
Examine <b>how to improve the efficiency and uptake</b> of the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) and the pilot programme on environmental technology verification (ETV)	2017
Develop an improved <b>knowledge base and support to SMEs</b> for the substitution of hazardous substances of very high concern	2018

<b>Consumption</b>	
<b>Better enforcement</b> of existing guarantees on tangible products, accompanied by a <b>reflection on improvements</b> (upcoming Commission proposal for online sales of goods, and Fitness Check of consumer legislation)	2015-2017
Action on false green claims, including <b>updated guidance</b> on unfair commercial practices	2016
Analysis of the possibility to propose horizontal requirements on repair information provision in the context of Ecodesign	2018
<b>REFIT</b> of Ecolabel, to be followed by actions to enhance its effectiveness	2016
Assessment of the possibility of an <b>independent testing programme</b> on planned obsolescence	2018
Subject to evaluation of the current ongoing pilots, explore the possible uses of the Product Environmental Footprint to measure and communicate environmental information	2016 onwards
Action on Green Public Procurement: enhanced integration of circular economy requirements, support to higher uptake including through training schemes, reinforcing its use in Commission procurement and EU funds	2016 onwards

<b>Waste management</b>	
<b>Revised legislative proposal</b> on waste	Dec 2015
<b>Improved cooperation with Member States</b> for better implementation of EU waste legislation, and combat illicit shipment of end of life vehicles	2015 onwards
Stepping up <b>enforcement</b> of revised Waste Shipment regulation	2016 onwards
Promotion of industry-led <b>voluntary certification</b> of treatment facilities for key waste/recyclate streams	2018 onwards
<b>Initiative on waste to energy</b> in the framework of the Energy Union	2016
Identification and dissemination of good practices in waste collection systems	2016 onwards

<b>Market for secondary raw materials</b>	
Development of <b>quality standards</b> for secondary raw materials (in particular for plastics )	2016 onwards
<b>Proposal for a revised fertilisers regulation</b>	Early 2016
<b>Proposed legislation</b> setting minimum requirements for reused water for irrigation and groundwater recharge	2017
Promotion of safe and cost-effective water reuse, including <b>guidance</b> on the integration of water reuse in water planning and management, <b>inclusion of best practices in relevant BREFs</b> , and support to innovation (through the European Innovation Partnership and Horizon 2020) and investments	2016-2017
<b>Analysis and policy options</b> to address the interface between chemicals, products and waste legislation, including how to reduce the presence and improve the tracking of chemicals of concern in products	2017
Measures to facilitate waste shipment across the EU, including <b>electronic data exchange</b> (and possibly other measures)	2016 onwards
Further development of the EU <b>raw materials information system</b>	2016 onwards

<b>Sectorial action</b>	
<b>Plastics</b>	
<b>Strategy</b> on plastics in the circular economy	2017
Specific action to reduce marine litter implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals	2015 onwards

<b>Food waste</b>	
Development of a <b>common methodology and indicators</b> to measure food waste	2016
<b>Stakeholders platform</b> to examine how to achieve SDGs goals on food waste, share best practice and evaluate progress	2016
<b>Clarify relevant EU legislation related to waste, food and feed</b> in order to facilitate food donation and utilisation of former foodstuffs for animal feed	2016
Explore options for more effective use and understanding of date marking on food	2017

<b>Critical raw materials</b>	
<b>Report</b> on critical raw materials and the circular economy	2017
Improve <b>exchange of information</b> between manufacturers and recyclers on electronic products	2016 onwards

<b>European standards</b> for material-efficient recycling of electronic waste, waste batteries and other relevant complex end-of-life products	2016 onwards
<b>Sharing of best practice</b> for the recovery of critical raw materials from mining waste and landfills	2017

<b>Construction and demolition</b>	
Pre-demolition assessment <b>guidelines</b> for the construction sector	2017
Voluntary industry-wide <b>recycling protocol</b> for construction and demolition waste	2016
<b>Core indicators</b> for the assessment of the lifecycle environmental performance of a building, and incentives for their use	2017 onwards

<b>Biomass and bio-based materials</b>	
<b>Guidance and dissemination of best practice</b> on the cascading use of biomass and support to innovation in this domain through Horizon 2020	2018- 2019
Ensuring coherence and synergies with the circular economy when examining the sustainability of bioenergy under the Energy Union	2016
Assessment of the contribution of the 2012 Bioeconomy Strategy to the circular economy and possible review	2016

<b>Innovation and investments</b>	
Initiative "Industry 2020 and the circular economy" under <b>Horizon 2020</b>	October 2015
<b>Pilot project</b> for "innovation deals" to address possible regulatory obstacles for innovators	2016
<b>Targeted outreach to encourage applications for funding</b> under EFSI, and support the development of projects and investment platforms relevant to the circular economy	2016 onwards
<b>Targeted outreach and communication activities</b> to assist Member States and regions for the uptake of Cohesion Policy funds for the circular economy	2016 onwards
<b>Support to Member States and regions</b> to strengthen innovation for the circular economy through smart specialisation	2016 onwards
Assessment of the possibility of launching a <b>platform together with the EIB and national banks</b> to support the financing of the circular economy	2016
Engagement with stakeholders in the implementation of this action plan through existing fora in key sectors	2016 onwards
Support to a range of stakeholders through actions on public-private partnerships, cooperation platforms, support to voluntary business approaches, and exchanges of best practices	2015 onwards

<b>Monitoring</b>	
Development of a <b>monitoring framework</b> for the circular economy	2017

