

CHAIR'S WELCOME



The next ENVI Committee meeting will take place in Brussels on 12 January 2017.

In the ENVI meeting, we will vote on the **text agreed in the inter-institutional negotiations on the Regulation on mercury**. A provisional overall agreement on the proposal was reached on 14 December and endorsed by COREPER on 16 December.

We will also vote on the draft opinion regarding the **conclusion of the comprehensive economic and trade agreement (CETA)** between Canada and EU. Additionally, we will hold an **exchange of views with the Commission on waste statistics**. At 11.15 in a joint AFET-ENVI meeting, we will consider **amendments for an integrated EU policy for the Arctic**.

[Giovanni La Via](#)

MEETING ITEMS

Votes:

- Regulation on Mercury and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1102/2008
- EU/Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

Considerations:

- An integrated European Union policy for the Arctic

Exchange of views:

- Exchange of views with the Commission on waste statistics

Next meeting of the ENVI Committee

23-24 January 2016 (Brussels)

See also the [2017 meeting dates](#) for future meetings.

Watch online

Watch the Committee meeting live on the [EP web site](#) or on [Europarl TV](#). Past meetings are available via the [EP Live multimedia library](#) and you can also download the extracts of speeches.

More information

Contact the ENVI Secretariat: envi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu or visit the [website](#) of the ENVI Committee.

Subscription

If you wish to receive the ENVI newsletter, please send an email with your contact details and the subject "newsletter" to envi-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu. To sign up for ENVI committee press releases or for media enquiries, please write to envi-press@europarl.europa.eu

Further information sources

The EP Policy Departments [publish](#) studies, notes, information notes and workshop proceedings; to contact them, write to Poldep-Economy-Science@europarl.europa.eu. The EP Library regularly prepares briefings summarising information related to topical subjects. Find the latest updates via the links [briefings](#) and [blog](#).

VOTES

Regulation on mercury

Vote on the text agreed during interinstitutional negotiations (see [meeting documents](#))



A provisional overall agreement on the proposal was reached on 14 December 2016. COREPER endorsed the provisional agreement on 16 December. These are the key elements:

- A single environmental legal basis in TFEU Art. 192(1);
- No economic assessment criteria for new products and processes. Derogations for redesigned products only if the amount of mercury is reduced;
- A maximum period of five years for temporary waste storage, with a possible extension of maximum three years by means of a delegated act. Storage above ground only after solidification;
- A Commission inventory of contaminated sites based on information gathered from Member States;
- Tighter limit values for the export of several mercury-added products. The Commission will review the need for a further alignment with limit values for the EU market, and in particular with RoHS;
- Shorter phase-out scenarios for several existing industrial processes;
- A compromise package on dental amalgam, aiming at a phase-out, with provisions on all key issues, notably the age limit of 15 years for vulnerable groups, a mercury retention rate of 95% for all separators, early compliance dates and national plans;
- Two reviews, accompanied if appropriate by legislative proposals. The first review by mid-2020 will look into emissions from crematoria, a phase-out of dental amalgam by 2030, and the limit values for products. The second review by end-2024 will focus on implementation.

In addition, as requested by the Parliament, a Commission declaration on international cooperation addresses a future labelling scheme for gold from mercury-free mining and capacity building in developing countries in the area of mercury waste management. Parliament will also issue a statement stressing that the choice of implementing acts for authorisations of new products or processes may not be taken as a precedent and does not prejudice the inter-institutional negotiations on delineation criteria for delegated and implementing acts.

Rapporteur: [Eck \(GUE\)](#)
 Shadows: [Dantin \(EPP\)](#), [Paolucci \(S&D\)](#), [Girling \(ECR\)](#), [Jäättinenmäki \(ALDE\)](#), [Rivasi \(Greens/EFA\)](#), [Pedicini \(EFDD\)](#), [D'Ornano \(ENF\)](#)

EU/Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

Vote on draft opinion (see [meeting documents](#))

This is an opinion to INTA draft recommendation on the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) referred to Parliament for ratification under the consent procedure in accordance with Article 218 of TFEU.



4 amendments were tabled to the draft opinion.

CETA is a comprehensive trade agreement that also concerns issues within ENVI remit, i.e. the reduction of technical barriers to trade, sanitary and phytosanitary rules, investment protection and investment dispute settlement mechanism as well as a sustainable development chapter (protection of the right to regulate in the area of environment, engagements to promote sustainable use and trade of natural resources).

Rapporteur: [Staes \(Greens/EFA\)](#)
 Shadows: [Gambús \(PPE\)](#), [Caputo \(S&D\)](#), [Girling \(ECR\)](#), [Selimovic \(ALDE\)](#), [Mineur \(GUE/NGL\)](#), [Evi \(EFDD\)](#), [Goddyn \(ENF\)](#)

CONSIDERATION

An integrated European Union policy for the Arctic

Consideration of draft amendments (see [meeting documents](#))



The Commission and the High Representative adopted a joint communication to develop a more coherent framework for EU action and funding programmes for an integrated EU Arctic policy.

The co-rapporteurs welcome the joint communication as a positive step towards a more integrated EU policy. They raise issues related to geopolitics, international cooperation, security challenges and governance in the Arctic region. The EU has committed to achieving Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Sustainable development is the only feasible way of development in the Arctic region and therefore the EU Arctic policy should reflect better the requirements of individual SDGs in the Arctic context.

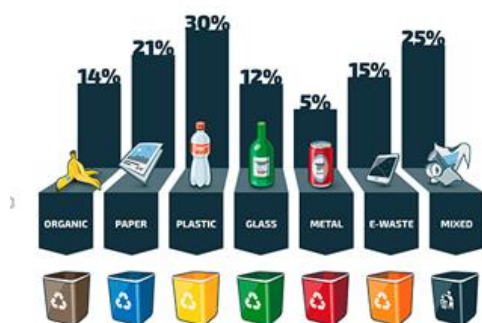
The report calls on the Commission and the Member States to take a stronger role in the effective implementation of international conventions. It also states that a way to establish more stringent safeguards for the vulnerable environment as well as for fundamental rights of indigenous peoples, is through an Arctic-specific Environmental Impact Assessment preceding the projects executed in the Arctic region. 369 amendments were tabled to the draft report, touching upon all the issues developed by the co-rapporteurs.

Rapporteurs: [Paet](#) (AFET/ALDE), [Pietikäinen](#) (ENVI/EPP)

Shadows: [Cahler](#) (EPP), [Schaldenmose](#) (S&D), [Jaakonsaari](#) (S&D), [Dohrmann](#) (ECR), [Fotyga](#) (ECR), [Jäätteenmäki](#) (ALDE), [Lösing](#) (GUE/NGL), [Kyllönen](#) (GUE/NGL), [Valero](#) (Greens/EFA), [Škrlec](#) (Greens/EFA), [Castaldo](#) (EFDD), [Affronte](#) (EFDD), [D'Ornano](#) (ENF)

EXCHANGE OF VIEWS

Exchange of views with the Commission on waste statistics



The Commission is invited to present the Report on statistics compiled pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 2150/2002 on waste statistics and their quality. This exchange of views will feed into the work on the reports on the Waste Legislative package, which are due to be voted on 24 January.

This is the fourth report from the Commission concerning the waste statistics submitted by Member States pursuant to the Regulation (EC) No 2150/2002 of 25 November 2002 on waste statistics. This regulation covers statistics falling under the scope of the Waste Framework Directive, which are crucial for the assessment of the implementation of the Directive and if the targets are met by Member States. The first report was published in 2008, the second in 2011 and the third in 2014.

The draft reports on the Waste Legislative Package tackle the issue of reliability and quality of statistics as well as propose establishing a common methodology for data collection and processing.

NEWS FROM THE POLICY DEPARTMENT

Recent Publications

- [Proceedings of the Workshop Living with a neurological brain disorder: Taking control of your life](#)
- [Proceedings of the Workshop on Delivering and Enforcing the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking](#)
- [Proceedings of the Workshop on The fight against cancer is a team sport: The role of education and sport](#)
- [Study on Decision-making processes of ICAO and IMO in respect of environmental regulations](#)
- [Briefing on Climate action and the Emissions Trading System in China](#)

Upcoming Publications

Proceedings of the workshop on "Health Promotion & Primary Prevention - Exchange of Good Practices"

Upcoming Event

Workshop on "Supporting the market for secondary raw materials"
31 January 2017, 1.30-2.30 pm

To request hard copy of publication please contact:
Poldep-Economy-Science@ep.europa.eu

NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

European Environment Agency ([EEA](#))

Municipal waste management across European countries
European countries are improving their methods to [prevent household trash](#) and other municipal waste from ending up in landfill sites. Recycling rates, in particular, have increased considerably across Europe over the past decade, due in part to European environmental policies, according to a new European Environment Agency assessment. [More](#)

European Chemicals Agency ([ECHA](#))

The ECHA Member State Committee unanimously agreed on the identification of four substances of very high concern (SVHCs): bisphenol A, PFDA, PTAP and 4-HPbl. The majority of the MSC's members also supported the identification of an environmental endocrine disruptor PTBP and a respiratory sensitiser TMA as SVHCs. [More](#) ECHA and the European Food Safety Authority have published an outline of the guidance they are developing on how to identify substances with endocrine-disrupting properties in pesticides and biocides. [More](#)

European Food Safety Authority ([EFSA](#))

Pesticide residues in vegetables? Traces of veterinary medicines in meat? Acrylamide in chips? The EFSA report "Chemicals in Food 2016" provides an overview of data collected by EU Member States and stakeholders and analysed by EFSA in 2015 and 2016. [More](#)

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control ([ECDC](#))

Influenza viruses, mainly A(H3N2), started circulating early in the EU/EEA this season. If A(H3N2) continues to predominate then there is a risk that people over 65 years will be the most severely affected, possibly putting some healthcare systems under pressure. But in some countries where A(H3N2) was dominant last season like Slovenia and Italy A(H1N1) may dominate. [More](#)

European Medicines Agency ([EMA](#))

Simpler website navigation for regulatory information on veterinary medicines
EMA has simplified the navigation structure of the regulatory information on veterinary medicines on its website, to help users from pharmaceutical companies find the information they need more quickly and easily. The new menu reflects the three main stages of the medicinal product lifecycle: research and development, marketing authorisation and post-authorisation. The overview section helps users find topics that cut across the product lifecycle, such as 'antimicrobial resistance', 'compliance', 'pharmacovigilance' and 'supporting SMEs'. EMA has already reorganised its regulatory information on human medicines in a similar manner. [More](#)

About the editor

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