

EN

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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Šefčovič  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(22.11.2024)

The provisional agreement on the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation<sup>1</sup> provides for an increase in several transport packaging reuse targets for 2030, reflecting the ambition of the co-legislators to give strong incentives for developing and deploying reusable transport packaging solutions. It also extends the scope of the requirement to use only reusable transport packaging within the same company or between companies within the same Member State. At the same time, in Article 29(4) it provides for several derogations from the reuse targets, for example for cardboard boxes, flexible food contact packaging or packaging of large-scale machinery.

Article 29(18) empowers the Commission to exempt packaging formats from the reuse targets in view of the latest scientific and economic data and developments. The obligation to completely replace single-use pallet wrappings and straps pursuant to Article 29(2) and (3) has raised particular concerns in terms of feasibility, transport efficiency and safety, as well as economic constraints and undesirable environmental impacts.

In line with the commitment taken at the vote on the Regulation in the European Parliament plenary session of April 2024, the Commission has launched an assessment with a view to exempting pallet wrappings and straps from full reusability obligations and addressing this issue by means of a delegated act as a matter of priority upon the entry into force of the Regulation, provided that the conditions for exemption laid down therein are met. The timeline would allow adopting a delegated act in 2025, well before the application of the respective obligations, providing the necessary predictability to economic operators.

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<sup>1</sup> Approved by a very large majority in the European Parliament in April 2024,  
[https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/proposal-packaging-and-packaging-waste\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/publications/proposal-packaging-and-packaging-waste_en),