

Press Release

Making batteries more circular: FEAD reiterates its support to an ambitious EU Regulation

Brussels, 18 March 2021 - Today, the Environment Council held a first discussion on the Commission's proposal for a batteries and waste batteries regulation. **FEAD, the European Waste Management Association**, welcomes the Council's first remarks, reiterating our support to the proposed Regulation. FEAD underlines the following key points for the waste management sector:

- FEAD welcomes the Commission's **Regulation to ensure a robust implementation and level playing field across the EU** for the waste management sector and the production of batteries.
- FEAD asks for an extended scope to include the **batteries from light means of transport** in the same collection targets, in the context of a constantly growing market for these batteries.
- Pertaining to **sustainability and safety requirements**, and the **determination of the methodology for the calculation of the recycling performance and verification of recycled content**, FEAD calls for the required rules to be set in place, and implemented before 2025, to give our sector the needed time to adapt the recovery processes accordingly.
- FEAD calls for addressing **mandatory recycled content in portable batteries**, and for more ambitious requirements for **mandatory recycled content levels**.
- Concerning the end-of-life management of portable batteries, FEAD advocates for **increasing the proposed collection rates** of 65% in 2025 and 70% in 2030. The successful return in high proportions of the material flow is a prerequisite for a truly circular economy for which all actors in the value chain must take responsibility. Higher collection targets of 80% for all types of batteries are required, except for automotive batteries for which collection targets of 100% should apply.
- We also strongly support the introduction of a **mandatory return system**, to increase the willingness to collect, and encourage the effective and safe management of critical battery flows.

Having a strong battery value chain is of strategic importance for Europe. Recycling in a safe manner is a key activity in this value chain, from both an economic and a resource point of view. Ambitious qualitative and quantitative targets will contribute to realising the circular economy.

FEAD Secretariat

info@fead.be