

ANNEX TO THE PRESS RELEASE

Directive on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment

- SUMMARY AND MAIN OUTCOMES -

EU wide market restrictions (ban) on the following plastic products (*Member States shall apply these measures no later than 2 years after the entry into force of the Directive*):

- Plastic cotton bud sticks, cutlery, plates, straws, stirrers, sticks for balloons
- All products made of oxo-plastic
- Cups, food and beverage containers made of expanded polystyrene

Consumption reduction objective for plastic food containers and cups (*the same as the transposition deadline: at the latest 2 years after the entry into force*):

- Ambitious and sustained reduction of plastic food containers and drinks cups (including covers and lids) e.g. by setting national reduction targets, making alternative products available at the point of sale, or ensuring that single-use plastic products cannot be provided free of charge.
- National marketing restrictions for those products are only possible for the purposes of preventing litter and in order to ensure that the products are substituted with reusable alternatives or do not contain plastic.

Product design requirements

- **Tethered caps and lids** for all beverage containers and bottles up to 3 litres, 5 years after the entry into force of the directive (*to be applied 5 years after the entry into force of the Directive*).
- Binding **target of at least 25% of recycled plastic for PET beverage bottles** from 2025 onwards, calculated as an average for the member state, not per producer. In 2030, all plastic bottles will have to respect a target of at least 30% of recycled content (*the same as the transposition deadline: at the latest 2 years after the entry into force of the Directive, but targets to be achieved by the above-set deadlines*).
- **Marking Requirements** (*to be applied 2 years after the entry into force of the Directive*).
- Tobacco products with filters, cups for beverages, wet wipes and sanitary towels, will require a clear and standardized labelling. For cups, it will be on the product itself. The label will indicate how waste should be disposed, the presence of plastics in the product and the resulting negative environmental impact.

Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR)

(To be applied by 31/12/2024, but

- *in relation to extended producer responsibility schemes established before 04/07/2018 and*

- for tobacco products with filters and filters marketed for use in combination with tobacco products,
by 05/01/2023)

- Producers will help cover the costs of waste management and clean-up, data gathering as well as awareness raising measures for the following plastic products: food and beverage containers, bottles, cups, packets and wrappers, light weight carrier bags, tobacco products with filters. For wet wipes and balloons, it will be the same except for collection costs.

Fishing gear

- EPR schemes for **fishing gear** will have to be established that shall also cover the costs of the **separate collection** of waste fishing gear (to be applied by 31/12/2024).
- Member States will set a **national collection target** and monitor fishing gear with a view to a later EU-wide collection target (2 years after the entry into force of the Directive).
- Work will be launched on **harmonized standards** for the circular design of fishing gear.

Separate collection of bottles (the same as the transposition deadline: at the latest 2 years after the entry into force of the Directive, but targets to be achieved by the following deadlines):

- Collection target of 77% of single-use plastic drink bottles to be achieved by 2025
- Collection target of 90% to be achieved by 2029

through EPR or through deposit refund schemes.

Awareness-raising measures (the same as the transposition deadline: 2 years after the entry into force of the Directive)

- Member States will be obliged to raise consumers' awareness about the negative impact of littering of single-use plastics and fishing gear as well as about the available re-use systems and waste management options for all single use plastic products of the Directive.

Guidelines

The Commission will issue guidelines to help Member States to implement the Directive as well as several implementing acts.