



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 23 May 2019
(OR. en)

9660/19

COMPET 430
IND 183
MI 471
ENV 511
CONSOM 175
MARE 12
RECH 277
SAN 271

NOTE

From: Commission
To: Council

Subject: Circular Plastics Alliance - state of play
- *Information from the Commission*

Delegations will find attached a note from the Commission to the Council on the state of play of the Circular Plastics Alliance with a view to the meeting of the Competitiveness Council on 27 May 2019.

Boosting the European market for recycled plastics through voluntary action and commitments – the Circular Plastics Alliance and its upcoming Declaration

In December 2018, the Commission launched the Circular Plastics Alliance to mobilise the plastics value chains across Europe towards the target that 10 million tonnes of recycled plastics are used in the EU in 2025 as indicated in the Plastic Strategy.

The Alliance has successfully gathered key industrial actors of the plastics value chains at European level. They met for the first time on 5 February 2019 (European Industry Days), endorsed the 10 million tonnes target and decided to work further on 5 topics, i.e. recycled content; design for recyclability; collection and sorting of plastic waste; R&D and investments, including chemical recycling; and monitoring. Working groups met on each topic at operational level in March and April 2019.

The Circular Plastics Alliance intends to adopt a Declaration in September 2019, describing their vision towards circular plastics in general and the 10 million tonnes target in particular, and their commitments for action to getting there.

Implementing the Plastic Strategy also requires action by all levels of government. Such actions should be coordinated between EU and national authorities to be more effective and cost-efficient, and prevent any fragmentation of the Single Market for recycled plastics. Coherence should also be ensured between those actions and the commitments taken by the Circular Plastic Alliance.

In this context, the European Commission could invite interested Member States to a meeting at operational level on 3 July 2019 to discuss the broad lines of the draft Declaration with the members of the Circular Plastics Alliance and consider whether and how Member States actions can support the implementation of the voluntary commitments by the Alliance. For this purpose, the Commission could circulate a first draft of the Declaration by mid-June 2019. Such exchange of view should not change the nature of the Declaration that remains strictly under the responsibility of the members of the Circular Plastics Alliance.

The Circular Plastics Alliance will present its overall outcome and in particular the Declaration at the next meeting on 20 September 2019 which is planned to be organised as a large event (up to 400 participants).
