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From: Secretary-General of the European Commission,  
signed by Mr Jordi AYET PUIGARNAU, Director

date of receipt: 17 January 2018

To: Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN, Secretary-General of the Council of  
the European Union

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Subject: ANNEXES to the Communication from the Commission to the European  
Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee  
and the Committee of the Regions  
A European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy

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Delegations will find attached document COM(2018) 28 final - ANNEXES 1 to 3.

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Encl.: COM(2018) 28 final - ANNEXES 1 to 3



Brussels, 16.1.2018  
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ANNEXES 1 to 3

**ANNEXES**

*to the*

**Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the  
European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions**

**A European Strategy for Plastics in a Circular Economy**

{SWD(2018) 16 final}

## ANNEX I

### List of future EU measures to implement the Strategy

Measures	Timeline
<b>Improving the economics and quality of plastics recycling</b>	
<b>Actions to improve product design:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparatory work for future revision of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive: Commission to initiate work on new harmonised rules to ensure that by 2030 all plastics packaging placed on the EU market can be reused or recycled in a cost-effective manner.</li> <li>- follow-up to COM (2018) 32 "<i>Communication on the implementation of the circular economy package: options to address the interface between chemical, product and waste legislation</i>": improve the traceability of chemicals and address the issue of legacy substances in recycled streams</li> <li>- new eco-design measures: consider requirements to support the recyclability of plastics</li> </ul>	<p>Q1 2018 onwards</p> <p>Q1 2018 onwards</p> <p>ongoing</p>
<b>Actions to boost recycled content:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- launching an EU-wide pledging campaign targeting industry and public authorities</li> <li>- assessment of regulatory or economic incentives for the uptake of recycled content, in particular in the context of the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Revision of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (see above)</li> <li>- Evaluation/review of the Construction Products Regulation</li> <li>- Evaluation/review of End-of-life Vehicles Directive</li> </ul> </li> <li>- as regards food-contact materials: swift finalisation of pending authorisation procedures for plastics recycling processes, better characterisation of contaminants and introduction of monitoring system</li> <li>- development of quality standards for sorted plastics waste and recycled plastics in cooperation with the European Standardisation Committee</li> <li>- Ecolabel and Green Public Procurement: Further incentivise the use of recycled plastics, including by developing adequate verification means</li> </ul>	<p>Q1-Q3 2018</p> <p>Q1 2018 onwards</p> <p>ongoing</p> <p>2018</p> <p>2018 onwards</p>
<b>Actions to improve separate collection of plastic waste:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- issue new guidelines on separate collection and sorting of waste</li> <li>- ensure better implementation of existing obligations on separate collection, including through ongoing review of waste legislation</li> </ul>	<p>2019</p> <p>ongoing</p>
<b>Curbing plastic waste and littering</b>	
<b>Actions to reduce single-use plastics:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- analytical work, including the launch of a public consultation, to determine the scope of a legislative initiative on single-use plastics</li> </ul>	<p>ongoing</p>
<b>Actions to tackle sea-based sources of marine litter:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- adoption of a legislative proposal on port reception facilities for the delivery of waste from ships</li> <li>- development of measures to reduce loss or abandonment at sea of fishing gear (<i>e.g. including recycling targets, EPR schemes, recycling funds or deposit schemes</i>)</li> <li>- development of measures to limit plastic loss from aquaculture (<i>e.g. possible Best Available Techniques Reference Document</i>)</li> </ul>	<p>Q1 2018</p> <p>2018 onwards</p>
<b>Actions to monitor and curb marine litter more effectively:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- improved monitoring and mapping of marine litter, including microplastics, on the basis of EU harmonised methods</li> <li>- support to Member States on the implementation of their programmes of measures on marine litter under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, including the link with their waste/litter management plans under the Waste Framework Directive</li> </ul>	<p>2018 onwards</p>
<b>Actions on compostable and biodegradable plastics:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- start work to develop harmonised rules on defining and labelling compostable and biodegradable plastics</li> <li>- conduct a lifecycle assessment to identify conditions where their use is beneficial, and criteria for such application</li> <li>- start the process to restrict the use of oxo-plastics via REACH</li> </ul>	<p>Q1 2018 onwards</p> <p>Q1 2018 onwards</p> <p>ongoing</p>

<p><b>Actions to curb microplastics pollution:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- start the process to restrict the intentional addition of microplastics to products via REACH</li> <li>- examination of policy options for reducing unintentional release of microplastics from tyres, textiles and paint (e.g. <i>including minimum requirements for tyre design (tyre abrasion and durability if appropriate) and/or information requirement (including labelling if appropriate), methods to assess microplastic losses from textiles and tyres, combined with information (including possibly labelling)/minimum requirements, targeted research and development funding</i>)</li> <li>- development of measures to reduce plastic pellet spillage (e.g. <i>certification scheme along the plastic supply chain and/or Best Available Techniques reference document under the Industrial Emissions Directive</i>)</li> <li>- evaluation of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive: assessing effectiveness as regards microplastics capture and removal</li> </ul>	<p>ongoing</p> <p>ongoing</p> <p>Q1 2018 onwards</p> <p>ongoing</p>
<b>Driving investment and innovation towards circular solutions</b>	
<p><b>Actions to promote investment and innovation in the value chain:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Commission guidance on the eco-modulation of EPR fees</li> <li>- Recommendations by the recently launched ‘<i>Circular Economy Finance Support Platform</i>’</li> <li>- examine the feasibility of a private-led investment fund to finance investments in innovative solutions and new technologies aimed at reducing the environmental impacts of primary plastic production</li> <li>- direct financial support for infrastructure and innovation through the European Fund for Strategic Investment and other EU funding instruments (e.g. structural funds and smart specialisation strategies, Horizon 2020)</li> <li>- pursue work on life-cycle impacts of alternative feedstocks for plastics production</li> <li>- development of a Strategic Research Innovation Agenda on plastics to guide future funding decisions</li> </ul>	<p>2019 in mid-2018</p> <p>By mid-2019</p> <p>ongoing</p> <p>2018 onwards</p> <p>Q2 2018</p>
<b>Harnessing global action</b>	
<p><b>Actions focusing on key regions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- project to reduce plastic waste and marine litter in East and South-East Asia to support sustainable consumption and production, the promotion of the waste hierarchy and extended producer responsibility, and improve recovery of fishing gear</li> <li>- examining options for specific action to reduce plastic pollution in the Mediterranean, in support of the implementation of the Barcelona Convention</li> <li>- cooperation on plastic waste prevention in major world river basins</li> </ul>	<p>2018 onwards</p>
<p><b>Actions in support of multilateral initiatives on plastic:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- renewed engagement on plastics and marine litter in fora such as the UN, G7, G20, the MARPOL convention and regional sea conventions, including the development of practical tools and specific action on fishing and aquaculture.</li> <li>- support to action under the Basel Convention, particularly for the implementation of the toolkit on environmentally sound waste management</li> </ul>	<p>2018 onwards</p>
<p><b>Actions relating to bilateral cooperation with non-EU countries:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- promote a circular plastics economy in non-EU countries through policy dialogues on trade, industry and environment, as well as economic diplomacy</li> <li>- use bilateral, regional and thematic funding in EU development, neighbourhood and enlargement policies to support the plastics strategy by preventing and appropriately managing waste and supporting the circular economy; through programmes and instruments including ‘Switch to Green’ and the External Investment Plan</li> </ul>	<p>2018 onwards</p>
<p><b>Actions relating to international trade:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- support the development of international industry standards on sorted plastic waste and recycled plastics</li> <li>- ensure that exported plastic waste is dealt with appropriately in line with the EU Waste Shipment Regulation</li> <li>- support the development of a certification scheme for recycling plants in the EU and in third countries</li> </ul>	<p>2018 onwards</p>

## ANNEX II

### List of measures recommended to national authorities and industry

<b>Key measures to improve the economics and quality of plastics recycling</b>
<p><b>National and regional authorities are encouraged to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ favour reusable and recycled plastics in public procurement;</li> <li>➤ make better use of taxation and other economic instruments to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– reward the uptake of recycled plastics and favour reuse and recycling over landfilling and incineration</li> <li>– step up separate collection of plastics waste and improve the way in which this is done</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ put in place well-designed EPR schemes and/or deposit systems, in consultation with the relevant sectors</li> <li>➤ make voluntary commitments in support of the strategy’s objectives, in particular as regards the uptake of recycled plastics</li> </ul>
<p><b>Industry is encouraged to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ take concrete steps to improve dialogue and cooperation across the value chain, in particular on material and product design aspects</li> <li>➤ make voluntary commitments in support of the strategy’s objectives, in particular as regards the uptake of recycled plastic</li> </ul>
<b>Key measures to curb plastic waste and littering</b>
<p><b>National and regional authorities are encouraged to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ raise awareness of littering and consider fines, where they do not exist already; promote beach clean-up activities</li> <li>➤ step up waste collection, particularly near the coasts, and improve coordination between the authorities responsible for waste management, water and the marine environment</li> <li>➤ step up efforts to eradicate illegal and non-compliant landfills</li> <li>➤ develop national monitoring of marine litter on the basis of harmonised EU methods</li> <li>➤ engage in regional seas conventions, in particular to develop regional plans against marine litter</li> <li>➤ consider introducing EPR, in particular to provide incentives for collecting discarded fishing gear and recycling agricultural plastics</li> <li>➤ consider introducing deposit refund schemes, in particular for beverage containers</li> </ul>
<p><b>Industry is encouraged to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ promote existing alternatives to single-use plastic items (e.g. in catering and take-aways), where these are more environmentally beneficial</li> <li>➤ pursue and implement cross-industry agreements to reduce the release of microplastics in the environment</li> <li>➤ put in place measures to avoid spillage of plastic pellets</li> </ul>
<b>Key measures to drive investments and innovation towards circular solutions</b>
<p><b>National, regional and local authorities are encouraged to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ make better use of economic instruments, especially to raise the cost of landfilling and incineration and promote plastic waste recycling and prevention</li> <li>➤ make greater use of public procurement and funding to support plastic waste prevention and recycling of plastics</li> </ul>
<p><b>Industry is encouraged to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ increase infrastructure and R&amp;D investment in areas of direct relevance to achieving the strategy’s objectives</li> <li>➤ contribute to work on setting up a private investment fund to offset the environmental externalities of plastic production</li> </ul>
<b>Key measures to harness global action</b>
<p><b>National and regional authorities, including in non-EU countries, are encouraged to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ engage in international fora to develop a global response to the increase in marine litter</li> <li>➤ take domestic action to reduce the leakage of plastics in the environment, prevent plastic waste and increase recycling</li> </ul>
<p><b>Industry is encouraged to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Play an active part in supporting an integrated, cross-border circular plastics economy, including through</li> </ul>

## ANNEX III

### Pledging Campaign

1. The European Commission calls on stakeholders to come forward with voluntary pledges to boost the uptake of recycled plastics. The objective is to ensure that by 2025 ten million tonnes of recycled plastics find their way into new products on the EU market.
2. Interested companies and/or industry associations have until 30 June 2018 to submit their pledges to the following email address: *GROW-ENV-RPLASTICS-PLEDGE@ec.europa.eu*
3. When sending in their pledges, stakeholders are asked to provide the European Commission with data illustrating how their pledge contributes to achieving the quantitative objective set in paragraph 1. Such data will be treated confidentially and will be used exclusively for the purpose of monitoring overall progress towards the quantitative objective. Pledges will be put under quality check, and assessed against their reliability and ability to meet declared deadlines.
4. When sending in their pledges on recycled content, stakeholders are welcome to make pledges covering other aspects which are relevant to the strategy, such as design for recyclability.
5. The pledges received will be made public through a dedicated webpage.
6. By 31 October 2018, the Commission will present an assessment of the pledges received and their overall contribution to the quantitative objective set in paragraph 1. Should the contribution be deemed insufficient, the Commission will start work on possible next steps, including regulatory action.