



Council of the  
European Union

177434/EU XXVII. GP  
Eingelangt am 15/03/24

Brussels, 15 March 2024  
(OR. en)

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**Interinstitutional File:**  
**2021/0367(COD)**

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7571/24  
ADD 1

CODEC 748  
ENV 265  
MI 284  
RELEX 306

#### **'I/A' ITEM NOTE**

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| From:    | General Secretariat of the Council   |
| To:      | Permanent Representatives Committee/Council  |
| Subject: | Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on shipments of waste, amending Regulations (EU) No 1257/2013 and (EU) 2020/1056 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 <b>(first reading)</b><br>- Adoption of the legislative act<br>= Statements |

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#### **Statement by Ireland**

Ireland supports the adoption of the revised Waste Shipments Regulation as it provides a mechanism to better support the Circular Economy through a greater focus on the use of waste as a resource within the EU while also providing detailed procedures to improve the control of shipments of waste outside the EU with a view to ensuring that all waste exported from the EU is managed in an environmentally sound manner.

### **Statement by Bulgaria, Ireland and the Netherlands**

In general, Bulgaria, Ireland and the Netherlands are positively disposed towards the revision of the Waste Shipment Regulation. We fully acknowledge the importance of regulating the shipment and management of waste according to the highest standards of environmental protection. Moreover, we recognize that export to third countries does not offer a sustainable solution to the EU's waste challenges.

At the same time, it is of utmost importance that Article XI of the GATT is fully respected and that derogations from this provision are justifiable in light of the exceptions provided for in the GATT. Accordingly, Bulgaria, Ireland and the Netherlands emphasize the importance of exercising restraint in the introduction of export restrictions. While such measures may be justified and necessary to serve legitimate policy objectives, they should always be proportionate, targeted, transparent, temporally delineated, and consistent with WTO rules so that they do not create unnecessary barriers to trade, disruption to global supply chains or have unintended negative consequences.

Thus, we ask the Commission to continue monitoring the Regulation's effects and assessing its consistency with the EU's legal obligations under the relevant WTO agreements.

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