Meeting Notes – Waste TF

Date: 06-02-2025
Participants:

- **Greece:** Andreas Avlonitis (RAAEY), Petros Nikolaou (RAAEY), Katerina Yenouzi (RAAEY)
- **Hungary:** David Elek Horvath (MEKH), Andras Antal (MEKH), Ildikó Sós (MEKH)
- **Italy:** Giovanni Taglialatela (ARERA)
- **Latvia:** Inara Teibe (PUC), Lija Makare (PUC), Dace Codare Plaude (PUC), Alda Ozola (PUC)
- **North Macedonia:** Shamil Redjepi (ERC)
- **Portugal:** Claudia Videira (ERSAR), David Alves (ERSAR), Diogo Rosa (ERSAR)
- **WAREG:** Vittorio Graziano (WAREG)

Key Discussions & Decisions:

1. **Engagement with EU Institutions**
    - Proposal to restart direct contact with Mr FLACHENECKER (DG ENV) regarding the **Circular Economy Act (CEA)**.
    - **Decision:** Taglialatela will contact Flackenecker to arrange either (upon proposal from Flackenecker):

        a) One meeting covering both the CEA and the workshop topic, or
        b) Two separate meetings—one dedicated to the CEA and another to the workshop.

2. **Next Workshop Topic: EPR Schemes**
    - **Discussion on Workshop Topics:**
        - **Investments:** Strongly linked to the CEA and within regulators' competencies. However, data availability is limited, sensitive, and not publicly shareable.
            - MEKH lacks investment-related data.
            - PUC has no direct competence in this area (limited to recommendations).
            - RAAEY confirmed limited data availability.
        - **EPR (Extended Producer Responsibility):** More accessible data, though regulators have fewer competencies compared to investments.
            - EPR can serve as a **proxy for waste sector management**, highlighting national policy variations in scheme coverage.
            - Proposal to start with **packaging EPR schemes** as a reference point.
            - Suggestion to invite **EEA and Eurostat representatives** to discuss data collection methodologies.
    - **Decision:** The next workshop will focus on **EPR schemes**. Possibly by next THU, 13 February, MEKH will propose a model/structure/format for data/information collection, aimed to facilitate the making of presentations.

        Content: due to diverse regulatory frameworks, presentations are not expected to be homogeneous; yet, as usual, a minimum set of information is required, so

to allow comparison and draw general conclusions. What waste streams are dealt with within EPR, the general functioning of the schemes, the input/output matrix (i.e. how much material is collected and then effectively recycled), as well as an attempt to describe the financial flows (fees paid to the EPR, contributions of EPR to the municipality, cost sharing between different actors …) are proposed as common features of any presentation, provided that each Member can add relevant information on her/his direct experience.

Proposed timing: the EPR Workshop should take place before Easter break.

3. **Report on Past Activities**
    - Taglialatela presented a **summary document** on the group's past activities.
    - This document will be shared with **Board Members**, who will meet on **February 7, 2025**.
    - **Action:** Members can submit comments to Giovanni.
4. **In-Person Meeting Proposal**
    - **Suggestion:** Organize an **in-person meeting** of the waste TF during the WAREG General Assembly (April 2-3, 2025, Jūrmala Latvia).
5. **Next Meeting**
    - **Date:** February 20, 2025
    - **Time:** 11:00 – 12:30 CET