

To: Executive Vice-President Frans Timmermans,
Commissioner for the Internal Market Thierry Breton,
Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries Virginijus Sinkevičius,
Commissioner for Health and Food Safety Stella Kyriakides

16 November 2022

Joint letter
Austria, Germany, Luxembourg, Netherlands

Upcoming Revision of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive

Dear Executive Vice-President,
Dear Commissioners,

The foreseen revision of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive has the potential to contribute to reducing waste, to increasing the security of supply of raw materials and to reducing CO2 emissions. We therefore emphasize the importance of ensuring an ambitious revision of the Directive, as was also expressed in the joint-paper sent by Austria, Denmark, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Sweden on 31 January 2022, which we have attached to this letter.

This joint-paper already highlighted specific details regarding the required content of the proposal, but we want to use this opportunity to strongly urge the Commission to ensure an overall **high level of ambition**, underlining the environmental dimension. This applies particularly to four elements mentioned in our joint-paper: **prevention, re-use, high-quality recycling** and **recycled content**. This should build on existing well-functioning structures and achieved results, while focusing on necessary measures.

In addition, we would also like to underline the importance of a very **restrictive use of biodegradable/compostable packaging**. The circularity of those items is limited and can cause strain on the environment, problems for recycling and confusion to consumers.

In summary, we wish to reiterate the call for an **ambitious and circular revision** of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive and we offer our support to achieve that goal.

Attachment 1: Signatories

Attachment 2: Previous joint-paper on the PPWD dated 31 January 2022, with proposed policy options