

EXPRA takes part in European Commission public consultation on Certification for Waste Treatment Facilities

On 17 March, EXPRA submitted its contribution to the European Commission's public consultation on Certification for Waste Treatment Facilities.

The consultation follows a previous commitment made to *"examine the feasibility of applying a global certification scheme for recycling facilities to the export of waste streams, building on environmentally-sound management criteria"*.

The aim of this consultation was to obtain stakeholders' views on different certification possibilities. These should contribute to tackling the problem of waste shipments out of the EU to non-OECD countries if the waste is not accurately treated from an environmental perspective. The Commission also asked for views on whether to introduce a certification scheme or not and, if so, what waste categories it should cover.

EXPRA's position can be summarised as follows:

- EXPRA's preferred option would be the introduction of a voluntary EU certification scheme. This would make it possible for companies to demonstrate that they are fulfilling the requirements under the certification.
- While the implementation of such a scheme would imply some administrative burdens, these would be lower than for a mandatory scheme.
- EXPRA is therefore of the opinion that a voluntary scheme is to prefer, as the full impact on the market of a mandatory scheme would be difficult to anticipate at this stage.
- As regards the categories of waste, our view is that the option *"all other non-hazardous waste included in Part 2 of Annex V to the Waste Shipment Regulation"* should be covered as a priority.

About EXPRA

Founded in 2013, is the alliance for packaging and packaging waste recovery and recycling systems which are owned by obliged industry and work on a not-for-profit basis. EXPRA acts as the authoritative voice and common policy platform representing the interests of all its member packaging recovery and recycling organisations founded and run by or on behalf of obliged industry. For additional information, please visit www.expra.eu