

Press Statement

Swift action needed to deliver ambitious and improved EU Circular Economy Package

Brussels, 18 December 2014: In response to the withdrawal of the European Commission's proposals for a Circular Economy Package under President Juncker's Work Programme 2015, Director-General of the European Aluminium Association (EAA) issues the following statement:

"Robust EU waste legislation is both an environmental and economic imperative for Europe. The withdrawal of the Circular Economy Package must be swiftly followed by a new, ambitious and simplified proposal if we are to build on progress already made by the Parliament and Member States this year. In particular, the European Commission should support better recycling definitions and link these to realistic targets while designing measures to maximise each step in the recycling value chain. Improved collection schemes, support to innovative sorting technologies, and a ban on post-consumer recyclable waste are all of central importance here." said EAA Director-General Gerd Götz.

"Smart waste legislation will enable our industry to meet growing demand for aluminium by increasing our access to scrap metal, allowing us to produce more with less energy and thus at a lower cost. The EU now has a real opportunity to boost our industrial competitiveness, to reduce Europe's reliance on raw materials and energy imports and to accelerate our transition to a truly sustainable economy in the long-term." he added.

About the European Aluminium Association:

The European Aluminium Association, founded in 1981, represents the whole value chain of the aluminium industry in Europe, from alumina and primary production to semi-finished, end-use products and recycling. The European aluminium industry directly employs about 255,000 people and yields an annual turnover of 36.8 billion €. For information, please visit www.alueurope.eu

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