

Question for written answer E-015727/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Jytte Guteland (S&D)

Subject: New Circular Economy Package - waste policy for a non-toxic environmental life cycle

In 2 December 2015 the Commission adopted the new Circular Economy Package covering the whole loop from sustainable production and consumption to waste management and trading in secondary raw materials. The EU Action Plan contains legislative proposals on waste management only.

In the light of the above, the Commission is asked to answer the following:

1. According to the timetable, the Commission aims to analyse further and propose measures to strengthen the link between waste legislation, production and chemicals in 2017. Should the process not begin earlier if the EU is to develop a strategy for a non-toxic free environment in 2018 in accordance with the Seventh Environment Action Programme (EAP)?
2. Utilising as much as possible resources contained in waste is crucial to closing the loop in a circular economy. However, it is also important to reduce the adverse impact of waste in the form of emissions of methane and carbon dioxide, and discharges of heavy metals and organic environmental toxins. Regrettably, the new waste proposal lacks legislative measures to address non-toxic-free environments. Does the Commission plan to take measures to phase out hazardous chemicals, and, moreover, does it plan to increase information on them?
3. If so, how?