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Recast of the WEEE Directive



The recast of the WEEE Directive has ended with the publication of the new Directive. Important process steps were:

- The [new WEEE Directive 2012/19/EU](#) has been published in issue L197 of the Official Journal on 24 July 2012.
- The [Council has on 7 June adopted](#) the new Directive. The next step is now publication in the Official Journal, which is expected to take place this summer.
- The Commission has adopted a Communication on the second reading. It is available [here as COM\(2012\)139](#).
- The European Parliament adopted a [compromise text in its second reading legislative resolution of 19 January 2012](#).
- The Commission has adopted a Communication on the first reading. It is available [here](#).
- The Council adopted the Common Position on 19 July 2011. It is available [here](#).
- The European Parliament voted in first reading on 3 February 2011. [More information](#).

The new collection targets agreed, an ambitious 85% of WEEE generated, will ensure that around 10 million tons, or roughly 20kg per capita, will be separately collected from 2019 onwards. The existing binding EU collection target is 4 kg of WEEE per capita, representing about 2 million tons per year, out of around 10 million tonnes of WEEE generated per year in the EU. By 2020, it is estimated that the volume of WEEE will increase to 12 million tons.

The new WEEE Directive will give EU Member States the tools to fight illegal export of waste more effectively. Illegal shipments of WEEE disguised as legal shipments of used equipment, in order to circumvent EU waste treatment rules, are a serious problem. The new Directive will force exporters to test and provide documents on the nature of their shipments when the shipments run the risk of being waste.

A further improvement is the harmonisation of national registration and reporting requirements under the Directive. Member States' registers for producers of electrical and electronic equipment will now have to be integrated more closely. The Commission will adopt a harmonised format to be used for the supply of information. Administrative burdens are consequently expected to decrease significantly.