

Plastics and the business sector

Visit from Bulgaria 7.6.2023 Andreas Pihlstrøm (Lawyer)



Plastic pollution and littering

- We need measures on global, regional and national level to reduce environmental/climate impacts
- Business sector must be part of the solution
 - Avoid shift of problems improve sustainable circularity
- UN towards global agreement on plastic pollution
 - Draft ready nov. 2023, agreement 2024.
 - Tripple plastic pollution worldwide in 2040 without agreement
- EU and the single use plastics directive (SUP)
 - Ban on «most found» plastics on the beaches
 - Consumption reduction on food containers and take away packaging art 4
 - NHO and the government discuss environmental agreement (plastic pact)
 - EPR to cover public SUP-littering costs art 8





New proposal -Packaging and packaging waste regulation (PPWR)

- Giant PPWR proposal from EU on new regulation (144 pages...)
 - Waste reduction
 - Design for easy recovery and recycling
 - Optimize packaging
 - Recycle content
 - 40 plastics bags per person
 - Ban on products (small shampoo-cans)
 - Improve EPR-systems
 - <u>https://www.europarl.europa.</u>
 <u>eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/202</u>
 <u>3/745707/EPRS_BRI(2023)74</u>
 <u>5707_EN.pdf</u>



Extended producer responsibility (EPR)

- EPR systems are important environmental tools
 - Since 1990 in Norway
 - Responsibility for the «post consumer stage»
 - Packaging, EE-waste, batteries, pcb-windows, cars
- A socio-economic assement of EPR as an environmental tool should be carried out before imposing new schemes
- Are there other more cost-efficient tools?
- «Necessary costs» must be clarified on EU-level
- Cover all waste management costs? No, the waste producer must also cover costs to reduce waste amounts and improve recycling.
 - <u>https://www.norskindustri.no/contentassets/021e96399e7b4a99aa7158eb349c57c5/report---extended-producer-responsibility-as-an-environmental-policy-tool.pdf</u>



Government initiatives in Norway

- EPR-systems study and recomendations (M-dir)
- Plastic strategy from the government (2022)
 - <u>https://www.regjeringen.no/en/dokumenter/norw</u> egian-plastics-strategy/id2867004/
 - A more circular plastic economy
 - Product policy framework
 - Non toxic materials
- Container deposit systems Infinitum
- 92% of plastic bottles and aluminium car covered
 - https://infinitum.no/about-us/



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Some plastic initiatives supported by NHO

- Norwegian retailers environment fund
 - 1 NOK per plastic bag sold transfered to the fund
 - Supporting clean up and sircular plastics initiatives
 - https://handelensmiljofond.no/en/
- Circular Packaging Cluster
 - https://www.cpcluster.no/
 - Roadmap on circular plastic packaging
 - Improve systems
 - Optimize packaging, PACK-man
 - <u>https://www.emballasjeforeningen.no/nyheter/opptatt-</u> <u>av-a-kartlegge-analysere-og-dokumentere-</u> <u>bedriftens-emballasjebruk/</u>
- Initiatives to share from Bulgaria?