

# **ENVI Council Conclusions on 8th EAP: “the way forward to a green and just transition for a sustainable Europe”**

## **A short dissection of the circular economy chapter**

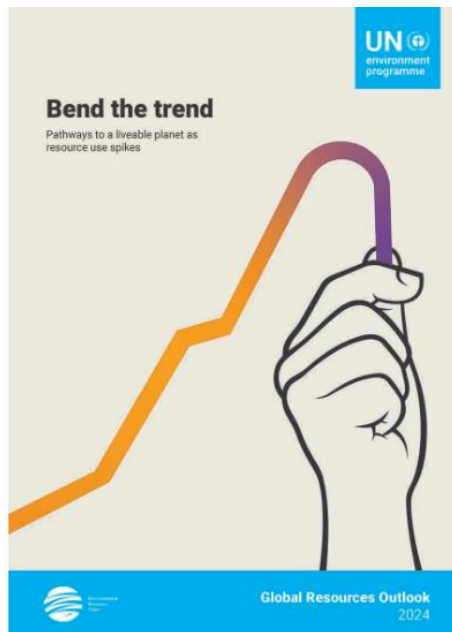
**Lieze Cloots, Head Environment , Cabinet of the federal minister of Climate, Environment, Sustainable Development and Green Deal, Mrs Zakia Khattabi**



## BASED on SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS & DATA

**§10 TAKES NOTE OF (...)** recent reports such as (...) the **Global Resources Outlook 2024** of the International Resource Panel and the report of the European Environment Agency (EEA) “**Accelerating the circular economy in Europe - State and Outlook 2024** (...)

**§11 WELCOMES** the presentation of the **Letta report “Much More Than A Market”**, (...) including the need to develop a Circular Single Market in order to create a future proof economy (...)



Circular economy and sustainable resource use are addressed in 5 main paragraphs in the CCL :

→ 24, 25, 26 ,27 ,28



<https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-11326-2024-INIT/en/pdf>

## FOCUS ON DEMAND SIDE MEASURES

**§24 ACKNOWLEDGES** that unsustainable resource use **drives the triple planetary crisis**; **RECOGNIZES** circular economy and sustainable resource management as determining **tools** in that regard (...)

- CE as a tool to tackle the triple crisis = not a value free statement

**§25 ACKNOWLEDGES** that the EU's **material and consumption footprints** are still far beyond what is sustainable within the planetary boundaries and that progress on **circular material use** is too slow to achieve the objectives of the 8th EAP; therefore **UNDERLINES** the need to **decouple growth from resource use and its impacts**, by stimulating technologies and business models that make it possible to **reduce resource demand at production and consumption levels**

- Monitoring reports show weak results on the 3 CE indicators of the 8th EAP
- Need for measures that reduce resource demand at production and consumption level

**§26 NOTES** that EU sustainable product initiatives have been supporting the transition towards a circular economy, **but will not be enough to reduce high consumption footprints, due to unsustainable consumption levels**; therefore **UNDERLINES** that these issues should be addressed;

# A SHORT TERM EU AGENDA FOR CE (2025-2030)

**§27 HIGHLIGHTS** *the need to take further steps in the short term at all levels to ensure an ambitious and swift implementation of adopted legislation* in particular the ESPR, as well as to reinforce the most effective existing policy instruments (...). **INVITES** *the Commission to establish a new EU Strategic Plan for Circular Economy as soon as possible (...)*

Actions to be taken, with a focus on the most **resource intensive need-systems**:

- Moving from national waste prevention plans **to national CE plans**
- Enhancing uniform **market surveillance** (incl online sales)
- Expanding **EPR schemes** both on additional products as on minimum requirements
- Ensuring a **high quality secondary raw material market**
- Scaling up business models based on **dematerialised provisioning systems**
- Ensuring stakeholder involvement - **circular hubs**
- Strengthening of European cross-sectoral **scientific research on resource use**
- Integration of circular economy into upcoming **climate policies**
- Strengthening circular economy and resource management **at global level**

## A MEDIUM/LONG TERM EU AGENDA FOR CE (post 2030)

*§28 CALLS FOR a strong coordinated action at all levels and for policy coherence and mainstreaming of circular economy into other EU policies and fields; UNDERLINES the importance of setting out an ambitious long-term vision for the EU **beyond 2030**; in this context, URGES the Commission, together with the Member States and relevant stakeholders, to launch a comprehensive and effective **process leading towards an integrated EU long-term vision for the transition to a circular economy and sustainable resource use, aimed at enabling systemic change to achieve a green, just and inclusive transition**;(...)*

Key words:

- Coordination, coherence and mainstreaming CE in other policy fields
- Long term vision
- Enabling systemic change

A **process** leading to an integrated EU long term vision beyond 2030 requires assessment of:

- Modalities for a **governance framework**
- An **EU long term objective** on sustainable resource use
- **Science based targets** to keep material and consumption footprints within planetary boundaries (EU and national level)
- **Overarching legal framework**

**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION**

