

European Parliament and Council Directive 94/62/EC of
20 December 1994 on packaging and packaging waste

[^{F1}Article 6

Recovery and recycling

1 In order to comply with the objectives of this Directive, Member States shall take the necessary measures to attain the following targets covering the whole of their territory:

- a no later than 30 June 2001 between 50 % as a minimum and 65 % as a maximum by weight of packaging waste will be recovered or incinerated at waste incineration plants with energy recovery;
- b no later than 31 December 2008 60 % as a minimum by weight of packaging waste will be recovered or incinerated at waste incineration plants with energy recovery;
- c no later than 30 June 2001 between 25 % as a minimum and 45 % as a maximum by weight of the totality of packaging materials contained in packaging waste will be recycled with a minimum of 15 % by weight for each packaging material;
- d no later than 31 December 2008 between 55 % as a minimum and 80 % as a maximum by weight of packaging waste will be recycled;
- e no later than 31 December 2008 the following minimum recycling targets for materials contained in packaging waste will be attained:
 - (i) 60 % by weight for glass;
 - (ii) 60 % by weight for paper and board;
 - (iii) 50 % by weight for metals;
 - (iv) 22,5 % by weight for plastics, counting exclusively material that is recycled back into plastics;
 - (v) 15 % by weight for wood^[^{F2}];
- ^{[^{F3}f} no later than 31 December 2025 a minimum of 65 % by weight of all packaging waste will be recycled;
- g no later than 31 December 2025 the following minimum targets by weight for recycling will be met regarding the following specific materials contained in packaging waste:
 - (i) 50 % of plastic;
 - (ii) 25 % of wood;
 - (iii) 70 % of ferrous metals;
 - (iv) 50 % of aluminium;
 - (v) 70 % of glass;
 - (vi) 75 % of paper and cardboard;
- h no later than 31 December 2030 a minimum of 70 % by weight of all packaging waste will be recycled;
- i no later than 31 December 2030 the following minimum targets by weight for recycling will be met regarding the following specific materials contained in packaging waste:

Status: EU Directives are being published on this site to aid cross referencing from UK legislation. After IP completion day (31 December 2020 11pm) no further amendments will be applied to this version.

- (i) 55 % of plastic;
- (ii) 30 % of wood;
- (iii) 80 % of ferrous metals;
- (iv) 60 % of aluminium;
- (v) 75 % of glass;
- (vi) 85 % of paper and cardboard.]

[^{F3}1a Without prejudice to points (f) and (h) of paragraph 1, a Member State may postpone the deadlines for attaining the targets referred to in point (g)(i) to (vi) and point (i)(i) to (vi) of paragraph 1 by up to five years, under the following conditions:

- a the derogation is limited to a maximum of 15 percentage points from a single target or divided between two targets,
- b as a result of the derogation, the recycling rate for a single target is not reduced below 30 %,
- c as a result of the derogation, the recycling rate for a single target referred to in point (g) (v) and (vi) and point (i)(v) and (vi) of paragraph 1 is not reduced below 60 %, and
- d at the latest 24 months before the respective deadline laid down in point (g) or (i) of paragraph 1 of this Article, the Member State notifies the Commission of its intention to postpone the respective deadline and submits an implementation plan in accordance with Annex IV to this Directive. The Member State may combine that plan with an implementation plan submitted pursuant to point (b) of Article 11(3) of Directive 2008/98/EC.

1b Within three months of receipt of the implementation plan submitted pursuant to point (d) of paragraph 1a, the Commission may request a Member State to revise that plan if the Commission considers that the plan does not comply with the requirements set out in Annex IV. The Member State concerned shall submit a revised plan within three months of receipt of the Commission’s request.

1c By 31 December 2024, the Commission shall review the targets laid down in points (h) and (i) of paragraph 1 with a view to maintaining or, if appropriate, increasing them. To that end, the Commission shall submit a report to the European Parliament and to the Council, accompanied, if appropriate, by a legislative proposal.]

^{F4}2

^{F4}3

4 Member States shall, where appropriate, encourage the use of materials obtained from recycled packaging waste for the manufacturing of packaging and other products by:

- a improving market conditions for such materials;
- b reviewing existing regulations preventing the use of those materials.

^{F4}5

6 The measures and targets referred to in paragraph 1 shall be published by the Member States and shall be the subject of an information campaign for the general public and economic operators.

Status: EU Directives are being published on this site to aid cross referencing from UK legislation. After IP completion day (31 December 2020 11pm) no further amendments will be applied to this version.

7 Greece, Ireland and Portugal may, because of their specific situations, namely respectively the large number of small islands, the presence of rural and mountain areas and the current low level of packaging consumption, decide to:

- a attain, no later than 30 June 2001, lower targets than those fixed in paragraphs 1(a) and (c), but shall at least attain 25 % for recovery or incineration at waste incineration plants with energy recovery;
- b postpone at the same time the attainment of the targets in paragraphs 1(a) and (c) to a later deadline which shall not, however, be later than 31 December 2005;
- c postpone the attainment of the targets referred to in paragraphs 1(b), (d) and (e) until a date of their own choice which shall not be later than 31 December 2011.

F⁴8

F⁴9

10 Member States which have, or will, set programmes going beyond the maximum targets of paragraph 1 and which provide to this effect appropriate capacities for recycling and recovery shall be permitted to pursue those targets in the interest of a high level of environmental protection, on condition that these measures avoid distortions of the internal market and do not hinder compliance by other Member States with this Directive. Member States shall inform the Commission of such measures. The Commission shall confirm these measures, after having verified, in cooperation with the Member States, that they are consistent with the abovementioned considerations and do not constitute an arbitrary means of discrimination or a disguised restriction on trade between Member States.

[^{F5}11 Member States having acceded to the European Union by virtue of the Accession Treaty of 16 April 2003 may postpone the attainment of the targets referred to in paragraph 1(b), (d) and (e) until a date of their own choosing which shall not be later than 31 December 2012 for the Czech Republic, Estonia, Cyprus, Lithuania, Hungary, Slovenia and Slovakia; 31 December 2013 for Malta; 31 December 2014 for Poland; and 31 December 2015 for Latvia.]]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Substituted by [Directive 2004/12/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 February 2004 amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste.](#)
- F2** Substituted by [Directive \(EU\) 2018/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste \(Text with EEA relevance\).](#)
- F3** Inserted by [Directive \(EU\) 2018/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste \(Text with EEA relevance\).](#)
- F4** Deleted by [Directive \(EU\) 2018/852 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste \(Text with EEA relevance\).](#)
- F5** Inserted by [Directive 2005/20/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2005 amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste.](#)