

Identification number in the register: **6759714737-84**

Dear Sirs,

Here are our contributions to your consultation on " the preparation of a new Communication on Raw Materials".

23. Where do you see the major gap / the urgent need for the raw materials sector related research, development and innovation at EU level. Please provide details.

We believe that a very important need for raw materials sector research & development lies in the area of **recycling**. What is needed here is not only technology, but also socio-economic reflection and field testing of the implementation of backward supply chains, i.e. from the final user to the manufacturer.

We intend to set up an international workshop on this issue of recycling strategic raw materials by mid-2011, with participants being professionals of this area, having gained their experience in the following organisations:

- Industries using strategic raw materials in their products (mainly electronic equipment and semiconductors)
- Waste management & recycling firms
- Process technology consultancies and engineering firms
- Consumer associations
- Corporate consumers of products containing these raw materials (e.g. telecommunications operators)
- National and European security and law enforcement agencies
- Customs agencies
- Metal brokers
- WTO officials
- Materials scientists

These professionals will also be highly international, with no more than 2 participants from the same Member State of the Union. This procedure ensures that the outcomes of our workshops are both technically sound (because of the professional experience of participants) and politically legitimate (because of the diversity of their backgrounds).

The question we will ask the participants in the workshop is to design a strategy to reach a recycling level above 80% for the strategic raw materials identified by the Commission.

We will be happy to provide you the results of this workshop once they are known.

24. What is your idea of a major research and innovation action that would have the highest positive impact on the security of raw materials supply for the EU industries? Please specify.

As stated above, we believe that a major research and innovation action would be in the area of **recycling**. We will define the exact nature of this action following the international workshop on this issue that we plan by mid-2011.

27. In your view, and beyond measures already being taken (e.g. the recast of the WEEE Directive), what practical measures can be taken by the EU and by Member States to prevent the illegal shipment of obsolete end-of-life vehicles and electronic equipment?

This issue will be a component of the questions we will ask the participants to our planned international workshop of mid-2011.

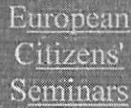
We are at your disposal for any further information, and remain

Yours truly and faithfully.

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European Citizens' Seminars e.V.

The logo consists of a dark grey rectangular box with the words "European", "Citizens'", and "Seminars" stacked vertically in a light-colored serif font.

<http://www.citizenseminars.eu>

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