

SUMMARY
of the Opinion: "Towards a circular economy: A zero waste programme for Europe" COM(2014) 398

The Chamber of Deputies supports the Communication of the Commission – COM (2014) 398, with the following remarks:

- Applying the methods proposed for reaching the 50% objective in the field of public ecologic procurement could be negatively affected by formalism and disguise of the classic public procurement in green ones, as it happened with the request to submit EMAS or ISO 14001 certifications, there where they do not have a practical relevance, being used only for statistical requirements. Therefore, the Chamber of Deputies kindly requests the EU to have in view a relaxation of this objective, more than to persist in reaching a debatable relevance target, if such a tendency would appear as a consequence of such a monitoring process.
- Concerning the achievement of the objectives in matter of circular economy, the Chamber of Deputies proposes that - under the circumstances of the consumption tendencies - the objectives in the field should be revised, so that to make sure that the social aspects will be included in documents of pragmatic character.
- The wastes resulting from the computer technology and communications equipments should be included in a circular economy, what would bring real advantages, being necessary, however, a sustained effort in the fields of research and innovation. The young people who are the main users of such kind of products should also join these efforts.
- The Chamber of Deputies appreciates the establishment of the priority regarding the promotion of direct investments in wastes monitoring, namely prevention, re use and recycle and recommends to support the research and innovation in the relevant technological fields, both in laboratories and at larger scales; under these circumstances, it is desirable that the European financing programmes should be more flexible in the field, so that the small and medium-sized enterprises should have an easier access to financing, also removing the unnecessary administrative hurdles.
- Concerning the efforts of the European Commission to diminish the volume of food wastes, it would be advisable to have in view the undesirable proliferation of food wastes, which tend to have more and more weight in the composition of market food products, with harmful effects on the people's health, also increasing the quantity of food wastes.