Commitment to the Circular Economy by REAP signatories

As progressive retailers who are eager to confirm their commitment to the implementation of a more circular economy, the signatories of the Retailers’ Environmental Action Programme decided to join forces to act together on the key drivers within the retail sector that they can truly influence.

By taking a life cycle perspective, our objective is to act at every life cycle stage we can positively impact. For this reason, we have pledged more than 100 individual actions to make the sector more circular within the next 3 years by focusing on the following key implementation steps of a Circular Economy:

- **Sustainable sourcing.**
  Within this category there are a number of ambitious commitments for both product and raw material certifications. A number of the retailers have set targets as high as 100% certified from sustainable sources for fish, seafood, palm oil, paper or wood.

- **Product design, labelling and certification,**
  including implementing ecodesign packaging projects, phasing out hazardous chemicals and a goal to ensure plastic material used in a select product group is 100% renewable.

- **Greener operations and distribution,**
  including decreasing greenhouse gas emissions, installing solar panels and installing specialist heating and cooling systems that reuse the air emitted.

- **Consumer and employee information,**
  including the introduction of new communication campaigns to further highlight to consumers the ways of living more sustainably, staff training programmes, more effective labelling and inviting consumers to participate in activities on sustainable living and introducing repair workshops.

- **(Food) Waste prevention,**
  including the collection of used cooking oils, increasing partnerships with charities to donate food and using produce that is not appropriate for sale in a more efficient manner.

- **Reuse and Recycling,**
  including reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill and increasing the reuse of technical equipment arising due to remodelling or closure of stores in order to extend the lifetime of products and prevent waste.

In each of those categories different individual commitments have been made by the Retailer signatories of the Retailers’ Environmental Action Programme. These commitments – which are gathered in the REAP on-line database - will lead to concrete, clear and measurable actions that will be monitored and transparently reported during the next three years. In the meantime, signatories will also consider adding additional commitments to further contribute to the implementation of a Circular Economy in Europe.

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