FACTUAL SUMMARY REPORT ON THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION FOR THE EVALUATION OF THE BATTERIES DIRECTIVE

1. OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTATION

The purpose of the evaluation is to assess the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and EU-added value of the Batteries Directive. The evaluation may contribute to the improvement of the Directive's implementation or may feed into an impact assessment of possible amendments to the Directive.

The Public Consultation forms one of several strands of consultation activities for the evaluation,¹ which furthermore includes interviews with selected stakeholders, consultation with National Administrations and a workshop. This consultation aimed at capturing the views of all relevant stakeholders, allowing them to provide relevant information and feedback on the functioning and impacts of the Batteries Directive.

This document provides a breakdown of the responses to the Public Consultation. A full analysis of the results will be included in the final report of the study in support of the evaluation.

2. APPROACH TO THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Two separate questionnaires were developed for the purposes of this consultation: one for citizens with a general interest on batteries and another one for citizens and organisations with specific interest and knowledge on batteries and waste batteries. The latter was targeted at a broad range of stakeholder groups including public authorities and bodies responsible for implementing and/or enforcing the Directive, industry and sectorial associations representing companies concerned, environmental and consumer NGOs, universities and research institutes, and any other organisations interested in responding to the questionnaires.

Both questionnaires were made available in English, German and French and uploaded to the EU Survey tool.² The consultation period started on 6 September 2017 and ended on 28 November 2017, lasting 12 weeks. To maximise the response rate, a link to the questionnaires was placed on the Waste Policy pages within the EUROPA Website,³ and a number of organisations were also contacted directly and asked to help disseminate the link to the EU Survey tool.

¹ See the Consultation Strategy at


³ http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/index.htm
3. RESPONSES TO THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION

In total 151 respondents filled in the questionnaires during the consultation period. Of these 151 respondents, 136 (90%) specified that they had specific knowledge and interest on batteries and waste batteries and filled in the specific questionnaire. The remaining 15 answered as citizens with only a general interest in the domain of batteries and completed the more general questionnaire; however, 4 of these also specified that they answered on behalf of their organisations, while only 11 answered as individuals in their personal capacity.

114 participants (75% of total responses) answered on behalf of an organisation or institution, 24 as individuals in a professional capacity and the remaining 13 as individuals in a personal capacity.

Of the total of 151 participants, 59 requested their contribution to remain anonymous. The rest, 60%, agreed to the publication of all information of their contribution. 57 participants were aware that their organisations were listed in the EU transparency register; on the other hand, 49 of the participant organisations were not listed in the transparency register.

The stakeholder type distribution is presented in the graph below. Respondents were asked to describe themselves as Business, Industry Associations, Government or Public Authorities, Non-governmental, Organisations (NGO), Academia, Research or Educational Institutions, Consumers’ Associations, Trade Unions or Other. Those that chosen 'Other' provided their own description as Compliance Schemes, Interested individuals, Recyclers, Consultants, Collection Schemes, EPR Schemes, Associations, Product & Technology developer and WEEE Operators.

With regards to organisations, most responses came from business and industry associations (100 in total). Responses were also received from Non-Governmental Organisations, Academia and Research Institutions and Consumer's Organisations and Trade Unions.

It is worth noting that the consultation also elicited consolidated contributions from industry organisations and that these account for a sizeable proportion of the total replies received.
Concerning the origin of the responses, 96% of the respondents were based in the European Union (EU 28). Within the EU, the main representation comes from the UK (18%), Belgium (13%), France (13%) and Germany (12%).

It is assumed that the fact that many of the participants are based in Belgium is due to that Brussels hosts many of the organisations representing different groups of interest before EU Institutions, such as industry associations, non-governmental and consumers' organisations etc.

Of the non-EU respondents, five were based in Switzerland and one in Norway.

The distribution according to the countries can be seen in the graph below.
United Kingdom; 27
Germany; 20
Belgium; 18
France; 15
Italy; 13
Sweden; 10
Austria; 6
Spain; 6
Finland; 5
The Netherlands; 5
Switzerland; 5
Denmark; 5
Portugal; 4
Ireland; 4
Poland; 2
Czech Republic; 1
Estonia; 1
Luxembourg; 1
Romania; 2