

INTERNAL 2010



MUNICIPAL WASTE EUROPE

– promoting public responsibility for waste

INTERNAL UPDATE 22

Meeting with Commission on Concession

Together with German associations, Deutsche Städte- und Gemeindebund and the Association of Local Enterprises in Germany, we have been in contact with the Commission regarding concessions.

The current political discussion shows that the Commission is probably preparing an initiative on concessions. The recent online consultation is another indication but shows also two important questions and areas of enquiry.

First the Commission's objectives concerning this issue (opening of the market, creation of legal security, horizontal or sectoral approach). Secondly the time line the Commission is thinking about in terms of the impact assessment, the evaluation of the online questionnaire and the legal quality/status of the initiative.

A meeting has been granted where also information about the need for a horizontal approach to concessions, covering all sectors and both aspects of concessions (including works and service concessions).

A template to answer the open consultation on concession will be developed, and extra care is advised when preparing for the answers. Most questions are obligatory and no answers can be sent unless all questions are answered, raising the risk for unquantifiable answers.

WEEE vote in ENVI postponed until 22 June

Again the Environmental Committee of the European Parliament has postponed the vote on the amendments on the recast of the directive on waste electrical and electronic equipment. The reason is the work towards compromised amendments and the compromise discussions between Parliament, Council and the Commission.

The next meeting in the Environmental Committee is 22 June and in the meantime discussions with parliamentarians will continue.

The Council will handle the issue at their next meeting on 11 June.

Presentation in Paris

On the invitation from Federation des epl (federation of local public enterprises) I gave a presentation on the history of EU waste legislation, with the help of a translator and rudimentary waste-French. We had very interesting discussions on the importance of the public waste management in the pursuit of environmental ambitions and an alternative waste association in France for membership was suggested.

I enclose my presentation for your benefit.

The role of public service in Europe 2020

The vice-President of the European Commission responsible for competition policy, Joaquín Almunia, presented his opinion on the role of public services. However positive initially he concludes, “that both SGEIs and competition policy are a key part of Europe’s model of society. And in these current times, they also form part of our exit strategy from the financial and economic crisis.

It is our responsibility and our commitment to make the best use of both. We must ensure the provision of services in the public interest for the benefit of citizens; and we must guarantee that this is done in a consistent fashion within the framework of the rules on competition established in the EU, thus limiting to the minimum necessary the burden on Member State budgets in a period when budgetary consolidation is an essential condition if we are to overcome the crisis and have the best possible expectations for success in the future.”

The entire speech can be found here:

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/10/276&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Green Week this week

Under the theme Biodiversity, a full week has been dedicated to an exchange of experience and good practice. The annual conference addressed the state of biodiversity, the path to be taken by EU policies on biodiversity and nature policies post-2010, the economic dimension of biodiversity, ecosystem services and Natura 2000 will also be investigated.

All documents from the speakers and presentations are available here:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/greenweek/>

ISWA World Congress 2010 in Hamburg – final conference program

Hamburg hosts on 15-18 November 2010 the ISWA World Congress 2010 on Urban Development and Sustainability.

It is a unique possibility to participate in an international forum where outstanding experts in the different fields of Research and Practice will present and discuss the different aspects of a sustainable development in our urbanized world.

In several parallel sessions the participants have the opportunity to hear about the latest developments not only on waste management, but also on all aspects related to urban development. From technical innovations in the handling and treatment of the different fractions of waste to urban mining, the social aspects of waste generation and the impact of the different aspects of waste on a sustainable development in the cities.

Find the complete programme here:

http://www.iswa2010.org/images/downloads/ISWA2010_Final_Program.pdf

Ludvik on sick-leave

Ludvik will be fine but on sick leave until mid July. During his absence, messages copied to Björn Halldorsson at Sorpa will be attended to. His email address is

bjorn.halldorsson@sorpa.is

CEEP environmental meeting in Graz

I have received a special invitation to attend the joint CEEP Environmental and Water Committee meeting on 2 July. I have been asked to present information about the progress for bio-waste. This is a part of the developing cooperation with CEEP.

Unfortunately the meeting take place in Graz and will demand a lot of travel time that could be better spent in Brussels.

Best regards,
Gunnel Klingberg
office phone: 0032 2 229 2145
mobile phone: 0032 478 01 2532

The Municipal Waste Europe office will be closed for summer vacation between 26 July and 30 August 2010.