

Virtuous Circles Mission to Romania

Venue: Cercul Militar Național

Thursday 6th December, 2018

09h15

Closed door meetings

With Mrs. Grațiela Leocadia Gavrilescu, Deputy Prime-Minister & Minister of Environment, then joined (after 10 minutes) by other relevant ministers:

- Sirma CARAMAN, Secretary of State, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration
- Ana BIRCHALL Vice Prime Minister for Romania's Strategic Partnerships' Implementation
- Niculae BĂDĂLĂU, Minister of Economy
- Rovana PLUMB, Minister of European Funds
- Ștefan-Radu OPREA, Minister for Business Environment, Commerce and Entrepreneurship
- Ioan DENEȘ, Minister of Waters and Forests

10h30-13h00

High level Round Table (Commissioner and Ministers are joined by a handful of invited guests (drawn from invited speakers) who present and discuss good practice solutions:

Welcome and introductions by Deputy Prime Minister Gavrilescu and Commissioner Vella

Each session to include short presentations followed by Q&A discussion (Chaired by Vice PM Gavrilescu)

(Ministers invited to outline main challenges for circular economy transitions related to their portfolios and experiences)

1. Circular economy – making materials matter

- *(2+5 mins) Håkon Jentoft, EUROCITIES Waste Working Group Chair and Coordinator of the EU Urban Agenda Partnership on Circular Economy "Resource mapping and generating circular business opportunities".*
- *(2+5 mins) Monika Romenska Regulatory & Public Affairs Manager at EXPRA - Extended Producer Responsibility Alliance "Implementing extended producer responsibility".*
- *(2 mins) Peter Bartel, Circular Economy Solutions GmbH.*
- *(2 mins) David Fitzsimons, European Remanufacturing Council*

(Discussion 15 minutes)

2. Inter-ministerial Cooperation on Circular Economy and Waste

- *(2+5 mins) Carmen Duran, Spanish Ministry of Environment – The Spanish Inter-ministerial cooperation experience.*

(Discussion 15 minutes)

3. Mobilising the right resources

- (2+5 mins) Christian Schempp, EIB Senior Economist – Models for delivering the right finance in the right place.
- (2+5 mins) Venera Vlad, EBRD "Market investment opportunities and challenges with regards to waste and circular economy"

(Discussion 15 minutes)

4. Getting the economics right for effective waste management

- (2+5 mins) Dominic Hogg, Executive Director of Eunomia "Early Warnings on Bulgaria's Waste management".
- (2+5 mins) Vanya Veras, Secretary General of Municipal Waste Europe "Building incentives to make separate collection work"
- (2 mins) Michele Giavini, City of Milan and Italian Composting Association "Biowaste recycling"
- (2 mins) Enzo Favoino, Zero Waste and European Compost Network "Creating jobs around waste reduction"
- (2 mins) Susana Lopes, Director, Lipor, Portugal "From waste management to materials metabolism".

(Discussion 15 minutes)

Wrap up by Commissioner Vella and Deputy PM Gavrilescu

13h00 Press Point to pass positive messages about the economic potential of waste (Commissioner and Minister only).

Lunch with key businesses, recyclers, producer responsibility organisations etc

14h30 Afternoon Conference

Short welcome/Keynote speeches by Commissioner and Minister (after which they leave for company/site visit, photos etc.

Plenary presentation of circular economy success stories and a resource mapping project:

- Dr. Elena-Simina Lakatos, President of IRCeM, Institute for Research in Circular Economy and Environment¹
- GreenFiber plastic fibre recycling, Romania²
- ECOTIC WEEE Recycling in Romania³
- Håkon Jentoft (EUROCITIES) EU Urban Agenda project, secondary materials⁴
- David Fitzsimons, European Remanufacturing Council

Parallel workshops (without high level) on biowaste recycling

- Michele Giavini – example of City of Milan on separate collection of biowaste for conversion to biogas⁵
- Enzo Favoino Zero Waste Europe

1 <http://www.ircem.ro/2018/11/30/virtuous-circles-mission-to-romania/>

2 https://ec.europa.eu/commission/news/investment-boost-romania-circular-economy-project-under-juncker-plan-three-agreements-under-sme-initiative-2017-oct-19_en

3 <https://www.ecotic.ro/en/ecotic-en/>

4 <http://programme.exordo.com/isdrs2018/delegates/presentation/625/>

5 <https://www.compost.it/english-version.html>

- Susana Lopes - LIPOR Porto (PT)
- Armida Hemeling - Goduni International Advisory Board (TBC)

Extended producer responsibility

- Monica Romenska, EXPRA
- GreenCycle GmbH (TBC)⁶
- expert identified by the Extended Producers Responsibility Alliance (EXPRA)⁷
- ECO-ROM AMBALAJE⁸ (EXPRA member from RO)

Separate collection and recycling

- Josep Maria Tost i Borràs Agencia de Residus de Catalunya⁹
- Richard Swannell WRAP (UK agency advising regions and municipalities on strategies) (TBC)
- Dominic Hogg, EUNOMIA (consultants drafting studies for Early Warning Reports)
- Vanya Veras, Municipal Waste Europe

Financing and incentivising the transition

- Christian Schempp, EIB Senior Economist and Circular Economy expert
- Venera Vlad, EBRD Director of Bucharest office
- John Tilly, EIB/JASPERS
- Carmen Duran, Spanish Ministry of Environment – The development of a Spanish Circular Economy Strategy and governance model.

Networking coffee break

Conclusions Wrap up session

18:00 – 19:15 Commissioner's flight from Bucharest

⁶ <https://www.greencycle.de/en/homepage/>

⁷ <http://www.expra.eu/>

⁸ www.ecoromambalaje.ro

⁹ <http://residus.gencat.cat/en/inici/index.html>