

COMPROMISE AMENDMENT (CA1)

Covering all text of the Commission proposal.

Where text is not amended, the compromise maintains the text of the Commission proposal.

If adopted, all AMs (1-20) fall.

New text is highlighted in ***bold italics***; deletions are indicated by ~~strikethrough~~.

Proposal for a

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

on preventing plastic pellet losses to reduce microplastic pollution

- (32) *As micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) account for an important share of ~~in~~ the pellet supply chain, they should comply with the relevant obligations laid down in this Regulation, while taking into consideration the possible different challenges in compliance and the possible proportionally higher costs*~~however they could face proportionally higher costs and difficulties when complying with some of the obligations.~~ The Commission *and the competent authorities* should raise awareness among economic operators and carriers regarding the necessity of preventing pellet losses. Additionally, the Commission *and the competent authorities* should develop training materials, *in consultation with all relevant stakeholders*, to assist ~~them~~ *economic operators and carriers* in fulfilling their obligations, particularly with respect to the requirements of the risk assessment. *This should be done by taking into account the non-binding Recommendation adopted by the parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR).* Member States should provide access to information and assistance regarding compliance with obligations and the risk assessment requirements. Regarding the assistance of Member States, this could include ~~technical and financial support as well as~~ *technical support and specialised training to all personnel handling pellets*~~SMEs, as well as financial support and access to finance for micro and small enterprises as well as for installations handling plastic pellets in smaller quantities.~~ Member States actions should be taken in respect of applicable State aid rules.

Article 12

Assistance relating to compliance

1. *By 6 months after the entry into force of this Regulation*, the Commission shall develop awareness raising and training material on the sound implementation of the obligations laid down in this Regulation. *This shall be done by taking into account the non-binding Recommendation adopted by the parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR)*, in consultation with representatives of economic operators, carriers, and certifiers, including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, *social partners, civil society*

representatives, non-governmental organisations and in collaboration with competent authorities. Funds for vocational training will be made available to develop training materials, which may take the form of guides and courses, make use of a range of formats and delivery methods, and shall be designed to maximise reach and accessibility to enable effective uptake from the targeted sector.

2. Member States shall ensure that economic operators and carriers, ~~especially micro, small and medium-sized enterprises,~~ get access to information and assistance regarding compliance with this Regulation.

Without prejudice to applicable state aid rules, the assistance referred to in the first subparagraph *for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises* may take the form of:

- (a) *specialised management and staff training, including the organization of training sessions;*
- (b) *organisational and technical assistance.*

In addition, without prejudice to applicable state aid rules, the assistance referred to in the first subparagraph for micro and small enterprises as well as for installations handling plastic pellets in quantities below the threshold described in article 4 para 2 may also take the form of:

- (ac) financial support;
- (bd) access to finance, *including to support the acquisition of equipment required to achieve compliance;*
- ~~(e) specialised management and staff training;~~
- ~~(d) organisational and technical assistance.~~

3. Member States shall ~~encourage~~ *ensure the availability of* training programmes for the qualification of certifiers' personnel.

Article 17

Amendments to Annexes

The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 19 to amend Annexes I to IV. in order to take account of the technical progress and scientific developments.

When adopting delegated acts referred to in the first paragraph, the Commission shall take into account:

- (a) the experience gained from the implementation of obligations set out in Articles 4 and 5;
- (b) relevant international standards;
- (c) the specificities of the sectors of activity;
- (d) the specific needs *and structural constraints* of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.