

## Draft French decree on consumer information on the environmental qualities and characteristics of waste-generating products – – EVA comments on notification 2021/510/F

The European Vending & Coffee Service Association (EVA) would like to make a number of comments in relation to the draft French decree on providing environmental information on waste generating products.

### **CONCERNS OVER BARRIERS TO SINGLE MARKET TRADE**

The EVA believes consistent policies covering the entire single market from a European level, rather than a plethora of different national policies are the only way to avoid unnecessarily costs as well as confusion for manufacturers, operators and indeed consumers.

The draft French Decree includes a series of provisions that may or are expected to be regulated through upcoming EU initiatives, and as notified would appear to create barriers to the free movement of goods. The EVA believes that the only way such detailed public information should be provided is if rules cover the entire single market and as such would call on France to delay the entry into force of this decree until similar measures are known, proposed or aligned with those on the EU level.

### **CONCERNS OVER UNCERTAINTY WITHIN THE DRAFT DECREE**

There are a number of definitions as well as text which we consider to be inconsistent or vague throughout the Decree, including on “other parties placing on the market.” However, we would also like to highlight strong concerns over the instability provided for economic operators through the powers given to the Minister of the Environment in Art. R. 541-222 to define directly the means of display through a supplementary order. This provision provides neither certainty nor stability to businesses and the EVA calls on France to remove this provision.

The EVA would in addition like to request that France publishes detailed guidance on the requirements the Decree as well as the calculation and verification of the information provided to consumers.

### **CONCERNS OVER AN UNSUITABLE IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD**

The Decree prescribes an unsuitable implementation period, which must be extended. A period of between 18 to 24 months will certainly be necessary for stakeholders to fully comply with the new obligations imposed on them, both because of the number of products concerned and because of complex application methods and development of the means necessary for the implementation of the information. The EVA therefore would call on France to introduce a *minimum* period of 18 months after its publication for implementation, failing which the economic stakeholders will be placed in a situation impossible to comply with.

## About the European Vending & Coffee Service Association

The European Vending & Coffee Service Association (EVA) is a not-for-profit organisation established and situated in Brussels since 1994. It represents the interests of the European coffee service and vending industry vis-à-vis the European Institutions and other relevant authorities or bodies. Its membership is composed of national associations and individual companies across Europe. The EVA represents all segments of the coffee service, water dispenser and vending industry: machine and component manufacturers, suppliers of commodities (coffee, ingredients, snacks, cold drinks, cups etc.), and operators.



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