



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Brussels, 5th March 2008

"IMPEL representatives meeting with Recycling Federations secretariat to improve cooperation and understanding on enforcement of waste shipments."

On 17th January 2008 three European Federations co-located in Brussels, Belgium published a press release entitled "European recycling federations object to inaccurate statements on illegal waste shipments out of the EU". Subsequent to this press release Mr. Ross Bartley from the joint EFR, ERPA and EUROMETREC secretariat met with IMPEL representatives: Inspector-General Gerard Wolters (chair of the provisional board of IMPEL); Ms Niekol Dols (IMPEL-TFS coordinator on behalf of the Netherlands' Environmental Inspectorate; and Ms Nancy Isarin of the IMPEL-TFS Secretariat in Den Haag, the Netherlands.

The meeting hosted by the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment was very cordial and constructive. The European Recycling Federation Secretariat reiterated their full support of the work done by IMPEL-TFS in strengthening the waste shipment legislation enforcement, in particular with regard to inspections. After all, businesses need the

certainty that laws will be correctly and evenly enforced as these laws provide the 'rules' for economic operators, in other words industrial companies. IMPEL in return, welcomed the open discussion with Industry and expressed their intention to continue doing this in the future.

Those attending the meeting recognised the difficulty in explaining that much care is needed from other bodies in reporting on statistics from IMPEL and that care is needed to keep such statistics in the context in which they were originally reported by IMPEL. The numbers of illegal shipments mentioned in the reports refer only to specific projects and inspection methods applied.

Also attendees jointly recognised that the January press release from the recycling sectors was not in any way critical of IMPEL or of Member State authorities.

It was concluded that statistics on waste shipments were, besides being useful to authorities for enforcement and other purposes like material flow accounting, also useful for business planning and for assessing legislative and policy effectiveness.

IMPEL-TFS is a network of representatives from enforcement authorities of the Member States and some other European countries dealing with matters on Transfrontier Shipments of Waste. It is also a cluster of projects within IMPEL. The IMPEL-TFS network was set up in 1992 in order to harmonize the enforcement of Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 on shipments of waste. The aim of the network is to promote compliance with, and uniform enforcement of the EU Regulation 1013/2006 on Shipments of Waste through enforcement, joint enforcement projects, exchange of knowledge, best practices and experience.
More information: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/impel/impel_tfs.htm

EFR is the European Ferrous Recovery and Recycling Federation. Its members are national associations and federations in the EU Member States representing the interests of commercial firms that are primarily involved in the collection, trade, processing and recycling of ferrous scrap. In the E.U. member states, more than a thousand large companies and SMEs are represented through EFR. www.efr2.org

EUROMETREC is the European Metal Trade and Recycling Federation. Its members are national federations in the EU Member States representing the interests of commercial firms that are primarily involved in the collection, trade, processing and recycling of non-ferrous metal scrap. In the E.U. member states, more than a thousand large companies and SMEs are represented through EUROMETREC.
www.eurometrec.org

ERPA is the European Recovered Paper Association. Its members are the national recovered paper federations of the different European Union countries. www.erpa.info

All three federations are daughter federations of the Bureau of International Recycling aisbl.