



# **ANEC comments on proposed amendments:**

## **on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the quality of water intended for human consumption (recast)**

*(COM(2017)0753 – C8-0019/2018 – 2017/0332(COD))*

*Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety*

*Rapporteur: Michel Dantin*

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## General comments on the Draft Report

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ANEC is very pleased that the Draft Report by Michel Dantin addresses our key concerns with the Commission's proposal regarding materials in contact with drinking water. ANEC fully supports the proposed approach for a European harmonisation of minimum performance requirements for these materials. In particular, ANEC welcomes the proposed new Article 10 a including the empowerment of the Commission "to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 19 in order to supplement this Directive by laying down the minimum hygiene requirements and the list of substances and materials in contact with water intended for human consumption approved in the EU". The adoption of this new Article would constitute a huge step forward after so many years of fruitless debates.

However, in view of the past experiences ANEC would appreciate the incorporation of some more detailed and strengthened obligations for the Commission, including **timelines** to ensure that indeed this issue is progressed in a timely fashion.

ANEC is pleased that most of the proposed Amendments regarding Article 10 are moving in the same positive direction as the Draft Report. However, some suggested wordings seem preferable to others. Only one proposed Amendment relating to Article 10 is entirely unacceptable.

## **1. ANEC fully supports the following suggested Amendments:**

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### **Amendment 455 by Tiemo Wölken**

ANEC very much supports the proposal to set a clear timeframe for the development of the harmonised requirements for materials in contact with drinking water by the Commission and an obligation to regularly update these requirements in line with the state-of-the-art. In particular, ANEC supports the suggested text for Article 10 a (2): *"For the purposes of ensuring a harmonised application of paragraph 1, within 3 years of entry into force of this Directive, the Commission shall adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 19 in order to supplement this Directive by laying down the minimum hygiene requirements and the list of substances used for production of materials in contact with water intended for human consumption approved in the EU, including specific migration limits and special conditions of use wherever applicable. The Commission shall regularly review and update this list in line with the latest scientific and technological developments"*.

We also welcome the suggested establishment of a standing committee consisting of representatives appointed by the Member States, but would appreciate the possibility of stakeholders (such as ANEC) to participate in the debates.

### **Amendment 456 by Rory Palmer, et al.**

The proposed amendment is very similar to Amendment 455 and also deserves support.

## **2. ANEC supports the following Amendments but finds Amendments 455/456 preferable:**

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### **Amendment 457 by Jan Huitema**

The suggested text is, of course, a significant improvement on the Commission's text but the suggested timeframe for laying down the minimum requirements – 5 years after the end-date for transposition of this Directive – is much too long. Apart from this the Commission is not obliged to come up with delegated acts in the given time frame, it is just "empowered".

### **Amendment 458 by Birgit Collin-Langen, et al., and**

### **Amendment 459 by Soledad Cabezón Ruiz**

The suggested texts are, of course, a significant improvement of the Commission's text but do not constitute a strengthening compared to the text in the Draft Dantin Report (no obligation for the Commission to come up with Delegates Acts within a determined time frame, just "empowerment").

### **Amendment 460 by Annie Schreijer-Pierik et al.**

The suggested text is, of course, a significant improvement of the Commission text and it also sets a clear time frame for adopting Delegated Acts (3 Years), but the Commission is just "empowered" to come up with delegated acts in the given time frame but not obliged.

### **3. ANEC strongly disapproves the following suggested Amendment:**

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#### **Amendment 461 by Françoise Grossetête, Angélique Delahaye**

The suggested text just maintains the highly unsatisfactory status quo and does not lead to a European harmonisation of requirements for materials in contact with drinking water as requested by many stakeholders for decades. In addition, the proposers do not seem very familiar with the issue in question when referring to a Directive which has been substituted more than 8 years ago.

### **4. Acknowledgements**

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## About ANEC

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ANEC is the European consumer voice in standardisation, defending consumer interests in the processes of technical standardisation and conformity assessment, as well as related legislation and public policies.

ANEC was established in 1995 as an international non-profit association under Belgian law and is open to the representation of national consumer organisations in 33 countries.

ANEC is funded by the European Union and EFTA, with national consumer organisations contributing in kind. Its Secretariat is based in Brussels.



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