

A new Circular Economy Action Plan for a Cleaner and More Competitive Europe

Stakeholder Response



**The Public Establishment
HUMANA PEOPLE TO PEOPLE
BALTIC**

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Executive summary

Optimising the rate of textile and clothing reuse in Europe and around the world will help to ensure greater environmental sustainability and deliver the goals of the circular Economy Action Plan (CEAP). Those stakeholders in the SHC and reuse sector in Europe that we represent would like to see improved collaboration across the value chain among retailers, garment makers, yarn and fabric suppliers, collectors and sorting centres to achieve greater circularity in the textile value chain and ecosystem.

Reuse is the least environmentally damaging way of dealing with used clothing since it actively prevents waste and new production of textile garments. While we fully recognise the future importance of recycling in the textile ecosystem, the evidence suggests that current processes of fibre-to-fibre recycling of post-consumer textiles may still have an adverse environmental impact. If more clothing is to be reused, quality needs to continue to improve with greater emphasis on eco-design.

To further strengthen clothing reuse in Europe and across the world, EU regulations need to be carefully drafted in order to avoid a negative impact on the sector which was not intended by legislators. We fully support the EU's vision of a circular economy in textiles, while we are ready to work with the European Commission towards the goal of greater environmental sustainability and the circular economy through implementation of the CEAP.

We welcome the fact that our sector has a critical role to play in delivering greater useability of clothing and textile garments both in Europe and the wider world in accordance with the objectives of the European Green Deal.

Introduction

In March 2020, the European Commission formally adopted the Circular Economy Action Plan (CEAP). CEAP is envisaged as one of the key building blocks of the European Green Deal. The Plan focuses on how to create a more environmentally sustainable Europe. The aim of the transition to the circular economy in Europe is, 'to reduce pressure on natural resources and create sustainable growth and jobs', while achieving the EU's 2050 climate neutrality target. The CEAP seeks to accelerate Europe's progress in achieving the green transformation.

As a key stakeholder in delivering a more sustainable textile ecosystem in Europe through SHC and reuse, we endorse the fundamental principles of the CEAP. Firstly, we recognise that the transition towards a sustainable economy will create new economic opportunities and is at the core of Europe's industrial strategy. The

potential to create green jobs over the next decade is enormous. Secondly, the CEAP recognises that on the environment, the EU needs to act globally, as well as within its own borders. The textile ecosystem and value chain are similarly global in scope.

We strongly support the EU's strategy of making the textile and clothing sector more sustainable by promoting the efficient collection of textile garments and their reuse. Our sector enables clothing items to be sorted, processed, sold on and reused by consumers making the lowest possible impact on energy consumption. So doing contributes towards a high standard of environmental protection.

The European Commission President, Ursula von der Leyen, announced in the 'State of the Union' address that the CEAP will focus, 'on sustainable resource use, especially in resource intensive and high-impact sectors such as textiles and construction'. The objective of the circular economy is a textile production system that is, 'restorative and regenerative by design and provides benefits for business, society and environment. A system in which clothes, fabrics and fibres are kept at their highest value during use, and re-enter the economy after use, never ending up as waste'.¹ We fully endorse this vision of a circular economy in fashion and textiles.

We argue that to strengthen the circular economy, the EU must incentivize the development of business models focused on dramatically increasing the *reuse* of textiles and clothing in the production chain. The recent law on separate collection of textiles will require EU member-states to establish separate collection systems for textile waste by 2025. It is hoped that the emphasis on increased collection will promote the shift from a linear to a circular model in clothing production and consumption in Europe. This move is welcome. But we argue that the primary emphasis should be on *reuse*. Regulations that inadvertently undermine reuse by diverting items into so far untested fibre-to-fibre recycling processes ought to be avoided.

The vital work of putting more clothes to reuse is already being carried out by the SHC and reuse sector in Europe. The sector, heavily focused on handling post-consumer textiles, is professional and highly competent. It has forty years of experience in creating the infrastructure required to maximise clothing reuse and promote the responsible management of waste. The EU, which is rightly focused on improving the environmental sustainability of the textile industry, should seek to build upon the knowledge and commitment that already exists within the SHC industry.

We fully support the EU's circular textiles strategy alongside the CEAP which sets out a vision and set of concrete actions, 'to ensure that by 2030 textile products

¹ European Environment Agency, 'From Microplastics to Textiles: Towards a Circular Economy', March 2022

placed on the EU market, are long-lived and recyclable, made as much as possible of recycled fibres, free of hazardous substances, and produced in respect of social rights and the environment'. This goal, combined with the promotion of reuse, should drastically reduce the release of micro plastics through the synthetic textile industry while scaling back its environmental footprint.² Putting the greatest possible emphasis on reuse of clothing and textiles will help to deliver the objectives of the strategy.

The textiles sector

The textiles sector is currently estimated to be the fourth most damaging for the environment in the global economy (after the food, housing and transportation industries). Textile production requires major inputs of water and raw materials, generating significant carbon emissions. Moreover, textile production is expanding rapidly around the world. The inexorable growth is driven by trends such as 'fast fashion' where the consumption of clothing is about entertainment and lifestyle. Consumers are encouraged to shop frequently and rapidly discard unwanted items. At present, only a relatively small proportion of clothing items in the industrialized countries are reused or recycled. Circularity in the textile ecosystem needs to be much further developed. The SHC and reuse sector can mitigate the damage inflicted by mass production and consumption of textiles in western economies.

Our business is part of the large, vibrant SHC sector that spans the collecting, sorting, and sale of SHC in Europe and developing countries. We know that the process of sorting and reuse creates multiple opportunities for relatively high skilled and high-waged employment, both in the EU and third countries. Throughout Europe, textile reuse is slowly increasing. It has been estimated that if all discarded clothing in Europe was collected and sorted by SHC enterprises, a further 120,000 jobs would be created.³ For every 1000 tonnes of textiles collected, 20-35 additional jobs are created in the sorting process of the SHC sector, according to the EU's own figures.⁴ The business operates sorting centres that process over 50,000 tonnes of clothing a year, employing more than 550 skilled workers.

Textile production both globally and in Europe has expanded rapidly over the last three decades as a result of falling costs, rising consumer demand, and the growth of the fast fashion industry which encourages consumers to buy new clothing frequently. Yet we know that the expectations of consumers are gradually changing

² European Environment Agency, 'From Microplastics to Textiles: Towards a Circular Economy', March 2022 <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/microplastics-from-textiles-towards-a>

³ Reuse, 'Ethical Principles for the Clothing Sector', June 2016 <https://www.rreuse.org/wp-content/uploads/2015-06-textiles-position-RREUSE.pdf>

⁴ European Commission, 'Transition pathway for a more resilient, sustainable and digital textiles ecosystem', March 2022, https://www.interregeurope.eu/sites/default/files/2022-05/Textiles_Factsheet_EC.pdf

as they become increasingly aware of the environmental impact of the textile industry, sensitive to the importance of sustainable fashion. We observe that SHC collected around Europe has generally been well cared for by the previous owners. Clothes are donated for collection so they can be sold and reused. Around 75 per cent are judged to be reusable within the current system of collecting and sorting; 20 per cent are recyclable; while only a small fraction of garments (around 5 per cent) goes to incineration.

It is welcome that the CEAP refers directly to, 'boosting the EU market for sustainable and circular textiles, including the market for textile reuse...driving new business models'. The CEAP proposes specific measures for the textile sector, namely:

- Devising eco-design guidelines;
- Improving the regulatory environment for sustainable and circular textiles;
- Providing incentives to support circular materials and production processes;
- Providing guidance to support high levels of separate collection of textile waste in accordance with the new law on collection and the Waste Framework Directive coming into force in 2025;
- And boosting reuse and recycling through innovation and extended producer responsibility.

The SHC and reuse sector wants to assist in achieving these objectives as a valued stakeholder within the textiles ecosystem.

A framework for sustainability

The CEAP proposes the following principles to embed circularity and sustainability within the European economy. Under each of the principles, we demonstrate the contribution that the SHC and reuse sector can make to achieving the progress the EU wishes to see in environmental sustainability through the action plan:

i. Improving product durability

The EU needs to fashion an eco-design policy which ensures that clothing and textile garments last longer wherever possible. The EU strategy on circular textiles states: 'Extending the life of textile products is the most effective way of significantly reducing their impact on climate and the environment. To achieve this, product design has a key role. Failures in quality such as colour fastness, tear strength or the

quality of zippers and seams are among the main reasons for consumers to discard textiles'. Consumers need to be encouraged to embrace reuse. There should be much greater emphasis on longevity throughout the design and production process.

It should be expected that clothing products will change hands several times over their life-course, particularly given advances in eco-design. We agree with the EU's approach such that, 'increased durability will enable consumers to use clothing for longer and at the same time support circular business models such as reuse, renting and repair, take-back services and second-hand retail'. Given current consumption patterns, currently only a fifth of European consumers purchase reused clothing items. The SHC sector needs regulations and incentives that promote reuse and encourage producer responsibility, although altering consumer habits will, of course, take time.

ii. Increasing recycled content in products

The objective of increasing the volume of recycled content in clothing is important. All textile garments will, at some stage, reach the end-of-life and no longer be available for reuse. At that point, recycling is often the best option. It is important that technological innovation continues, and that sustainable methods of fibre-to-fibre textile recycling are developed. Of course, recycling has a role to play within the circular textile value chain, but it should not be preferred to reuse. Scientific studies suggest caution needs to be applied in promoting fibre-to-fibre recycling. For example, the report by *Siptex* in Sweden comparing the production of a cotton t-shirt made of 50 per cent mechanically recycled cotton and 50 per cent primary cotton demonstrates that the carbon impact of the recycled t-shirt is only marginally lower than a new cotton t-shirt, partly because the climate impact of cotton production is still relatively low.⁵ As the report points out: 'Sorting and recycling do not automatically lead to environmental gains – these rely on resource-efficient sorting and recycling, and the impact of the materials that are being replaced'.⁶

According to the academic experts Sandin and Peters: 'When reuse and recycling are both considered, the former is found to be more beneficial than the latter except for under certain circumstances with regard to transportation distances. As such, the literature supports the waste management options preferred according to the waste hierarchy, as promoted by, among others, the EU directive on waste'. Other independent experts have concluded that recycling is not necessarily, 'beneficial for

⁵ Siptex, 'Swedish Innovation Platform for Textile Sorting', 2022

<https://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1706502/FULLTEXT02.pdf>

According to the report, 'the project conducted life cycle assessments (LCAs) of four cases reflecting value chains that can utilize Siptex sorted materials'.

⁶ Sandin, G. & Peters, M. 'Environmental Impact of Textile Reuse and Recycling', *Journal of Cleaner production*, Volume 184, May 2018 <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959652618305985> In the paper, Sandin and Peters cite a range of academic studies that support these conclusions.

certain environmental impacts'.⁷ Further studies have justified the primacy of waste prevention and reuse within the EU's waste hierarchy as the best means of strengthening environmental sustainability. We know that the chemical recycling of clothing items such as cotton t-shirts is energy intensive and has a significant climate impact. The negative environmental consequences of chemical recycling of polyester are particularly strong.

iii. Enabling remanufacturing and high-quality recycling

We recognise that textile garments will reach the end of life and no longer be suitable for reuse. At this stage, recycling is the preferable outcome. Nonetheless, there are still uncertainties as to how far technological processes associated with fibre-to-fibre recycling can minimise negative environmental effects while remaining profitable for producers. Moreover, we know that some textiles are not suitable for recycling. The reprocessing of textiles may be presented as environmentally responsible and consistent with the EU's sustainability agenda and European Green Deal. Yet these evolving technologies are likely to be energy intensive, requiring additional use of chemicals and water. Claims by fashion producers as to the ease of reprocessing and the sustainability of their textile products can easily amount to 'greenwashing' unless they are backed up with robust scientific evidence.

We are in no doubt that recycling will have an important role to play in Europe's textile ecosystem in the future. Understandably, the textile industry and major producers want to emphasise the growing potential of fibre-to-fibre recycling. Nonetheless, there are still technological and economic barriers, aside from the adverse environmental impact. EU regulation of clothing products needs to be undertaken sensitively as it would be counter-productive to make clothing reuse less economically viable. Estimates indicate that around 65 per cent (+/- 8) of clothing items in household waste are reusable, underlining the potential for the sector.⁸ The requirement for the separate collection of textiles across EU member-states from 2025 will give further impetus to the reuse industry.

While there has been some innovation in developing commercial processes to undertake fibre-to-fibre recycling, these processes are still costly for the environment and generate significant carbon emissions, even if the activities are managed within Europe. Recent innovations such as technological processes that, 'depolymerize and dissolve polyester and cotton in PC textiles to extract these from the polycotton blend, producing cellulose pulp', are likely to remain relatively energy

⁷ Sandin, G. & Peters, M. 'Environmental Impact of Textile Reuse and Recycling', Journal of Cleaner production, Volume 184, May 2018

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959652618305985>

⁸ Norup, N. et. al. 'Quantity and Quality of Household Textiles in the Danish Household Waste', Journal of Waste Management, Volume 87, March 2019

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0956053X19300911>

intensive generating additional carbon emissions.⁹ In particular, they consume water and energy at a time when Europe is facing an energy price and resource crisis. The fashion industry already uses significant quantities of non-renewable energy: 10 per cent of the entire global carbon budget is used for clothing and textiles, of which 80 per cent is in the production phase.¹⁰

iv. Reducing carbon and environmental footprints

The SHC sector supports the EU's strategy, as outlined in the EU Waste Hierarchy framework, based on the circular economy paradigm. The EU Waste Framework Directive seeks to increase resource efficiency while reducing the impact created by the generation of waste. It defines a five-step hierarchy of how member-states should most effectively deal with waste. The preferred approach is, of course, waste prevention. The key concept is to design waste out of the production system altogether.

The SHC sector contributes directly to this goal. Reuse reduces the demand for new production, decreasing the environmental and climate footprint of the textile industry. Clothes are reused with minimal reprocessing, while reducing the impact of costly and environmentally unfriendly solutions, including landfill. The sector's business model focused on sorting and reuse drastically reduces waste, while reshaping consumer habits. The practice of reuse of clothing is, quite simply, far less energy intensive. The reuse percentage for SHC given the current quality of clothes collected by organisations such as Humana Baltic is approximately 75 per cent.

v. Restricting single-use and countering premature obsolescence

Unsorted collected clothes are still a valuable resource. We argue that even if unsorted collected clothes (also known as 'original clothes') are officially classified as waste by the EU, they represent a high value product that consumers want to purchase. Collected clothes are personal items people have cared for and given as a donation to be reused. They include vintage clothing and branded products of high quality that are intended to last a lifetime.

Countering premature obsolescence also requires the EU to maintain a global market for textile reuse and recycling. Under existing EU waste regulations, unsorted textiles are officially classified as 'waste'. For that reason, sorting facilities are usually located within the EU's borders so that sorting can be done manually before clothes are

⁹ Eionet Portal, 'Textiles and the Environment in a Circular Economy', November 2019 <https://www.eionet.europa.eu/etcs/etc-wmge/products/etc-wmge-reports/textiles-and-the-environment-in-a-circular-economy>

¹⁰ European Environment Agency, 'Textiles and the environment: the role of design in Europe's circular economy', 2022 <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/textiles-and-the-environment-the>

shipped to other markets around the world. However, there will be more pressure on the sorting infrastructure within the EU, as the volume of collected clothing increases. Moreover, locating sorting facilities in third countries creates economic opportunities promoting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to which the EU is committed. We argue that clothes should be used again even if they must be exported outside the EU, rather than being discarded or having the synthetic fibres expensively reprocessed.

There is a growing market for reused clothing within Europe given the emergence of the environmentally conscious consumer, while used clothing is exported around the world to markets in Africa, Asia, Latin America, as well as Eastern Europe. The opportunities to expand the SHC sector are vast. But if only items directed at the European market are reused while there are restrictions that prevent the export of unsorted collected clothing to global markets, the adverse environmental effect will be considerable, as more cheap new clothing will need to be produced in Asia.¹¹ At present, European reuse only accounts for around 25-30 per cent of the total number of collected items.

The EU should avoid imposing regulations that inadvertently undermine the reuse sector, making it much harder to export unsorted collected clothing to non-OECD countries. It is necessary to treat textile waste as distinct from other waste streams, not least because many clothing items may well be suitable for reuse after appropriate sorting and processing. To achieve maximum reuse, it must be possible to move textile waste efficiently both within the EU and to countries outside of the EU. What is required to ensure the efficient and responsible management of both clothing items and textile 'waste' is an infrastructure to collect and sort the clothes efficiently, as is provided by the SHC and reuse industry.

vi. Introducing a ban on the destruction of unsold durable goods

In general, it is far preferable for clothes to be reused if the goal is a more sustainable and circular textile ecosystem across Europe. Reuse by new consumers is the most environmentally sustainable way of dealing with discarded clothing and textiles since it reduces the need for production of new textile garments.

As such, wherever possible EU regulatory frameworks, guidelines and public policies must incentivise reuse. Promoting reuse is exactly what the SHC sector in Europe is already achieving, strengthening sustainability and circularity.

¹¹ Watson, D. et. al, 'Exports of Nordic Used Textiles: Fate, Benefits and Impacts', 2016
<https://www2.mst.dk/Udgiv/publications/2020/06/978-87-7038-202-1.pdf>

vii. Incentivizing product as a service of other models where producers retain responsibility for its performance throughout the lifecycle

As we have seen, while unsorted clothes collected for reuse and recycling are classified as waste, they are often valuable items. Textiles require careful treatment to extract the maximum number of reusable clothes: from households through collection and transportation to sorting facilities. It is important not to hamper the efficient movement of unsorted collected clothes within and outside the EU to facilities which have the capacities and incentives to sort clothes to ensure the highest degree of reuse alongside responsible waste management.

We recognise that textiles will still be classified as ‘waste’ for EU legal purposes. We would like to see a regulatory framework that is designed to deal specifically with classified textile waste, acknowledging it is a valuable resource. We also agree that the environmental impact of the process should be managed so that material which is not reused or recycled is disposed of in an environmentally responsible way. We believe that a system of EU-led inspection and certification of facilities operating these processes could fulfil that purpose.

We believe the export of such items outside the EU is in keeping with the Commission’s strategy since a major part of the market for reusable clothes is in non-OECD countries. If fewer used clothes are exported, larger quantities of low- quality new clothes will be produced in Asia creating more global environmental damage. Moreover, we know that the environmental impact of transportation is relatively low, particularly since it off-sets new textile production.¹² Exports of second-hand clothing products globally are estimated to achieve a net saving of the equivalent of 193,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases and 72 million cubic metres of water use in the Nordic countries alone.¹³ The impact is particularly great in countries that do not have domestic markets large enough to absorb the continuous supply of used clothing (where items would otherwise be sent to landfill). As such, it will be necessary to support future investment in the sorting and distribution infrastructure of third countries, upgrading capacity to reuse clothing and deal with waste sensibly – which the SHC sector is already doing.

viii. Mobilizing the potential for digitalization of product information

We contend that second-hand clothes intended for reuse should be exempt from future EU regulations on Digital Product Passports (DPP). The aim of DPPs is ‘to enhance the traceability of products and allow consumers and manufacturers to

¹² Mistra Dialogue, ‘Sustainability in Textiles and Fashion’, 2020

https://www.mistra.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/mistradialogue_rapport_investor_brief_textiles_final.pdf

¹³ Watson, D. et. al, ‘Exports of Nordic Used Textiles: Fate, Benefits and Impacts’, 2016 <http://norden.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1057017/FULLTEXT03.pdf>

access all the information concerning a specific product'.¹⁴ We welcome the emphasis on increased transparency for consumers.

However, the SHC and reuse sector in Europe already has established protocols to provide clear and transparent product information to consumers. Moreover, most vintage clothing items were produced well before digital passports were created, while reusable items may be imported from outside the EU where digital passports do not currently apply. It would be misguided to disqualify such items, undermining the sustainability of the textile ecosystem. The DPP is a relatively bureaucratic approach that will disadvantage SMEs in comparison to large fashion companies by imposing additional costs. The SHC sector in Europe is overwhelmingly comprised of SMEs. Undermining those SMEs reduces Europe's potential for textile reuse.

ix. Rewarding products based on their sustainability performance

It is right that products should be rewarded for how they rate on sustainability. Yet claims by fashion producers as to the ease of reprocessing and the sustainability of their textile products can easily amount to 'greenwashing' unless they are backed up with robust scientific evidence. For instance, a requirement to label new clothes with the content of recycled fibres risks creating additional demand for fibres that would push large quantities of reusable clothing into recycling, contrary to the EU's intention. Such regulations need to be carefully considered prior to implementation. It is essential that future EU legislation and regulations aimed at promoting the use of recycled material in the industry will not be detrimental to the promotion of textile and clothing reuse.

The Global Market for Waste

The CEAP is rightly concerned that in recent decades, 'millions of tonnes of waste has been exported to non-EU countries, often without sufficient consideration of proper waste treatment'. The CEAP is particularly worried that waste exports lead to, 'loss of resources and economic opportunities for the recycling industry in the EU'. We acknowledge that Europe wants to reduce its environmental footprint across the globe, contributing towards the world-wide battle against catastrophic climate change. The continuing export of both unsorted and sorted clothing items outside the EU is consistent with the Commission's approach. In non-OECD countries, there is a significant market for sorted reusable SHC. Moreover, the sector can support countries to manage unsorted and recyclable products sustainably given the know-how and experience of the SHC industry. The sector is already investing in capacity

¹⁴ Generation Climate Europe, 'Digital Product Passport: what is it and what does it imply for the textile industry?', October 2022
<https://gceurope.org/digital-product-passport-what-is-it-and-what-does-it-imply-for-the-textile-industry/>

and infrastructure to ensure more efficient sorting and distribution of clothing in third countries to maximise reuse. We endorse the EU's efforts to harmonise standards of waste management globally.

This paper argues that the best response to the growing problem of textile waste is to build on existing business models that reflect the logic of the circular economy. We know that the circular economy operates on a global basis. The textiles industry is itself a global enterprise. The production of raw materials, whether they are plant, animal or oil based, is world-wide, while the manufacturing process is global. Any intervention by the EU must be considered on a global rather than solely European basis.

As soon as clothes are discarded by the consumer, they re-enter the global circular economy. Currently the highest degree of collection for reuse or recycling in the industrialized part of the world occurs in EU countries, which ensures the best possible protection of the environment. Yet maximising reuse cannot be achieved by focusing on production and consumption in Europe alone. The reuse market is, unquestionably, a *global* market. In low-income African countries, reuse rates are even higher than in Europe.

The EU needs to promote the shift to a global circular textile production and consumption system by incentivising the reuse of clothing. Encouraging reuse entails:

- Effective infrastructure to collect, sort and distribute reusable clothing to consumers;
- Greater focus within the industry on design that promotes product durability and longevity;¹⁵
- It is necessary to educate consumers and promote behavioural changes with a greater focus on 'timeless design' ('slow fashion'). If consumers are going to be encouraged to reuse textile items, it is crucial that products are designed to focus on longevity. This concept consists of three fundamental design principles: i) design for durability; ii) design for long-lasting style; and iii) design for disassembly.¹⁶ All stakeholders within the textile ecosystem should work together to incorporate such principles into the production system.

¹⁵ European Environment Agency, 'Textiles and the environment: the role of design in Europe's circular economy', 2022 <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/textiles-and-the-environment-the>

¹⁶ Saunders, J. 'Can Design for Disassembly Principles Inform Policy for E-Textiles Waste?', MDPI April 2022 <https://www.mdpi.com/2673-4591/15/1/14/htm>

Summary

Maximising clothing reuse is the best way to ensure greater environmental sustainability and deliver the main goals of the CEAP. We want to see improved collaboration across the value chain among retailers, garment makers, yarn and fabric suppliers, collectors and sorting centres to achieve greater circularity in the textile value chain. If more clothing is to be reused, quality needs to continue to improve with greater emphasis on longevity and eco-design. We know that reuse is the least environmentally damaging way of dealing with used clothing and actively prevents waste. The evidence suggests that current processes of fibre-to-fibre recycling of consumer textiles may still have an adverse environmental impact, even if fibre-to-fibre recycling has a role to play in the future textile value chain.

To further strengthen clothing reuse in Europe and around the world, EU regulations need to be drafted judiciously in order to avoid a negative impact on the reuse and SHC sector that was not intended by legislators. We fully support the EU's vision of a circular economy in textiles, and we are ready to work with the European Commission towards the goal of greater environmental sustainability and the circular economy through implementation of the CEAP. Our sector can help to achieve greater sustainability in the textile ecosystem and value chain both in Europe and the wider world, in accordance with the objectives of the European Green Deal.

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