

(English version)

Question for written answer E-002490/25
to the Commission
Seán Kelly (PPE)
(20 June 2025)

Subject: Ban on mini single-use packaging for cosmetics, hygiene and toiletry products in hotels, as provided for in the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR)

In accordance with the PPWR ⁽¹⁾, from 1 January 2030, ‘economic operators shall not place on the market packaging in the formats and for the uses listed in Annex V’, point 5 of which includes ‘single-use packaging for cosmetics, hygiene and toiletry products for the use in the accommodation sector’.

In reference to the restrictions set out by the PPWR in Article 25 and Annex V, point 5, concerning the provision of miniature cosmetics in the hospitality sector:

1. Could the Commission clarify the definition of ‘cosmetics, hygiene and toiletry products’ in this context?
2. What guidance is available for hoteliers on how to meet the needs of guests who may have forgotten essential hygiene items, such as a toothbrush or shaving kit?
3. If such items are banned from being pre-placed in hotel rooms, could they be made available on request at the reception or through other guest service channels? This approach allows hospitality operators to meet customer convenience while also aligning with the PPWR objectives to prevent packaging waste generation.

Submitted: 20.6.2025

Answer given by Ms Roswall on behalf of the European Commission
(27 August 2025)

The Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation ⁽¹⁾ aims, among others, to reduce the generation of packaging waste which has been on the rise since the last two decades, while ensuring an EU harmonised approach which does not create barriers to the internal market.

For this purpose, the regulation restricts certain single-use packaging for certain uses, as listed in Annex V to the regulation, leaving only minimum flexibility as regards packaging bans to the Member States.

The regulation does not include a definition of terms ‘cosmetics, hygiene and toiletry product’.

Instead, to ensure a harmonised approach, the Commission is mandated to explain Annex V in more detail, including examples of the packaging formats in scope and any exemptions from the restrictions, by publishing guidelines by 12 February 2027.

As the bans in Annex V enter into force only in 2030, the timely adoption of the Commission guidelines will ensure that the scope of the provision is sufficiently clear almost three years ahead of the application date.

The work on the guidelines has already started. The Commission intends to consult the relevant stakeholders, including the hospitality sector, before publishing them.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2025/40 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2024 on packaging and packaging waste, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and Directive (EU) 2019/904, and repealing Directive 94/62/EC (OJ L, 2025/40, 22.1.2025, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/40/oj>).

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2025/40 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2024 on packaging and packaging waste, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and Directive (EU) 2019/904, and repealing Directive 94/62/EC, OJ L, 2025/40, 22.1.2025.