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Answer given by Ms Roswall  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(30.1.2026)

Article 6(1) of the Waste Framework Directive (WFD)<sup>1</sup> sets out general conditions under which waste which has undergone a recycling or other recovery operation is considered to have reached end-of-waste (EoW) status. Whether to adopt specific EoW criteria is left to the discretion of each Member State. However, according to Article 6(2), the Commission shall monitor the development of national EoW criteria in Member States and assess the need to establish Union-wide EoW criteria.

In line with Article 6(2) of the WFD and with the Circular Economy Action Plan<sup>2</sup>, the Commission published in 2022 a study<sup>3</sup> to set a list of priority waste streams for which to develop Union-wide EoW criteria. The identified top five priority streams are: plastics, textiles, rubber, mineral fractions of construction and demolition waste (CDW), and paper and cardboard.

Building on that study, the Commission started working on technical proposals for Union-wide EoW criteria for plastics, textiles, and CDW. The report on the technical proposals for plastic waste was published in November 2024<sup>4</sup>, while the ones for textiles and for CDW are planned for publication in the course of 2026.

In its Communication of 23 December 2025<sup>5</sup>, the Commission announced the forthcoming adoption of an implementing regulation laying down Union-wide EoW criteria for plastic waste<sup>6</sup>. The work for adopting implementing acts laying down Union wide EoW criteria for textiles and CDW is likely to start after the publication of the planned reports with the technical proposals.

New measures to simplify the adoption of Union-wide EoW criteria are being considered and assessed under the forthcoming Circular Economy Act, expected to be adopted in the second half of 2026.

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<sup>1</sup> Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on waste and repealing certain Directives, OJ L 312, 22.11.2008, p. 3–30.

<sup>2</sup> [https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/circular-economy\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/circular-economy_en).

<sup>3</sup> <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC128647>.

<sup>4</sup> <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC139303>.

<sup>5</sup> Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - Accelerating Europe's transition to a circular economy: a pilot for boosting the circularity of plastics, COM/2025/805 final.

<sup>6</sup> The draft act is open for public feedback from 23 December 2025 to 26 January 2026 on Have our say - [https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14848-Plastic-waste-EU-wide-end-of-waste-criteria\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14848-Plastic-waste-EU-wide-end-of-waste-criteria_en).