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Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(7.5.2026)

The recycled content targets for single-use plastic (SUP) beverage bottles for 2025 and 2030 are laid down in the SUP Directive¹ and the Commission is empowered to adopt the necessary related implementing acts pursuant to Articles 6(5) and 13(4), thereof. While the evaluation of the SUP Directive is on-going, it is important to stress that the recycled content targets of the SUP Directive for beverage bottles will be repealed when the recycled content targets of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR)² will apply (planned as of 1 January 2030).

The responsible Comitology Committee recently issued a positive vote on a draft implementing act under the SUP Directive laying down technologically neutral rules for the calculation, verification and reporting of recycled content in SUP beverage bottles that are made of polyethylene terephthalate (PET) as the major component³. This draft restricts recycled plastic to material that has been recycled in the EU until 21 November 2027. After that date, the geographic scope also includes Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development countries⁴ and third countries with which the EU has bilateral arrangements ensuring the environmentally sound management of waste.

There is sufficient supply of recycled PET (rPET) in the EU. Approximately 3.1 million tonnes of PET beverage bottles were placed on the EU market in 2022, while existing PET recycling capacity amounted to around 3.0 million tonnes⁵. To meet the 25% target in the SUP Directive for 2025, approximately 0.8 million tonnes of rPET are required.

Under the PPWR, the Commission intends to adopt implementing and delegated acts on the calculation methodology, sustainability criteria and equivalence rules with third countries.

¹ Directive (EU) 2019/904 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment, OJ L 155, 12.6.2019, pp. 1–19.

² 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.

³ Comitology Register, Meeting CMTD(2026)166, <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/comitology-register/screen/meetings/CMTD%282026%29166>.

⁴ To which the OECD Decision of the Council on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Wastes Destined for Recovery Operations (OECD/LEGAL/0266) applies.

⁵ Calculations of the Joint Research Centre (not published) based on data from Petcore Europe (PET Market in Europe: State of Play, 2024, https://www.petcore-europe.org/images/pet/PET_report_V3.pdf).