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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Šefčovič
on behalf of the European Commission
(20.11.2024)

The guiding principle of the work of the lawyer linguists in the finalisation process, in which the Commission has been closely involved, has been to ensure the legal coherence and clarity of the text of the Regulation on packaging and packaging waste, while avoiding any changes in substance. This is also the case with the changes referred to by the Honourable Members, which in addition pertain to a text that has been subject to further consolidation and checks of the quality of the drafting before finalisation.

As regards the definition of producer, the reference to ‘any producer’ has been reinstated in the meantime. The new definition of ‘making available on the territory of the Member State’ was deemed necessary in order to unify the terminology used. It is in line with the definition of ‘making available on the market’ (Article 3(1)(9)) and its introduction does not result in changes in the substantive obligations laid down in the Regulation.

As regards the use of the terms ‘consumer’ and ‘end user’, as well as the wording concerning the labelling of packaging with the identification of responsible extended producer responsibility schemes, the provisionally agreed text has been generally kept unchanged.