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Subject:	Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2008/98/EC on waste - General approach = Statement

Delegations will find in the Annex a statement by Germany regarding the general approach on the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2008/98/EC on waste. The statement will be entered in the minutes of the Council (Environment) meeting on 17 June 2024.

ANNEX

Statement for the minutes by the Federal Republic of Germany

regarding the Directive amending Directive 2008/98/EC on waste

Germany can support the general approach by way of a compromise, but would like to draw attention to the following aspects: Germany would have encouraged the Council to adopt a more ambitious position on food waste reduction targets (‘at least 35 %’). Member States have already undertaken to reduce food waste under Sustainable Development Goal Target 12.3. In our view, the reduction targets proposed by the Commission for the period from 2020 to 2030 are not in line with SDG 12.3 and do not take sufficient account of existing reduction potentials to significantly reduce food waste by 2030. Germany considers that the proposed reduction targets should be derived proportionally from SDG 12.3 and should therefore amount to at least 35 % for all sectors, with the exception of primary production, in relation to the reference year 2020. The existing reduction potentials in all sectors can be leveraged only in conjunction with correspondingly ambitious minimum reduction targets and measures. This means that Member States can set more ambitious targets for reducing food waste in each sector at national level.

In Germany, the trade and food service sectors have already committed to these reduction goals of 30 % by 2025 and 50 % by 2030 in target agreements. This needs to be acknowledged on a political level. Therefore, the trade, food service and private household sectors should be addressed on a sector-specific basis rather than collectively.