Report of the technical support meeting with the OECD delegation for the preparation of a **“New National Circular Economy Strategic Framework”** for the Czech Republic.

The meeting took place at the Ministry of Environment 3-4 March 2020.

*There were presented five thematic areas. The presentation was consisted on detailed analysis prepared by OECD consultants and experts in cooperation with Czech experts from the Ministry. After each presentation a constructive discussion was carried with Czech Stakeholders. There were present about 15 stakeholders representing Academia, Research Institutions, Public Administration Institutions and the Private Sector.*

1. **Czech Policy Landscape and International Good Practices** *(Eva Bartekova & Katarina Svatikova, - OECD consultants)*

It has been presented and overview of European policies, practices and mechanisms in all domains. There were analyzed pros and cons for each of them. It was mentioned that in general, most policies were oriented to Environmental priorities, while plans with an economic or business perspective were neglected. Further on, it was presented an overview of the Czech approach. Although the Czech frame was more qualitative than quantitative it is well structured and based on evidence. Goals and Targets are defined and the Measures to be taken are decided. There have been detected a number of Gaps such as eco-design of products, lack of Economic Instruments, Consumer behavior and attitudes, Innovation and Research which are aimed to be filled in order to finalize the Czech Policy.

1. **Economic Analysis Report** *(Jean Chateau – OECD consultant)*

Initially it was presented the ENV-Linkages Model providing projections on various data and indicators in a 40-years perspective (to the year 2060). This model has been used for the Czech projections also. The applicability of the model was to many sectors and many regions, and had considered environmental issues and natural resources available. The Czech data were compared to those projected on World and European levels as well as among the OECD countries. It was demonstrated that Czech Republic is close to the European Average in most sectors. The key sectors that should be targeted are the manufacturing, construction and food sectors, which are the most material intensive. Circular policies could help to reduce metal and waste use by accelerating changes in production modes towards more recycling and more resource efficiency especially in the manufacturing sector. It was shown that decoupling construction materials from economic growth is more difficult, but also necessary and feasible. Finally, strengthened efforts for food waste reduction could reduce the material footprint of this sector.

1. **Waste Management Report** *(Pavel Ruzicka, Vladimir Dobes, Jan Stejfa – Czech Experts)*

It was undertaken an analysis of the waste management priority area in the Czech Republic. There was presented an overview of the current status of waste and materials management in the country as well as a justified Gap analysis followed by Policy recommendations. The analysis was focused mostly on industrial production. It was demonstrated that there is a significant dependence on imports of raw materials. There have been improvements in materials management and efficiency, however it is still below the EU average. There were analysed 16 selected waste streams, were a detailed analysis was conducted in 5 priority waste among them. [Residual municipal solid waste, Plastics, Construction and demolition waste, Organic waste and Hazardous waste]. The streams identification was based on: a/ a Waste Management Plan and b/ a Secondary Raw Materials Policy. Finally, the criteria of the analysis were a/ Potential for improvement, b/ Waste stream intensity and c/ Environmental impact. For each of the cases were presented: a/ State of the art – current situation (amount, treatment); trends; policies, objectives and targets, b/ Circular vision 2040 – short vision of desirable future development, c/ Gap analysis – gaps between the current situation and the vision / existing targets; drivers and barriers and d/ Policy recommendations – measures and instruments (general and specific).

1. **Consumption and Consumers Report** *(Ignasi Puig Ventosa – OECD consultant)*

The presentation highlighted the general goal and approaches for structuring the discussion around circular economy. It was selected key consumer-relevant sectors for the circular economy. It was presented an overview of international practices for circular economy related to consumers, and presented the current Consumption Patterns and Consumer Behaviour Policies in the Czech Republic. Finally, a Gap analysis and policy recommendations were presented. The report, aimed to develop a set of consumer-related CE policy recommendations for the Czech government by: a/ providing a stocktake of good practices for a CE to address consumer behaviour at the international level, and b/ analysing the policies currently in place in the CR and the related gaps. Further on, there were presented a/ an overview of International practices for a Circular Economy related to the consumers and b/ the current consumption patterns and consumer behavior policies in the Czech Republic towards the CE. Based on those it was demonstrated a Gap analysis of 5 Gap cases where the policy was insufficient or lacking. For each of these cases, appropriate recommendations were provided.

1. **Economic Instruments Report** *(Stephen Smith – OECD consultant)*

Economic instruments have become an established and effective part of the materials management policy landscape in EU countries. There are forms of taxation or benefit actions with a considerable scope for further development and applications part of circular economy strategies. They can help to re-shape the "grain" of the economy towards a circular pattern of recovery, re-use and recycling, without burdening the economy with excessive costs or unrealistic rapid adjustments. It was given an overview of available economic instruments (EIs) for the circular economy, and there were mentioned the EIs currently used in Czech Republic. Finally, a Gap analysis were presented clarifying where is there scope for more effective implementation of existing EIs, or for new EIs in the country. It was highlighted that Economic instruments establish incentives steering decisions towards a more circular pattern of activity they and they encourage the overall change and more vigorous innovation and they offer flexibility at the level of the individual decision-maker means that that EIs can achieve desirable change at lower economic cost. Some EIs also raise revenue.

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