

Annex 1.

Glossary

Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO₂ eq.): A unit of measurement used to compare various greenhouse gas emissions on the basis of their global warming potential. The global warming potential of CO₂ is used as a reference point. For example, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the global warming potential of methane is about 25, while that of CO₂ is about 1, which means that emissions of one million metric tonnes of methane are approximately equivalent to 25 million metric tonnes of CO₂ (12).

Circular Economy: system of production, exchange and consumption designed to optimize the use of resources at all stages of a product's life cycle, while reducing its environmental footprint and contributing to the well-being of individuals and communities (24).

DIY repair: the act of repairing a defective device oneself. It can be done in repair shops or using online resources. It can also be called "self-repair".

Durability: the quality of a product that has a long lifespan, in order to optimize the use of resources that are used to produce it.

Ecodesign: a product design strategy where potential environmental impacts of a product's all life cycle are taken into account by seeking to minimize them.

Ecofiscality: the application of various fiscal measures intended to modify behaviour for the purpose of preserving the environment (e.g. carbon pricing).

Ecofees: an environmental management fee paid by the affected consumer on the sale of an item that is regulated under an extended producer responsibility system. The fees are used to fund the costs of managing the program (providing collection points, transportation, recycling, etc.).

Eco-organization: a non-profit organization representing manufacturers subject to extended producer responsibility requirements. These manufacturers pay a fee to the eco-organization to which they belong for each product they market, and the amount of the fee is based on the type of product and the cost of managing that product at the end of its life. These financial contributions thus make it possible to fund the full slate of the manufacturers' obligations (prevention, reuse, collection, sorting, waste recycling, awareness-raising, etc.). The contributions can be tailored according to the manufacturer's compliance with specific environmental criteria, such as the eco-design of the products they market.

Embedded system : an embedded system is the addition of a system consisting of a computer and software to a product in order to perform a specific function(s) and to control the product (40).

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR): an approach that seeks to transfer financial and organizational responsibility for managing the waste generated by the consumption of products to companies that originally marketed them (45).

Extended Warranty: a fee-based warranty offered by the retailer that extends the manufacturer's warranty already included with the purchase.

Home Appliances and Electronics (HAE): a broad range of products equipped with an electrical circuit or components that include a power supply or battery (1). Examples: washing machine, computer, coffee machine, camera, microwave, etc.

Intentional non-repairability: "any technique, including software-related, by which a producer purports to make it impossible to repair [...] an appliance or to limit restoration of the full functionality of such appliance outside its approved channels" (French consumer code - Article L441-3).

Legal Warranty: the minimum protection provided by law and automatically applicable on the purchase of an item. It provides for a refund or replacement of the item if it is not of good quality, durable, safe or if it fails to meet the expectations created by the seller's representations. It also protects against hidden defects. (39)

Lifespan: the period between the time a product is released from manufacture and when it becomes unusable. A distinction is made between a product's useful life, i.e. the period during which it is used, is in working order and is ready for use. (21 and 22) Accordingly, the lifespan of a product may not have been reached when the owner stops using it.

Life Cycle: all the stages that a product goes through, from design to disposal (extraction of raw materials, manufacture, transport, purchase, use, repair, refurbishing, recycling, disposal).

Linear Economy: an economic model whereby the raw materials necessary for production are extracted, then transformed, consumed and finally disposed of (24).

Manufacturer's Warranty (or Conventional Warranty): offered by the manufacturer with the purchase of an item and defined according to certain terms and conditions that may include the possibility of having the item repaired, a warranty to replace parts or the entire item for a defined period of time, etc. A fee may or may not be required to take advantage of this warranty. (41)

Obsolescence: premature depreciation of an item. There are several types of obsolescence:

- economic obsolescence, which is a function of a product's quality/price ratio, its price reduction or the cost of repairs.
- planned obsolescence, which is a deliberate strategy on the part of manufacturers to shorten the lifespan of a product.
- psychological or aesthetic obsolescence, which is linked to image and the changing needs of consumers. This perception is partly influenced by advertising.
- functional or technological obsolescence, which is linked to improvements in product features. For example, software obsolescence - which is related to the unavailability or malfunction of software - is a form of technological obsolescence.

Obsolescence can be absolute - if the product stops working - or relative - if the product still works.

Reduction at the source: action that prevents or reduces the generation of waste during the design, manufacture, distribution and use of a product.

Refurbishing: returning a product or component to new condition with a warranty equivalent or close to that of new (32). Complete reconditioning typically includes collection, data erasure (in the case of electronics) and upgrading, followed by repairs to restore functionality and, lastly, cosmetic touch-up (33).

Repair: operation that aims to put a product in working condition for the same function in order to extend its lifespan (2).

Repairability: characteristics of a product that can be repaired relatively easily.

Right to Repair: the right to have items repaired or to repair them oneself, within a short time and at reasonable cost. It generally requires the implementation of regulations requiring manufacturers to design their products to be repairable and to make available, for a specified period of time, the manuals, diagrams, parts, software and tools needed to carry out repairs at a reasonable cost.

Technological Protection Measures (TPM): A set of processes put into place on a product that are designed to reduce copyright infringement. They use different types of technology to control access to copyrighted digital content or prevent users from copying or sharing it.

Useful life: the period during which it is used, is in working order and is ready for use. (21 and 22)

Waste from Electrical and Electronic Equipment (E-Waste): waste from six product categories, i.e. cooling and freezing equipment, monitors and screens, lamps, large electrical appliances, small electrical appliances and small information technology and telecommunications equipment (1).