Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation

Outline of the Commission proposal

Circular Economy Package

- Chapeau Communication '*on making sustainable products the norm*'

- Proposal for a Regulation on Ecodesign for Sustainable Products (ESPR)

- Ecodesign and Energy Labelling Working Plan 2022-2024

- EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles

- Proposal for a revision of the Construction Products Regulation

- Proposal to Empower Consumers in the Green Transition

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Why is ESPR needed?

Inefficient use of resources

- **Global extraction of materials tripled** since 1970; **waste generation** set to increase **70%** by 2050;
- Over **90% of biodiversity loss and water stress** from resource extraction and processing
- High strategic and **material dependency**

Planetary boundaries exceeded

- EU has less than 10% of world population, yet its **consumption-based impacts are close to or exceed boundaries** for climate change, particulate matter, land use and mineral resources (Sala et al, 2020)

Missed business opportunities

- EU industry still accounts for **20% of the EU's greenhouse gas emissions**
- **Demand for recycled materials remains low**

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Building on the Ecodesign Framework

Key features of Ecodesign Directive approach maintained

Regularly updated multiannual working plans setting out priorities

Product specific measures based on detailed impact assessment

Adoption of Ecodesign measure

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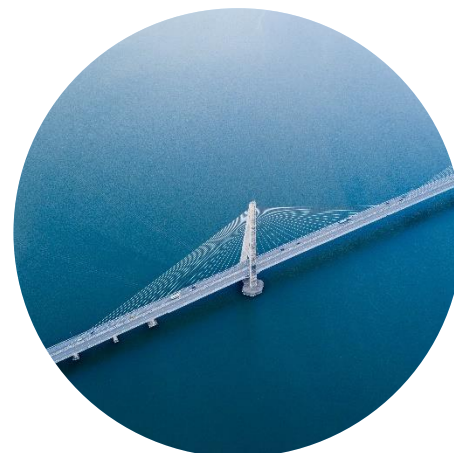# Extending the Ecodesign approach

Scope extension

Moving beyond energy-related products to a wide product scope

New requirements

Plus clarification of existing requirements

Horizontal approach

Now allowed for in addition to product-specific requirements
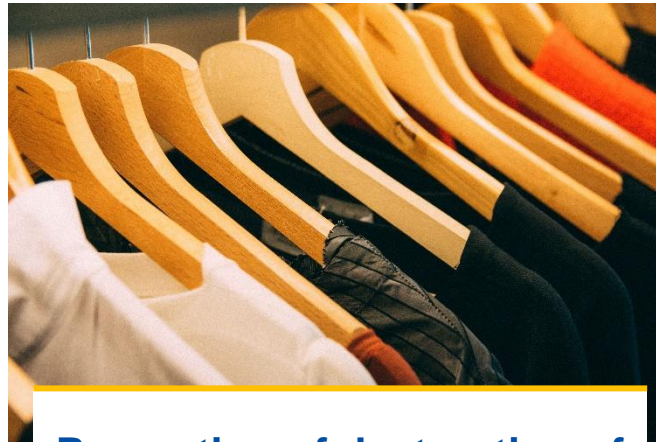
Increased focus on product information

e.g. Digital Product Passport; labels

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Other tools provided by ESPR

Mandatory Green Public Procurement

ESPR will enable mandatory GPP criteria to be set in delegated acts for public contracting authorities

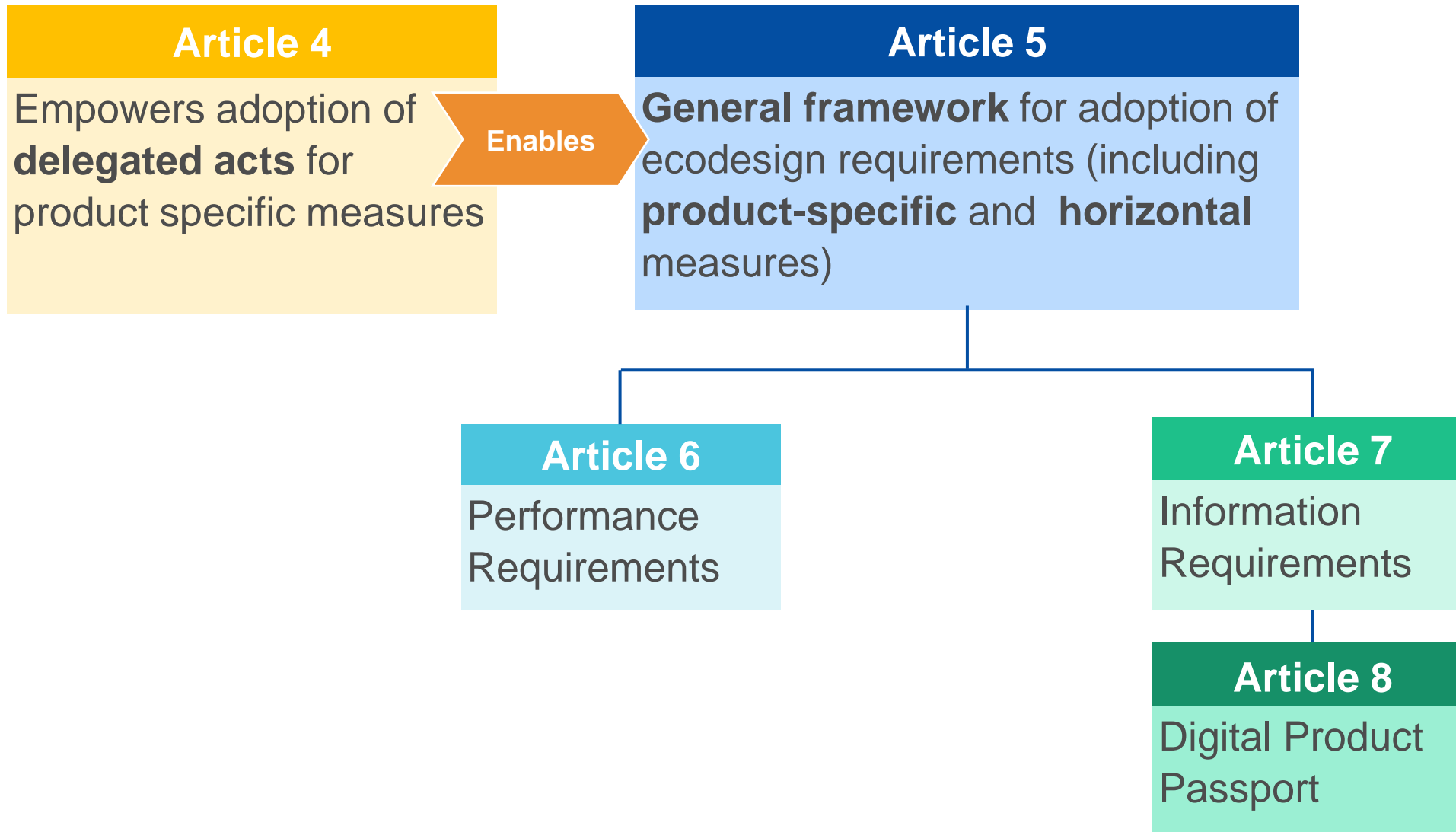**Prevention of destruction of unsold consumer goods**

Transparency requirements for those choosing to discard unsold goods, and the possibility to ban their destruction for relevant product groups.

Market surveillance and customs controls

Reinforcing controls on regulated products, including market surveillance implementing plans, possible targets on checks, support to common projects and investments

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Proposed ESPR

Article 4

Empowers adoption of **delegated acts** for product specific measures

Enables

Article 5

General framework for adoption of ecodesign requirements (including **product-specific** and **horizontal** measures)

Article 6

Performance Requirements

Article 7

Information Requirements

Article 8

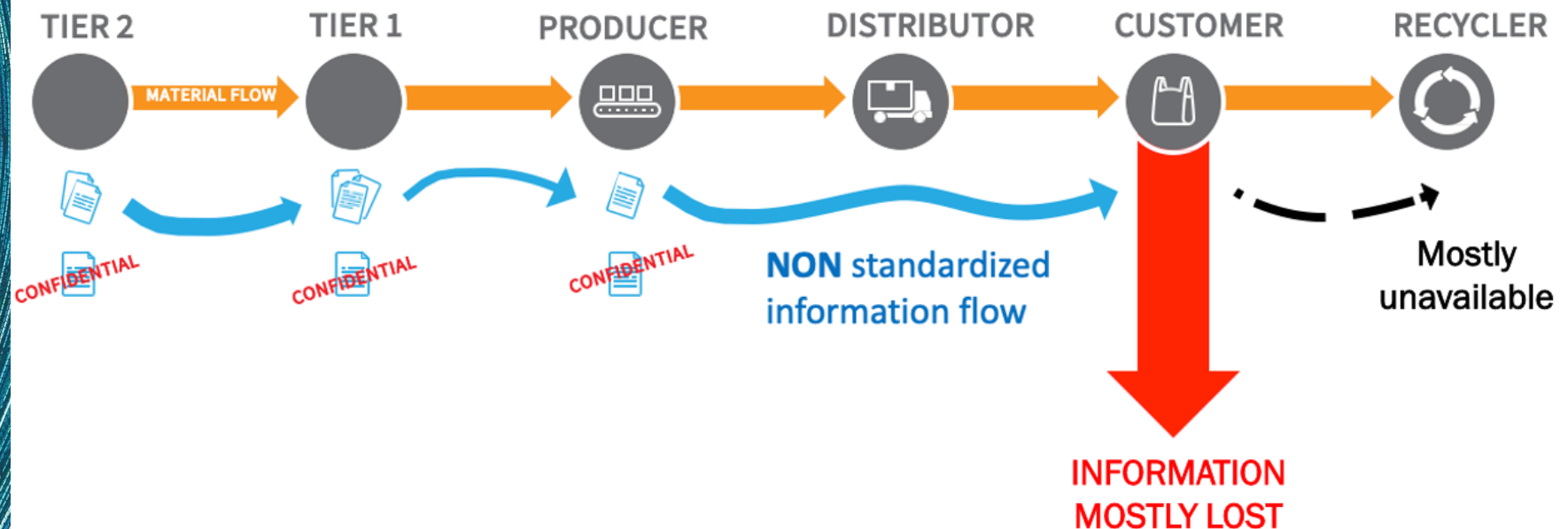Digital Product Passport

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Key Ecodesign aspects

- Durability

- Reliability

- Reusability

- Upgradability

- Repairability

- Possibility of maintenance and refurbishment

- Presence of substances of concern

- Energy use or energy efficiency

- Resource use or resource efficiency

- Recycled content

- Possibility of remanufacturing and recycling

- Possibility of recovery of materials

- Environmental impacts, including carbon and environmental footprint

- Expected generation of waste materials

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Digital Product Passport (DPP)

- **WHAT:** structured collection of product related data with pre-defined scope and agreed data ownership and access rights conveyed through **unique identifier**

- **HOW:** Decentralised system, with a central registry for enforcement and monitoring purposes
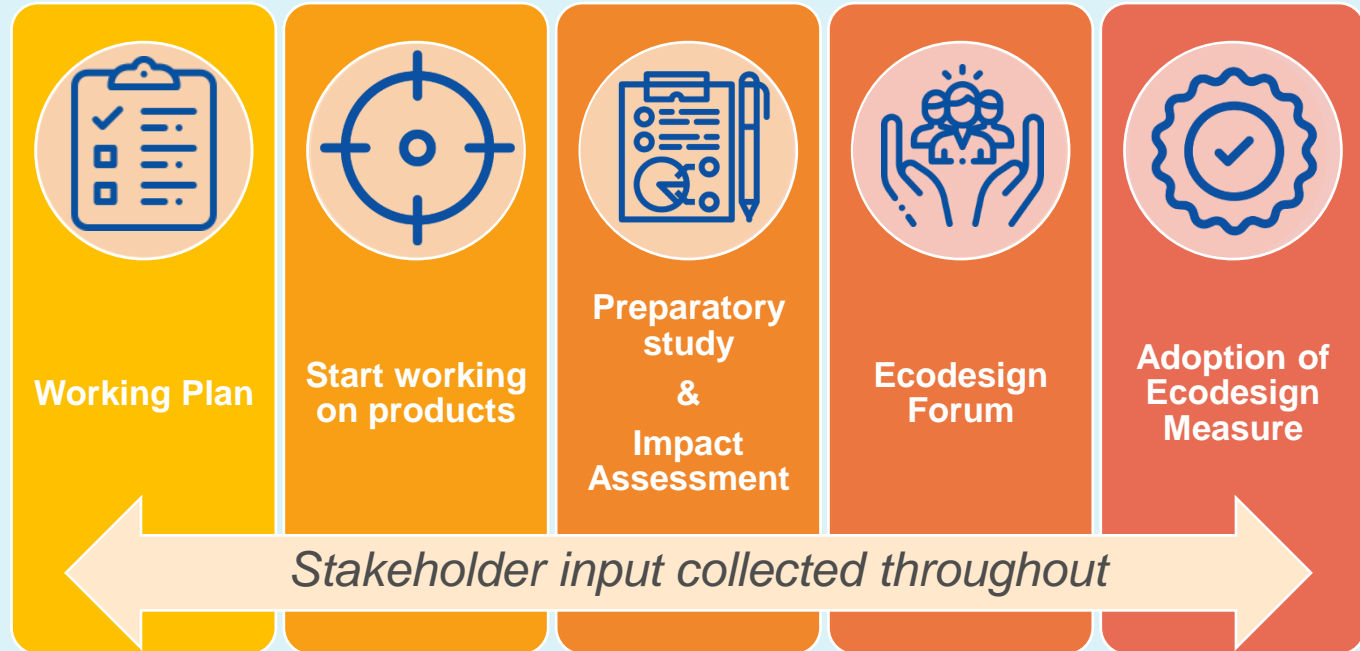
Process under ESPR

ESPR =
framework
legislation

*i.e. does not set
specific measures.
Rather, it enables
their later adoption*

Improved process for adoption of new Ecodesign measures

Working Plan

Start working on products

Preparatory study & Impact Assessment

Ecodesign Forum

Adoption of Ecodesign Measure

Stakeholder input collected throughout

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EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles
ESPR is key for implementation

➢ By 2030, all textile products placed on the EU market are:

- **durable, repairable and recyclable**

- to a great extent made of recycled fibres

- free of hazardous substances

- produced respecting social rights

➢ "**Fast fashion is out of fashion**" - consumers benefit longer from high quality textiles

➢ Profitable **re-use and repair services** are widely available

➢ In a competitive, resilient and innovative textile sector producers take responsibility for their products along the value chain

➢ **Circular** rather than throw-away clothes have become the norm, with sufficient capacities for recycling and minimal incineration and landfilling

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EU Strategy for Sustainable and Circular Textiles
ESPR is key for implementation

ESPR is key for implementation

1. New design requirements for textiles under the **Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation**

2. Addressing destruction of unsold textiles

3. Action to address the unintentional release of **microplastics** from synthetic textiles

4. Clearer information on textiles and a **Digital Product Passport**

5. Tackle **greenwashing**

6. Harmonized **Extended Producer Responsibility** rules for textiles with eco-modulation of fees

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Possible ecodesign requirements for textiles

"Commission will develop binding product-specific ecodesign requirements to increase performance in terms of durability, reusability, reparability, fibre-to-fibre recyclability and mandatory recycled fibre content, to minimise and track the presence of substances of concern and to reduce the adverse impacts on climate and the environment."

"The Commission plans to address the different lifecycle stages at which synthetic fibres are shed into the environment by a set of prevention and reduction measures, notably through binding design requirements to be introduced under the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation"

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Possible ecodesign requirements for textiles

How to operationalize?

- Durability → Colour fastness? Fabric resistance to pilling and abrasion? Dimemsional change due to washing?
- Reparability → Availability of spare parts?
- Recycled content → fibre to fibre? Polyester?
- Recyclability → Easy separation of fabric types?
- Environmental impacts → PEFCR?
- Generation of waste → Release of microplastics
- Etc

Performance and/or information requirements?

Scope?

- Apparel?
- Household textiles?
- Fabrics?

Your views?