



EUROPEAN COMMISSION - PRESS RELEASE

Energy Labelling: Commission urges Cyprus, Romania and Italy to adopt consumer-friendly legislation

Brussels, 27 February 2012 - The Energy labelling directive is important in promoting energy efficiency and raising consumers' awareness. By giving consumers comparative information on the energy consumption of the products they buy, the energy label favours better energy and cost saving decisions. In addition, it encourages manufacturers to develop products with a good energy efficiency rating. Moreover, defining common EU thresholds related to energy efficiency (B, A, A+ etc.) provides Member States with a clear framework when it comes to purchase requirements. This framework is useful also for other stakeholders such as private companies in their advertising activities.

The EU legislation aims at giving these possibilities in all countries. Despite letters of formal notice sent on 18 July 2011, Cyprus, Romania and Italy have not yet informed the Commission of the full transposition of the Directive into their national legislation.

Therefore the Commission has today decided to send Reasoned Opinions to these Member States. If they do not comply with their legal obligations within two months, the Commission may refer them to the Court of Justice.

Background

The infringement procedures relate to the Energy Labelling [Directive 2010/30/EU](#) which covers all energy-relevant products, their advertising, and their use in public procurement.

The EU has committed itself to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 20% as compared to 1990 levels and to reduce by 20% our energy consumption through improved energy efficiency by 2020. The Energy Labelling is key in reaching these objectives.

It has been estimated that the measures put in place so far under the old Energy Labelling [Directive 92/75/EEC](#) (on refrigerators and freezers, washing machines, tumble driers, dishwashers, household lighting, room air conditioners and ovens) currently save around 40-50 Terawatt hours per year, an amount which corresponds to the annual electricity consumption of Portugal. Under the new [Directive 2010/30/EC](#) the labels for refrigerators and freezers, washing machines, dishwashers, and room air conditioners have been already revised and a new labels for TVs has been introduced.

Further information

The Directive on Energy Labelling can be consulted [here](#).

Commission web page on Energy Labelling:

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/efficiency/labelling/labelling_en.htm

Current figures on infringements in general can be found at:

http://ec.europa.eu/eu_law/infringements/infringements_en.htm

For more information on EU infringement procedures, see [MEMO/12/134](#).

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