

**Invitation to the conference**  
***"The Landfill Directive – A practical solution?"***  
**30 November 2005**  
**Brussels, Conference Centre Borschette**

Council Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste, the "Landfill Directive", establishes a set of technical requirements for the design, operation, closure and after-care of landfills. Its objective is to help prevent or attenuate the negative effects that landfill sites can have on the environment or human health. These effects include polluted surface water, groundwater, soil and air. Landfills can also have a negative effect on the global environment by, for example, creating a greenhouse effect. The Directive also bans certain types of waste from landfill sites, and requires Member States to reduce the amount of biodegradable waste going to landfills.

Local and regional authorities are, to a large degree, responsible for putting this directive into daily practice. In order to learn more about the on-the-ground implementation of the directive the European Commission has asked the Committee of the Regions (CoR) to make a report on "The implementation of the Landfill Directive at regional and local level". This report will be adopted at the CoR plenary of 16 and 17 November 2005. It will be presented at the **conference "The Landfill Directive – A practical solution?" on 30 November 2005, in Brussels (Conference Centre Borschette)**, which is being jointly organised by the European Commission and the Committee of the Regions. This conference shall give an overview of the state of the implementation of the Directive, discuss problems, give examples of best practice and elaborate perspectives for the future.

Speakers at the conference include Commissioner Stavros Dimas, Director-General Catherine Day, DG Environment, Sir Albert Bore, First CoR Vice-President, Olivier Bertrand, President of the CoR's Commission for sustainable development, Caroline Jackson, Member of the European Parliament as well as representatives from different regions and civil society. All participants will have the opportunity to contribute to the discussion during each of the three thematic sessions (see programme).

The conference is open to all interested parties.  
The registration deadline is **18 November 2005**.

**Please register via**

[http://www.cor.eu.int/document/presentation/registration\\_deve\\_landfill.doc](http://www.cor.eu.int/document/presentation/registration_deve_landfill.doc)

Participation to the conference is limited to 250 subscriptions.

Confirmations will be sent after the registration deadline.