



Brussels, 31 August 2011

HOPE position on the Recast of the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive

HOPE would like to draw attention on the Recast of the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive.

HOPE, the European Hospital and Healthcare Federation is concerned by the requirements for the shipment of used equipment contained in Annex VI of the European Council first reading position adopted last June.

Proposed wording of Annex VI makes legitimate repair and refurbishment activities practically impossible.

This has the potential of limiting availability of refurbished systems and increasing costs, as repair of equipment which warranty period has expired would no longer be possible.

An additional element concerns medical equipment donations. In several EU member states medical equipment donations is part of a strategy to improve the quality of care in developing countries. HOPE is actually working on a project co-financed by EUROPAID on donations of medical equipments, improving the present situation within the borders defined by the World Health Organisation. This is an additional argument in the current debate.