



HEADLINE – USA WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

On Thursday, June 1, current US President Donald Trump confirmed his withdrawal from the Paris Climate Change Agreements adopted in December 2015 by 195 countries. The final withdrawal of the Paris Agreement will not be until November 2020. This decision shocked the whole world in particular there have been virulent reactions of other States parties to this agreement and personalities. In France, the minister of ecological transition Nicolas Hulot described this gesture as a crime against humanity, or French President Emmanuel Macron reacted by stating that his government will take concrete actions to "Make Our Planet Great Again". The German Chancellor also joined the statement of her French counterpart to gather their efforts to combat climate change. It also marks the beginning of climate leadership led by China, which has shown a willingness to participate with the European Union in the energy transition to combat climate change.



WASTES - A MEMBER STATE OF MEMBER STATES RESTRICTED BY THE COMMISSION

The European Commission has sent formal notice to at least 14 EU Member States for non-compliance with EU waste regulations, in particular the WEEE Directive, the 2008 Directive, The Battery Directive. The letter of formal notice dated 17 May states that these states have not provided reports on their objectives concerning reuse, recovery and recycling. States have two months to reply to the letter, that is until mid-July, otherwise financial sanctions may be imposed.



BIODIVERSITY - DISCOVERING A NEW AMAZON



If it were believed that in the 21st century the Earth had no more secrets for man, a discovery comes to question this idea. In early May, a team of researchers revealed that nearly 500 million hectares of forests had never been recorded. This would be a lack of detection by satellites to detect forested areas in arid zones. Specifically, it is 467 million hectares of forests found in arid environments, of which humanity was unaware. In these regions, covering a large part of Africa and Oceania, the vegetation is quite thick. Trees like the baobabs, are devoid of leaves a part of the year in order to adapt to extreme conditions. Parameters that sometimes make their detector impossible for conventional mapping tools.

Among the researchers behind this discovery, there is the Belgian researcher in forest ecology Jean-François Bastin working for the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). However, this news does not alleviate the severity of climate change. *Our calculations do not alter the fact that there is an increase in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, partly linked to deforestation,* says the expert.



CHEMICALS - JUNE 1, 2017: THE NEW CHEMICAL LABELING OBLIGATION



On Monday, May 22, 2017, INRS recalled that from 1 June 2017 all chemicals on the market will have to present a hazard label complying with the CLP regulation (Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 Introduction Classification, labeling and packaging of chemical substances and mixtures: Classification, Labeling, Packaging). In order to help chemical suppliers and users to fulfill this obligation, INRS links several documents that allow to understand the elements on a label and to inform employees about the labeling rules of the products.

For the record, there is a draft regulation dated 10 May 2017 which provides for the amendment of the CLP Regulation to adapt it to technical and scientific progress. The regulations have been amended several times and the purpose of the draft would be to ensure that the names of the substances are translated into all the languages of publication of the Regulation and not simply in English, as is currently the case. Manufacturers, importers and downstream users should change their labels accordingly within 18 months of project adoption.



JURISPRUDENCE

RESTRICTED CIRCULATION ZONES: THE LEGALITY OF THE DEVICE CONFIRMED

In a judgment of 25 April 2017, the Conseil d'Etat confirmed the legality of Decree No. 2016-847 of 28 June 2016 relating to restricted areas, laying down the procedures for drawing up a local order which may be taken by mayors And the presidents of public intercommunal establishments, in order to establish restricted areas on their commune or their public inter-municipal establishment, in the agglomerations concerned by a plan for the protection of the atmosphere. By order, the mayor or the president of a public intercommunal establishment can thus prohibit the traffic of the most polluting vehicles, without targeting only the oldest vehicles, without taking into account the place of residence of the users, Without providing for compensation in favor of passing vehicles. The Conseil d'Etat dismissed the action for annulment, thus confirming the legality of the decree. It points out that the contested decree merely sets out the procedure for issuing individual derogations from movement restrictions. The application for annulment must concern the order creating the restricted area and laying down the restrictive movement measures.



AIR QUALITY - IN PARIS, ROAD INNOVATION AGAINST ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION



The air quality in Paris is one of the battle horses of Anne Hidalgo, mayor of the city, since the beginning of his mandate. And it is an extremely innovative solution that will soon be deployed in the capital city, in order to know, on a street by street basis, the precise level of air pollution: the Pollutrack solution. Developed by the Think Tank PlanetWatch24, it consists of a system of micro-laser sensors, performing qualified measurements and recorded in Big Data every 20 seconds, which will be equipped with 300 vehicles of the fleet of the partner group Enedis, responsible for managing the electrical network Parisian. This tool will allow to have data of a much greater precision, in quasi-real time ... and without generating additional pollution.



LITTORAL - DECRET BEACHES: AN APPLICATION THAT CONTRASTS AT THE PROFESSIONALS

The summer season seems to be ahead of schedule, and the question of licensing concessions on beaches and the public maritime domain is resurfacing. The Beach Decree of May 26, 2006 frames these concessions and allows a partial privatization of a beach, provided, among other rules, that 80% of the length of the shore and the place remain public. For a long time, the law has been in force and has provoked the anger of professional plagiarists who demand a relaxation of its regulations, in particular on the obligation to install only completely removable structures activity area. One of the objectives of the text is precisely to protect the shoreline from constructions, which promote erosion, and the risk of submersion. While the former secretary of state in charge of the file appeared to be in favor of a compromise, the position of the new government on the issue is much awaited both critics of the text and its defenders, the high tourist season approaching.



ENVIRONMENT - A GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PACT

At the invitation of former Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius, a proposal for a Global Environment Facility was drafted and the draft text was drafted by the Environment Commission of the Club of Jurists, coordinated by Master Yann Aguila . In an article published on June 2, 2017 on the environment-magazine.fr site, Yann Aguila emphasized the double interest of such an agreement: on the one hand, this text would fill the current fragmentation by virtue of the existing treaties by consolidating the Principles, and, on the other hand, it would have legal force to ensure its effectiveness. On 24 June, a full day will be devoted to the presentation of this draft text of the Global Environment Pact. Eminent personalities such as Ban Ki-moon, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Mary Robinson will speak during this international symposium.

