



BIR

Bureau of International Recycling

BIR is the international trade association of the recycling industries. More than 50 countries are represented through their national trade associations and individual companies which are involved in recycling. BIR comprises four commodity divisions: iron and steel, non ferrous metals, paper and textiles, and has committees dealing with stainless steel and special alloys, plastics and rubber. BIR's primary goals are to promote recycling and recyclability, thereby conserving natural resources, protecting the environment and facilitating free trade of secondary raw materials.

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brussels, 16th June 2004

AQSIQ news directly from China

BIR Director General Francis Veys, who is currently on an official mission in China, sends the following update on the situation with AQSIQ based on information from reliable local sources:

1. Regarding the announced **deadline extension until 1st September 2004**, Mr Veys states that it **must still be officially ratified by the Head of AQSIQ**. It is understood but still needs to be confirmed that this deadline applies to the moment **“when the company registration procedure has to be finalised”** and **NOT for sending the application**. AQSIQ should receive applications much earlier to allow time for processing. BIR endeavours to negotiate a special arrangement regarding the deadline, but there is no guarantee that it will be granted.
2. **Applications** must still be made in **English AND Chinese** and require 17 different documents including the application form itself. Discussions regarding the language issue continue.

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3. All questions raised by BIR should be **answered by AQSIQ on 18th June 2004**. BIR members will be immediately informed via e-mail and via the BIR website www.bir.org.

Mr Veys and BIR Non Ferrous Metals Division Vice-President Bob Stein will be holding official talks with AQSIQ on 18th June after which more clarification is expected. Today, the BIR delegation was joined by representatives of the BIR member federation ISRI from the USA, and Mr Veys welcomed ISRI President Robin Wiener and Managing Director of Government Relations Scott Horne to participate with him and Mr Stein in their 18th June meeting with AQSIQ.

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