



**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.

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Brussels, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2004**

### **BIR urges AQSIQ to clarify and possibly extend Chinese registration deadline**

As a follow-up of the BIR World Recycling Convention in Berlin (24-26 May 2004), which echoed great concern among members regarding the implementation of the new registration procedure imposed by Chinese authorities to overseas exports, BIR Director General Francis Veys sent on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2004 an official letter to AQSIQ (*General Administration of Quality Supervision Inspection and Quarantine of China*).

BIR expresses concern that too many questions regarding the registration procedure remain open and that the absence of an official English translation of announcements 115 and 48 would “undoubtedly lead to misunderstandings and administrative errors which could have serious legal implications” for the operators.

BIR points out that very few companies would be able to meet the registration deadline as the latest announcement (nr. 48), which was giving details of the

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application procedure and of the AQSIQ registration office, had only been released on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2004.

In light of the fact that BIR members are involved in about 60% of the total ferrous and non ferrous scrap volume annually exported to China (equal figures apply to recovered paper), BIR urges AQSIQ to move the registration deadline from 1<sup>st</sup> July to 1<sup>st</sup> October 2004.

BIR will prepare a list of questions for which BIR members urgently need accurate answers. If too many issues remain unsolved, BIR will try to arrange a high-level meeting with the Chinese authorities in Beijing.

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