



Decree Establishes Strategic Materials for Recycling to Help Boost National Economy

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Venezuela President Nicolás Maduro published Decree No. 4,445 in the *Official Gazette* on Feb. 24, 2021, establishing that metallic, ferrous, aluminum, copper, iron, bronze, steel, nickel or other types of metal wastes and scraps, as well as naval, aeronautical, electrical and electronic scraps in any condition and non-metallic solid wastes, optical fiber and secondary fiber, paper product and cardboard materials in any condition are strategic materials subject to recycling to help boost the national economy. The Decree went into force when it was published in the *Official Gazette*.

All of these wastes may be acquired exclusively by the executive power, through Corporación Ecosocialista Ezequiel Zamora S.A. (CORPOEZ), which is responsible for controlling, collecting, stockpiling, mobilizing, transforming, commercializing and exporting such materials. Exports will only be acknowledged exceptionally, with prior authorization of the Executive Vice President. For these purposes, it is ordered that all organs and entities of the public sector must make available to CORPOEZ all strategic materials indicated in the Decree that are subject to recycling within a period of 60 business days counted as of Feb. 24, 2021.

The strategic material inventory shall include the corresponding category (the type of material), quantity, disposition, location, general condition and price to be paid to the different public sector agencies and entities with regard to the sale of strategic materials.

This Decree excludes the collection, mobilization, stockpiling, transformation, commercialization and export of ferrous and non-ferrous naval, aeronautical, electrical and electronic scraps generated by the units and departments of the defense sector.

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