

Brussels, 2 June 2016

LEAD MEP ON CIRCULAR ECONOMY PROPOSES LEGISLATIVE MEASURES TO BOOST RENEWABLE MATERIALS

The members of the Alliance for Beverage Cartons and the Environment (ACE) welcome the release of the draft reports on waste legislation by the European Parliament's lead Committee Rapporteur Simona Bonafè MEP today.

ACE commends the Rapporteur on the overall direction of the draft reports and supports in particular the proposals to encourage the use of bio-based packaging. The ENVI Committee's Rapporteur has proposed legislative action requiring Member States to take such measures as "improving market conditions" and "reviewing existing legislation hampering" bio-based packaging. This is a significant step forward from the policy intentions of the European Commission's Circular Economy Action Plan.

"ACE members welcome the Rapporteur's emphasis on incentivising the use of renewable, bio-based sources in packaging materials", said ACE President Kristian Hall. "These legal measures are needed to secure investments in the production of innovative materials from renewable sources. This will support Europe's access to resources and improve the environmental performance of packaging", he added.

ACE is also encouraged by the Rapporteur's proposal to increase separate collection and sorting of all packaging wastes and to reduce municipal waste landfilled by 2030 to 5%. *"This sends a strong signal that all packaging that is recyclable should be recycled", commented Sabine von Wirén-Lehr, Chair of ACE Task Force Circular Economy and Senior Manager Public Affairs at Tetra Pak International.*

ACE will consider the details of the Bonafè draft reports in the coming days and looks forward to discuss further with the European Parliament what is needed in terms of legislation on waste to contribute to the realisation of a Circular Economy.

Note to Editors

ACE provides a European platform for beverage carton manufacturers and their paperboard suppliers to benchmark and profile cartons as renewable, recyclable and low carbon packaging solutions. Engaging with stakeholders and partners seeking high environmental stewardship, it contributes expertise to EU policy, legislation and standard-setting.

ACE members include beverage carton producers Tetra Pak, SIG Combibloc and Elopak; they develop, manufacture and market systems for the processing, packaging and distribution of food, and produce packaging material at 20 plants in Europe. About 98% of the paperboard used by ACE members in beverage cartons in Europe is produced by Stora Enso in Skoghall (Sweden) and Imatra (Finland), and BillerudKorsnäs in Gävle and Frövi (Sweden), who are also members of ACE. These paper mills and the beverage carton manufacturers in ACE together employ close to 30,000 people worldwide.

For further information please visit the ACE website www.beveragecarton.eu or contact:

MAJA DRČA, ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION MANAGER

TEL +32 (0)2 504 07 16 • maja.drca@beveragecarton.eu