

29 September 2015
Palais des Académies, Brussels

TOWARDS A GREEN CIRCULAR ECONOMY

EPR and its role for post-consumer plastics



PROGRAMME



SUMMARY

Today, nearly 50% of plastic waste in the EU still goes to landfill instead of being better used or recycled into new products. More sustainable management of post-consumer plastics at all stages of the value chain is key to tackle these challenges. Studies show that Europe could significantly enhance resource efficiency and environmental protection by the development of a Circular Economy for plastics.

Over the last decades, the principle of **Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)** has played a central role and has proven to be an effective policy tool to foster the recovery of plastic waste and the eco-design of products and therefore support a more sustainable management of post-consumer plastics.

However, the development of a **Circular Economy for post-consumer plastics** is not an easy task, as it requires changes throughout the whole life-cycle of products and a constructive dialogue of all actors involved.

The conference will focus on the following questions:

- What is the role of consumers regarding sustainable management of plastics?
- What is the role of retailers, recyclers and producers?
- What are major barriers to the eco-design of plastics materials and products?
- How can high quality recycling be achieved?
- What is needed to boost the European market for secondary raw materials?
- Which political framework is required to fit post-consumer plastics into a Circular Economy?

In the context of the **relaunch of the Circular Economy Package**, the ACR+ / DSD conference will bring together experts from industry, politics, NGOs and science to discuss these questions, present best-practice examples and elaborate on the potentials of EPR implementation and sustainable management of post-consumer plastics.



AGENDA

09h00-09h10: **WELCOME**, Michael Wiener, DSD | Françoise Bonnet, ACR+

09h10-09h30: **KEYNOTE**, Françoise Bonnet, ACR+

“Circular economy starts with citizens and consumers”

09h30-09h50: **KEYNOTE**, Peter Heydasch, DOW Chemical

“Recycling: Economic and Eco-Logic Acceleration“

09h50-10h10: **Q&A SESSION**

10h10-10h30: Coffee Break

10h30-10h50: **KEYNOTE**, Frank Böttcher, CEO DKR

“A new approach is needed – Getting market access through high quality recycling”

10h50-12h20: **SESSION 1**: Panel discussion, Q&A session: Follow-up discussion on Keynote

“Turning post-consumer plastic waste into a valuable resource – visions and challenges”

Stéphane Arditi, EEB | Carlos de los Llanos, Eco-Emballage | Françoise Gerardi, elipso | Per Stoltz, IKEA | Paulo Correia, Logoplaste

Each stakeholder along the value chain has its own visions and challenges when it comes to closed loops for plastics. This panel will discuss what is needed to overcome individual challenges in order to formulate a common vision.

12h20-13h30: Networking Lunch

13h30-13h50: **KEYNOTE**, Dr. Helmut Maurer, European Commission, DG Environment

“Fitting post-consumer plastics into a green circular economy”

13h50-15h00: **SESSION 2**: Panel discussion, Q&A session: Follow-up discussion on Keynote

Dr. Reinhard Büscher, DG GROW | Dr. Thomas Rummeler, German Environment Ministry | Teresa Barrés, Spanish Environment Ministry | Dr. Helmut Maurer, European Commission - DG Environment

Against the background of the upcoming EU Circular Economy Package, this political panel discussion will deal with the regulatory and political framework needed to achieve a circular economy for plastics.

15h00-15h10: **Closing remarks**, Helmut Schmitz, DSD

15h10-16h00: Get-together

Facilitator: James Crisp



CONTACT

For more information, you can contact:

Gaëlle Colas: gc@acrplus.org

or

Katrin Haus: khaus@heringschuppener.com

