



Press Release

European Bioplastics supports new legislative approach on bioplastics in Latvia

Berlin/Riga, 10 July 2009. *homo ecos:*, the Latvian representation of the bioplastics industry, has initiated a cabinet ordinance that is preparing to implement EN 13432 and EN 14995 into national legislation. *European Bioplastics*, the European representation of the bioplastics industry, supports the new legislative approach in Latvia.

A cabinet ordinance initiated by *homo ecos:* is currently under way to define biodegradable plastics as certified compostable according to EN 13432/14995. "At the moment we are strongly committed to the translation of the European standards for compostable bioplastics EN 13432 and EN 14995 into Latvian. This is necessary so that the standards can be taken over in national legislation," says Andrejs Viks, spokesperson/board member of *homo ecos:*. A tax on natural resources in Latvia grants packaging made of biodegradable plastics a significantly reduced tariff compared to conventional plastic materials. The new ordinance makes certification and labelling mandatory for bioplastics products if they want to profit from the lower tariff.

"*European Bioplastics* welcomes the initiative by *homo ecos:*. Eastern Europe is a market of great possibilities for our industry.", states Andy Sweetman, Chairman of *European Bioplastics*. "It is good to see the visibility of our products growing and the support for bioplastics strengthened in Latvia. We are looking forward to further improve our collaboration locally in all fields of work."

Homo ecos: is the newest member of the *Congress of the European and National Bioplastics Organisations and Networks (CEBON)*, which is coordinated by *European Bioplastics*. The concept of *homo ecos:* is to assemble different sustainable technologies under the roof of one representation. Next to bioplastics, projects in the field of paper and renewable energies are envisaged.

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