



## **Cross Industry Agreement 11<sup>th</sup> Technical Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 (video call)**

### ***Meeting Report***

#### **Opening, objectives & updates**

EURATEX on behalf of the five CIA signatories welcomed the participants and introduced the agenda of the meeting, which was approved by the participants. EURATEX shared updates concerning the CIA: i) Publication of the brochure in three languages, ii) adoption of the 10<sup>th</sup> CIA technical report iii) welcoming of the Dutch federation Modint in the CIA community (ref. enclosed presentation Annex I)

EURATEX mentioned relevant events in which the signatories discussed microplastics and presented CIA community work, notably: the OECD meeting in December, a policy debate on EPR and microplastics at the European Parliament, the recent Green Week 2021 organised by the European Commission, a workshop on microplastics organised by the CEN Technical Committee 444.

Participants shared updates on microplastic work in several countries. In the US, the tests are currently in ballot. In the UK, a parliamentary report should be published soon as researchers have been working with a parliamentary group on microplastics.

#### ***i) Presentation from Paulo Da Silva Lemos, Policy Officer, European Commission***

Mr. Da Silva Lemos from the European Commission DG Environment presented the policy context on microplastics referring to past and ongoing legislative work (see enclosed presentation? annex II) He informed of a Commission study contracted to consultants and of workshop planned in September; he also informed the Commission relevant roadmap should be released in the fall.

Some participants exchanged opinion on the microplastic definition and Mr. Da Silva Lemos welcomed inputs to be send to the Commission and the consultancy in charge of the study. Participants also inquired on the consumer awareness, on requirements, on the scope for eco-design as well as on material efficiency.

#### ***ii) Progress on CEN and test method***

EOG presented the results of the round robin trial applied to the CIA test method and which were run between April to June 2021 in 10 laboratories. Test data were received at the beginning of June; initially an issue stood out for a laboratory and after running the test again, the data aligned with those provided by other labs. EOG thanks the participants that took part in the test method. Participants discussed more in details the batch and the results. EOG welcomed participants to share some more data if available.

EOG informed on the next CEN meeting set for 12<sup>th</sup> July to be followed by a CEN enquiry which last approximately 3 months. This information suggested the official test method may be expected by Christmas; however, other participants observe the enquiry duration may be longer.

Overall, the results available appear to validate CIA work. On this basis, participants discussed releasing of a second CIA brochure to focus on the results. The brochure should be discussed in the next meeting to be organised in September.



### ***iii) Next steps for the CIA***

EURATEX opened a discussion on the potential next steps for the CIA community asking two questions on possibilities for research and policy developments. Several participants shared updates on their country situation.

- In Sweden and Germany, stakeholders are in the process of evaluating funds available at national level and information on potential research projects.
- In Belgium, a project on microplastics just started (name to be specified).
- In the Netherlands, a consortium of stakeholders is being considered.

After a roundtable about research interest, EURATEX informed that it will continue monitoring on funding opportunities from the European Commission and it would inform the CIA community welcoming proposals for research projects. [note: EURATEX shared updated information in an Annex II) to this meeting report]

On the policy side, the participants discussed the status of information available on microplastics and inputs for the Commission study, including benchmarking; risk assessment, communication on test method.

### ***Conclusions and next steps***

Participants agreed on the following:

- EOG will draft a short communication brochure on the results of the test method
- CIA community will coordinate to provide inputs to the Commission Study
- A meeting will be organized in September to address: i) research project, ii) communication brochure and iii) the Commission study. Participants welcome to mark preference via [doodle](#).
- EURATEX to publish on the website a non-confidential summary of this meeting report, participants welcome to make any comments or highlight confidential information

### **Organisation**

Aquafil - on behalf of CIRFS

AATCC, USA

AATCC, USA

Henkel – on behalf of AISE

Niederrhein, Germany

Centexbel, Belgium

RISE, Sweden

SGS Group, Hong Kong

University of Leeds, United Kingdom

Japan Chemical Fibres Association

Japan Chemical Fibres Association

Hohenstein, Germany

Hohenstein, Germany

RISE, Sweden



The Microfibre consortium, UK  
Niederrhein, Germany  
Eurofins  
Tuv sud, UK  
Henkel – on behalf of AISE  
Centrocot, Italy  
University of Leeds  
UI, Italy  
Modint, Netherlands  
Hohenstein, Germany  
RISE, Sweden

**Hosts**

AISE  
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European Outdoor Group  
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## Annex III

### European funding opportunity for research on microplastics

After the 11th Technical Meeting, the European Commission shared with EURATEX information on funding opportunities (Horizon call for proposals) which could support the CIA community objectives. The European Commission published on 17th June [the work programmes for 2021 and 2022 of Horizon Europe](#).

Members of the CIA community are welcomed to consult the calls documents listed hereafter, and share with the community non-confidential projects ideas to tackle the release of microplastics. Project ideas may be discussed at the next CIA meeting in September.

- **HORIZON-CL6-2021-CIRCBIO-01-04: Increasing the circularity in textiles, plastics and/or electronics value chains** aiming at increasing deployment and market uptake of new technological solutions to waste management and recycling, and demonstrating benefits of advanced digital solutions in circular businesses.
- **HORIZON-CL6-2021-CIRCBIO-01-03: Innovative solutions to over-packaging and single-use plastics, and related microplastic pollution** aiming at increasing reuse, recyclability and upcycling of packaging and single-use plastics and reducing the release of microplastics from packaging and single-use plastics into the environment.
- **HORIZON-CL4-2022-TWIN-TRANSITION-01-06: ICT Innovation for Manufacturing Sustainability in SMEs** aiming at making European manufacturing companies, especially SMEs and small mid-caps, more sustainable and resilient through the best use of digital technologies and upskilling of personnel;
- **HORIZON-CL4-2021-RESILIENCE-01-11: Safe- and sustainable-by-design polymeric Materials** aiming at developing recyclable-by-design polymers with inherent recyclability properties for polymers where nowadays recyclability challenge is high and Safer (lower toxicity) plastics.
- Different from the Horizon Europe programme, the **Life Programme** also offers some possibilities as it covers related areas: nature & biodiversity, circular economy and quality of life, climate change mitigation and adaptation, clean energy transition. CINEA is in the process of publishing [the LIFE 2021 Calls for proposals](#) in July 2021.
- [HORIZON-CL4-2021-RESILIENCE-01-08](#): *Establishing EU-led international community on safe- and sustainable-by-design materials to support embedding sustainability criteria over the life cycle of products and processes (CSA)*