Water – a priority for the European Paper Industry

CEPI – the Confederation of European Paper industries – has joined the European Water Partnership as their first federation member.

The European Water Partnership’s (EWP) mission is to give water one common voice in Europe and to provide an open and independent forum to discuss innovative management, technological and financial solutions. The EWP also puts water on the mainstream political and media agenda and develops awareness of the urgency of water challenges among policy makers and business.

“Paper manufacturing involves three main elements: energy, fibre and water. Water has been an important resource for the paper industry from the beginning and we have already come a long way in environmental technology to clean and reduce the water used in our industry. We believe it is important to be part of the process and share our expertise while shaping water policy.” explains CEPI Energy & Environment Director Marco Mensink.

CEPI also joined the Water Footprint Network helping to advance the concept of ‘water footprint’ (a spatially and temporally explicit indicator of direct and indirect water use of consumers and producers).

The mission of the Water Footprint Network is to promote the transition towards sustainable, fair and efficient use of fresh water resources worldwide. It coordinates efforts to further develop and disseminate knowledge on water footprint concepts, methods and tools. It brings together partners from diverse origins: knowledge institutions, non-governmental sector, private sector, governments and UN.

“Water is an extremely valuable resource and we in the paper industry take our responsibility to its management seriously” said Teresa Presas, CEPI Managing Director. “The pulp and paper sector has already made many improvements and will continue to do so as part of our commitment to sustainable development”.

For more information, please contact Marco Mensink CEPI’s Energy & Environment Director at m.mensink@cepi.org or +32 2627 4928

Note to the Editor
CEPI aisbl - The Confederation of European Paper Industries
The Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI) is a Brussels-based non-profit making organisation regrouping the European pulp and paper industry and championing this industry’s achievements and the benefits of its products. Its mission is to promote the member’s business sector by taking specific actions notably, by monitoring and analysing activities and initiatives in the areas of industry, environment, energy, forestry, recycling, fiscal policies and competitiveness in general. Through CEPI, the paper industry increases its visibility and acts on emerging issues, making expert and constructive contributions on behalf of the industry.

Its collective expertise provides a unique source of information both for and on the industry; coordinating essential exchanges of experience and knowledge among its members, the ability to provide technical assistance to legislators and to identify independent experts on specific issues.

Through its 18 member countries (16 European Union members plus Norway and Switzerland) CEPI represents some 800 pulp, paper and board producing companies across Europe, ranging from small and medium sized companies to multi-nationals, and 1200 paper mills. Together they represent 27% of world production.

**European Water Partnership**
www.ewp.org

**Water Footprint Network**
www.waterfootprint.org