New CEPI Chairman: Berry Wiersum, Sappi Europe CEO

Brussels, 2 December 2009

The Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI) is pleased to announce the appointment of Berry Wiersum as the next CEPI chairman. Mr Wiersum will start his chairmanship in the beginning of January 2010 and will hold the post until the end of 2011. Mr Magnus Hall, the current CEPI chairman, will take the post of Vice-chairman for the next two years to guarantee a smooth transition.

Berry Wiersum who joined SAPPI in January 2007 started his career at ICI Fibres, became President of Amoco Fabrics (Europe), then the President of Amoco Chemicals (Europe), and when Amoco was taken over by BP, he moved to BP to assist with the integration of the two groups in Europe. He subsequently left BP and joined Pechiney SA in France and ran the CEBAL packaging division until he was recruited as Managing Director of the Packaging division of Kappa Packaging BV and member of the Management Board responsible for paper manufacture and packaging in the Kappa group. He holds a Master of Arts degree with Combined Honours in Mediaeval and Modern History and subsidiaries in French and Music from the University of St Andrews in the UK.

On being presented as the next Chairman of CEPI at European Paper Week, Mr Wiersum remarked: “I am pleased to take the reins from Magnus who has steered a strong and straight course for the industry over the last two years. We still have some tough challenges ahead but I have a great belief that our industry will meet them and prosper. CEPI is working very hard to show that the paper industry is part of the solution to climate change with a clear vision that shows how competitiveness and sustainability can really go hand in hand.”

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Notes 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.

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.