Press Release

Launch of the European alliance for a Green Recovery

Brussels, 14 April 2020

Cepi, the Confederation of European paper industries and its members across Europe, strongly support the initiative of Pascal Canfin, Chair of the Environment Committee at the European Parliament, to launch a European alliance for a Green Recovery. Cepi joins 180 political decision-makers, business leaders, trade unions, NGOs, and think tanks who have come together to create the alliance.

In the face of the coronavirus crisis, the biggest challenge Europe has faced in peacetime, with devastating consequences and a shock to the economy tougher than the 2008 crisis, Ministers from 11 countries, 79 cross-party MEPs from 17 Member States, 37 CEOs, 28 business associations representing 10 different sectors, trade union confederation representing members from 90 national trade union organisations and 10 trade union federations, 7 NGOs and 6 think tanks, have committed to working together to create, support and implement solutions to prepare our economies for the world of tomorrow.

This first pan-European call for mobilisation on post-crisis green investment packages will work to build the recovery and transformation plans which enshrine the fight against climate change and biodiversity as a key pillar of the economic strategy.

Sharing the belief that the economic recovery will only come with massive investments to protect and create jobs and to support all companies, regions and sectors that have suffered from the economy coming to a sudden halt, the alliance commits to contribute to the post-crisis investment decisions needed to reboot and reboost our economy.

Covid-19 will not make climate change and nature degradation go away. The fight against this crisis will not be won without a solid economic response. The alliance commits to participate in the fight and the victory of these two battles simultaneously, and by doing so, being stronger together.

Signatories:

Jean-Paul Agon, Chairman and CEO, L’Oreal; Alviina Alametsa, MEP, Greens/ EFA; Enzo Amendola, Italian Minister for European Affairs; Éric Andrieu, MEP, Vice-President of the S&D Group; Wolfgang Anzengruber, CEO Verbund; Ester Asin, Director of WWF European Policy Office; Margrethe Auken, MEP, Greens/ EFA; Fabrice Barthélémy CEO Tarkett; Philippe Bastien,
Schneider Electric; Martin Hojsik, MEP, Renew Europe; Pär Holmgren, MEP, Greens/EFA; Peter Hug, Managing Director of European Building Automation and Control Association; Sophie In't Veld, MEP, Renew Europe; Yannick Jadot, MEP, Greens/EFA; Agnes Jongerius, MEP, Coordinator in the Employment and Social Affairs Committee, S&D; Alan Jope, CEO, Unilever; Dan Jorgensen, Danish Minister for Climate, Energy and Utilities; Jean-Marc Jossart, Secretary General at Bioenergy Europe; Adrian Joyce, Secretary General of the European Alliance of Company for Energy Efficiency in Buildings; Radan Kanev, MEP, EPP; Pierre Karleskind, MEP, President of the Fisheries Committee, Renew Europe; Fabienne Keller, MEP, Renew Europe; Ska Keller, MEP, Co-President of the of the Greens/EFA; John Keppler, CEO Enviva; Jouni Keronen, CEO of Climate Leadership Coalition; Werner Kogler, Vice-chancellor of Austria; Miapetra Kumpula-Natri, MEP, S&D; Philippe Lamberts, MEP Co-President of the of the Greens/EFA; Pascal Lamy, Honorary President of the Jacques Delors Institute; Benoît Leguét, Managing Director of I4CE; Nathalie Loiseau, MEP, Chair of the Subcommittee on Security and Defence, Renew Europe; Torbjörn Lööf, CEO Inter IKEA Group; Isabella Lövin, Swedish Minister for Environment and Climate, and Deputy Prime Minister; Martin Lundstedt, CEO Volvo Group; Géraldine Matchett, Co-CEO and Member of the Managing Board of Royal DSM; Karen Melchior, MEP, Renew Europe; Dr Maria Mendiluce, Interim CEO at We Mean Business; Tilly Metz, MEP, Greens/EFA; António Mexia, CEO EDP; Iskra Mihaylova, MEP, Vice-President of Renew Europe; Krista Mikkonen, Finnish Minister for Environment and Climate; Nick Molho, Executive Director of Aldersgate group; Sabine Nallinger, Managing Director of Foundation 2° – German CEOs for Climate Protection; Emma Navarro, Vice-president of the European Investment Bank; Dan Nica, MEP, Coordinator in the Industry Committee, S&D; Dr. Kai Niebert, President Deutscher Naturschutzzring; Ville Niinistö, MEP, Greens/EFA; Grace O'Sullivan, MEP, Greens/EFA; Mari Pantsar, Director of SITRA; Jutta Paulus, MEP, Greens/EFA; Diego Pavan, CEO InnoEnergy; Thierry Pech, Managing Director, Terra Nova; Arturo Pérez de Lucia, Director General AEDIVE; Kira Marie Peter-Hansen, MEP, Greens/EFA; Morten Petersen, MEP, Vice-Chair of the Industry Committee, Renew Europe; Sirpa Pietikainen MEP, EPP; Kati Piri, MEP, Vice-President of the S&D Group; Rovana Plumb, MEP, Vice-President of the S&D Group; Brune Poirson, French Secretary of State, attached to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition; Paul Polman, Former CEO Unilever; Silviu Popovici, CEO PepsiCo Europe; Teresa Ribera, Vice President of the Spanish Government - Minister for the Ecological Transition and Demographic challenge; Dominique Riquet, MEP, Vice-President of Renew Europe; Michèle Rivasi, MEP, Greens/EFA; Soraya Rodriguez Ramos, MEP, Renew Europe; Federica Sabbati, Secretary General of European Heating Industry; Mark Schneider, CEO Nestlé; Svenja Schulze, German Minister for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety; Stéphane Séjourné, MEP, Renew Europe; Brad Smith, President of Microsoft; Jean-Dominique Senard, Chairman of the Board of Directors at Renault group; Sylwia Spurek, M E P, S&D; Francisco Starace, CEO ENEL; Markus Steilemann, CEO Covestro; Ana Struna Bregar, CEO of Center of Energy Efficient Solutions; Jan Te Bos, Director General of the European Insulation Manufacturers Association; Steven Tebbe, Managing Director of CDP Europe; Dr Johannes Teyssen, CEO, E.ON SE; Frauke Thies, Executive Director of SmartEn; William Todts, Executive Director of Transport &
Environment; Irène Tolleret, MEP, Renew Europe; Nils Torvalds, MEP, Coordinator in the Environment Committee, Renew Europe; Costas Travasaros, President of Solar Heat Europe; Véronique Trillet-Lenoir, MEP, Renew Europe; Trio Wendel, Director of CAN Europe; Laurence Tubiana, President of the European Climate Foundation; Claude Turmes, Luxembourg Minister for Energy and Spatial planning; Frank van der Vloed, CEO Signify Europe; Peter Vanacker, CEO Neste; Philippe Vangeel, Secretary General of AVERE; Marie-Pierre Vedrenne, MEP, Renew Europe; Jean-Marc Vilon, Chairman of Association Française des Sociétés financières; Juan Virgilio Marquez, Associacion Eolica Espanola; Luca Visentini, ETUC General Secretary; Ludovic Voet, ETUC Confederal Secretary; Andrea Voigt, Director General of European Partnership for Energy and Environment; Emmanuelle Wargon, French Secretary of State, attached to the Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition; Jayson Warner, Zone President - Europe, Anheuser-Busch InBev; Jeremy Wates, Secretary General fo the European Environmental Bureau; Claire Waysand, Executive Vice President and General Secretary of ENGIE ; Pernille Weiss, MEP, EPP; Eliot Whittington, Director of Corporate Leaders Group; Sarah Wiener, MEP, Greens/ EFA; Michal Wiezik, MEP, EPP; Tiemo Wolken, MEP, S&D; Stephanie Yon Courtin, MEP, Renew Europe; Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, MEP, Renew Europe; Carlos Zorrinho, MEP, S&D.

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About Cepi:
Cepi is the European association representing the paper industry. We offer a wide range of renewable and recyclable wood-based fibre solutions to EU citizens: from packaging to textile, hygiene and tissue products, printing and graphic papers as well as specialty papers, but also bio-chemicals for food and pharmaceuticals, bio-composites and bioenergy.

We are a responsible industry: 92% of our raw materials are sourced in Europe and certified as sustainable, 91% of the water we use is returned in good condition to the environment. We are the world champion in recycling at the rate of 71.6%. At the forefront of the decarbonisation and industrial transformation of our economy, we embrace digitalisation and bring 20 billion value addition to the European economy and €5.5 billion investments annually.

Through its 18 national associations, Cepi gathers 500 companies operating 895 mills across Europe and directly employing more than 180,000 people.