



VinylPlus Monitoring Committee

10th April 2012 – 10h30 : 12h30

European Parliament – Meeting room – A4F384

Minutes

Participants:

Prof Alfons Buekens	Chairman
Mr Klaus Berand	Head of Unit, Chemicals Industry – DG Enterprise & Industry
Mr Alexandre Dangis	Managing Director, EuPC
Dr Brigitte Dero	ECVM, General Manager and VinylPlus Deputy General Manager
Mr Joachim Eckstein	Vice-President, VinylPlus
Mr Sakib Ershad	European Parliament
Mr Rainer Grasmück	Global Head of PVC Additives, Baerlocher
Ms Artemis Hatz-Hull	European Commission – DG Env.
Mr Jorma Rusanen	Political Secretary, EMCEF
Mr Carlos Sanchez Reyes	Organizacion de Consumidores y Usuarios

Apologies:

Ms Soledad Blanco	Director, DG Environment
Mr Filipe Constant	CEO, SolVin
Mr Gwenole Cozigou	Director, DG Enterprise G
Mr Sajjad Karim	MEP, European Parliament
Ms Godelieve Quisthoudt-Rowohl	MEP, European Parliament
Mr Maik Schmahl	Team Leader, Legislation Specific Chemicals and GLP, DG Ent



1. Welcome and Agreement of the Agenda

Professor Buekens welcomed the participants and thanked them for their participation at the eighteenth VinylPlus (formally Vinyl 2010) Monitoring Committee.

He welcomed in particular, Brigitte Dero, in her new position at ECVI, as General Manager and Deputy General Manager at VinylPlus.

He expressed, on behalf of the Monitoring Committee, his sincere condolences to Carlos Sanchez Reyes on the loss of a family member.

The Agenda was approved.

2. Formal approval of the minutes of the last VinylPlus Meeting on 6th December 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on the 6th December 2011 were formally approved, pending a request for clarification regarding the Slovak plant. The plant still produces very small quantities and has withdrawn its membership from ECVI.

3. Date of next meeting November 2012

The next meeting is scheduled on the 30th November from 10h30 : 12h30 at the European Parliament.

4. VinylPlus Progress Report 2012 – Final review and endorsement

The final draft of the progress report was reviewed. The participants of the Monitoring Committee expressed the wish to receive the draft report well in advance, two weeks being the minimum. They had problems to print the report, as well as problems with pagination as page numbers did not appear on all pages. On page 4, it is asked to limit the members from the Commission to the respective Directors of Directorate-General Environment and Directorate-General Enterprise and Industry, i.e. Ms Soledad Blanco and Mr Gwenole Cozigou.

Recycling challenge 1 and the objective to recycle 800,000t in 2020: The Commission representatives asked VinylPlus to clarify in the future the split in % of Post-Consumer and Post-Industrial waste.



Some additional comments were made to clarify some wording regarding the plasticizers part. These comments were taken into account for the final version. Everyone appreciate the new style to present the 5 challenges and achievements.

5. VinylPlus Q1 Achievements and Perspectives

Joachim Eckstein explained the development of a new operating concept to stimulate a full market for PVC recyclates, by integrating converters and recyclers into a new certification system. He reported that 2011 was still a transition period, but the new concept should demonstrate its effectiveness during 2012. Measurements on post-industrial are only starting.

It is mentioned that detailed criteria to assess the sustainable use of additives (stabilisers and plasticisers) are being discussed in the context of the “Natural Step” framework, under which substances will be assessed step by step. Selected EPDs (Environmental Product Declarations) from several converter industries will be updated with the help of the additive producers.

DG Environment will send a list of questions – some more general than others – for comment by VinylPlus

6. Recycling and legacy additives: The case of DEHP – Current Status

The key political issue for VinylPlus remains potential restrictions or bans of legacy additives. Joachim Eckstein explained the concerns of VinylPlus regarding the restrictions proposed for the low modular weight phthalate DEHP as introduced by Denmark last summer and which might affect future recycling of flexible PVC. VinylPlus submitted comments to the European Chemical Agency and information about production and use of recyclate, as well as a risk assessment of products containing such substances coming from recyclate.

The Commission encouraged VinylPlus to develop a clear socio economic study and to ask for an invitation to the socio-economic assessment committee which should follow the risk assessment committee in June 2012.

The Commission asked to be informed about industry studies.

7. Recycling of PVC waste containing Lead: current status

R. Grasmück reported that pressure on lead is increasing. In December 2010, the Norwegian Climate & Pollution Agency introduced a proposal to ban the use of four



chemical substances in consumer products among which lead compounds. Such a restriction would constitute a barrier to PVC recycling.

VinylPlus has commissioned a study to model the evolution of the concentration of lead over time. The results should be available at the end of 2012.

8. Monitoring Programme: future members, discussion

A discussion about the potential enlargement of the Monitoring Committee took place. All agreed that to invite other NGOs would be good but difficult. As recycling has a clear corner-stone with resource efficiency, EEB might be interested to join. Professor Buekens will circulate potential contacts with green periodical journalist.

9. Stakeholder event in 2012

As part of challenge 2 (organo-chlorines emissions) a technical "discussion paper" on dioxins prepared by ECVI on behalf of VinylPlus will be circulated by TNS to the stakeholders they had previously consulted. Small stakeholder round-tables will be organised with member state officials, consumer organisations and NGOs. The round-table agenda will cover the discussion paper on dioxins and the VinylPlus programme.

10. VinylPlus PVC Value Chain Event – April 2013

All members of the Monitoring Committee are cordially invited to join the event on the 26th April 2012 in Cascais, Portugal.

Mr Helmut Maurer from DG ENV agreed to make a presentation on "A Resource Efficient Europe".

The meeting ended at 12h30