

PRESS RELEASE – For immediate release

REKOPOL celebrates 10 year anniversary

Brussels, 11 May 2011 – Today, the Polish member of PRO EUROPE, REKOPOL Recovery Organization SA, organised a conference on Packaging Waste Recovery and Recycling in Poland on the occasion of its 10 year anniversary. At the conference, business people, chambers of commerce members, municipal companies and recyclers, local authorities, governmental administration and NGO representatives took stock of the achievements since the adoption of producer responsibility legislation in Poland exactly ten years ago.

At the conference, which was hosted by Waldemar Pawlak, the Deputy Prime Minister of Poland and the Minister of Economy and Bernard Błaszczyk, Deputy Minister of Environment, about 200 participants discussed questions on whether Poland will achieve its recovery and recycling targets and how its packaging waste management system could be improved. The conference found that every year about 13.000.000 tons of waste are generated in Poland, 25% of which is packaging waste which might be reused after recovery and recycling. Piotr Szajrych, the President of REKOPOL, concluded: "Over the last 10 years 9.000.000 tons of waste did not end up on illegal waste dumps or landfills but were recycled instead. However, there is still room for improvement." He referred to the latest Eurostat data, which indicate that an average Polish citizen separates just a little more than 10 kg of waste while for example a German citizen separates several times more.

Joachim Quoden, Managing Director of PRO EUROPE, who also attended the conference, stated: "I am pleased to see the progress that Poland has made with regard to producer responsibility over the last ten years. We are working closely together with REKOPOL to share the experience we have collected in other Member States to bring Poland to the next level."

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Contact

Joachim Quoden Managing Director PRO EUROPE s.p.r.l. Rue Martin V, 40 1200 Brussels Belgium +49 171 201 70 55 info@pro-europe.info www.pro-europe.info

About PRO EUROPE

PRO EUROPE s.p.r.l. (PACKAGING RECOVERY ORGANISATION EUROPE), founded in 1995, is the umbrella organisation for European packaging and packaging waste recovery and recycling schemes which mainly use the "Green Dot" trademark as a financing symbol. In its primary role, PRO EUROPE is the general

licensor of the "Green Dot" trademark. It also acts as the authoritative voice and common policy platform representing the interests of all packaging recovery and recycling organisations founded and run by or on behalf of obliged industry.