

PRESS RELEASE

Members of the Extended Producer Responsibility Alliance (EXPRA) have re-elected the Board of Directors for the next two years and Mr. Óscar Martín, CEO of Ecoembes, as the President of EXPRA

Brussels, 29 April 2021 – During its Spring General Assembly meeting, EXPRA, the alliance of 27 Producer Responsibility Organizations for packaging that work on a non-for-profit basis, has re-elected its Board of Directors for the 2021-2023 mandate.

Mr. Óscar Martín Riva, CEO of Ecoembes, was appointed EXPRA's new President. Mr. Martín has been CEO of Ecoembes, EXPRA's Spanish member, since March 2014. He joined this organisation since its establishment in 1998, where he had previously held both the positions of General Director and Technical Director. In becoming EXPRA's new President, he succeeds Mr. Cees de Mol van Otterloo, former CEO of EXPRA's Dutch member Afvalfonds Verpakkingen.

The General Assembly re-elected EXPRA's seven Board members. They will remain in charge for the next two-year term and represent Afvalfonds (The Netherlands), EKO KOM (Czech Republic), CONAI (Italy), Greenpak (Malta) Green Dot Norway (Norway), Fost Plus (Belgium) and Valorlux (Luxemburg). The Board of nine is completed by EXPRA's Managing Director Joachim Quoden.

EXPRA's new President, Mr. Óscar Martín Riva, noted: *"The coming period will bring about numerous challenges, but will also present great new opportunities for Producer Responsibility Organisations as a new framework is being shaped for the EPR of the future. New targets and responsibilities, but also disruptive technologies and social innovation, coupled with stronger collaboration among stakeholders, will make packaging EPR a cornerstone of the circular economy. I hope that we will be able to achieve this and more, and would like to thank my predecessor, President Cees de Mol van Otterloo, for the remarkable work that was achieved during his tenure"*.

Mr. Cees de Mol van Otterloo thanked for the kind words and the great support from all EXPRA members during his Presidency saying: *"I had the honour but also the responsibility to lead EXPRA during times when new waste legislation, as well as new EU green policies, were being shaped, not to mention the turbulent times during the Covid crisis, which I believe we managed well. I am happy to pass on the torch to my friend and colleague Oscar Martin, CEO of Ecoembes - the leader in innovation, eco-design and in promoting environmental protection for packaging waste."*

The Managing Director of EXPRA, Joachim Quoden, added: *"Over the next two years, a new framework for EPR and EPR systems will have to be implemented across all Member States. We have to help each other for doing it in best way. At the same time, we have to strengthen EPR systems and make them future-proof by ensuring that all packaging put on the market is circular. We must also ensure appropriate infrastructure for EU citizens so that they are able to sort their packaging easily"*.

* * *

ENDS