

To: SCHALLY Hugo-Maria (ENV); NELEN Sarah (ENV); [REDACTED] (ENV); [REDACTED] (ENV)
Cc: [REDACTED] (ENV)
Subject: meeting with SULAPAC
Attachments: Sulapac_Presentation (2).pdf

Meeting report

Meeting SULAPAC	
Day, place	26/11 at VP Katainen Cabinet
Company	SULAPAC
Purpose of the discussion	To present the products that the company produces as alternative to single use plastics
ENV representatives	Representatives from VP Katainen Cabinet (3) Vella (1) Moedas (1) and DG GROW(1) [REDACTED] (B1)
	<p>The representative of SULAPAC, a Finish company presented their products, some of them intended to replace single-use plastic products, made of potato starch claiming that they are designed to be recycled via industrial composting and they are marine biodegradable. To prove the biodegradation and compostability, Sulapac is applying a seedling certificate and marine biodegradation certificate Ok biodegradable. Also claims that its products when degrading they don't produce microplastics. Since their products are natural polymers that have been chemically modified are in the scope of the Directive. Proposed to include in Article 3 (1):</p> <p><i>"Recyclable microplastic-free materials that are biodegradable in aquatic environments and are derived from biodegradable modified natural polymers and biodegradable synthetic polymers are not considered as plastic for the purposes of this Directive and are thus excluded from the scope of the Directive;"</i></p> <p>When questioned about the fact that the standard for marine bio degradability used is based in an American standard (ASTM D7081) and that the standard does not reflect real life situations since it requires 30C as constant temperature and that that even European Bioplastics the lobby for bioplastics recognizes that there is not currently a :<i>"there is no standard providing clear pass/fail criteria for the degradation of plastics in sea water"</i> recognized that temperature is an issue but for their products would only mean a delay of 2/3 mouths in biodegradation.</p> <p>Informed that Sulapac is currently experimentally testing the Sulapac recipe 01 in real conditions in the Baltic Sea together with Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE).</p> <p>On degradation on the deep sea informed that the conditions of biodegradability are not significantly changed and promised to send scientific literature.</p> <p>Claimed that received EU funding to develop these products and with this legislation will have to scrap the respective production.</p>
Docs shared (to be put in attachment)	PP presentation.

**Conclusions /
follow up**

Due to the advanced state of negotiations SULAPAC was advised to contact EP and Council. Was also advised to contact JRC that is developing a LCA on alternative feedstock for plastics and biodegradation and to participate in the stakeholder conference (29 and 30 November).



Policy officer

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