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INDUSTRY-MEETS-SCIENCE WORKSHOP “BIOPLASTIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOUTH AFRICA”

Date: 21 January 2016

Venue: CSIR, Ground floor Boardroom (Shark), 359 King George V (5th) Avenue, Durban

The intention of the workshop is to interrogate the question -

- ▶ Can we, and how do we, create a local South African bio-based plastic industry in South Africa (within a larger biorefinery industry) (*in line with the DST Waste RDI Roadmap and Bioeconomy Strategy*).
 - That explores new market opportunities for existing resources, e.g. sugar, forestry, paper sectors
 - That drives local content in biobased products already on the market in South Africa
 - Thereby stimulating local economic development and job creation

Time	Topic	Name	Organisation
9:00 – 9:30	Arrivals (Tea / Coffee)		
9:30 – 9:40	Welcome and introductions	Dr Henry Roman	DST
9:40 – 9:50	Introduction to the Roundtable Discussion	Dr Linda Godfrey	CSIR
9:50 – 10:10	Overview of the global bioplastics industry and PlasticsSA approach to bioplastics	Mr Jacques Lightfoot	Plastics SA
10:10 – 11:00	Briefing on activities (10 min slots)		
	• <i>Ms Liesel Beires</i>	<i>Government</i>	<i>KZN edtea</i>
	• <i>Dr Casper Durandt</i>	<i>Industry</i>	<i>Coca-Cola</i>
	• <i>Mr Jaco Basson</i>	<i>Industry</i>	<i>I'm not Plastic</i>
	• <i>Mr Steve Davis</i>	<i>Industry / Academia</i>	<i>SMRI</i>
	• <i>Dr Bruce Sithole</i>	<i>Academia</i>	<i>CSIR</i>
11:00 – 11:10	Comfort break (10 min)		
11:10 – 11:50	Briefing on activities (10 min slots) (cont)		
	• <i>Prof Johann Görgens</i>	<i>Academia</i>	<i>SUN</i>
	• <i>Dr Anne Stark</i>	<i>Academia</i>	<i>UKZN</i>
	• <i>Dr Sudhakar Muniyasamy</i>	<i>Academia</i>	<i>CSIR</i>
	• <i>Mr Simphiwe Fikizolo</i>	<i>Government</i>	<i>the dti</i>
11:50 – 12:20	Roundtable discussion (Session 1) –		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the concept of establishing a local bioplastics industry (e.g. bio-based plastics manufacturing) feasible for South Africa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Do local and export markets exist? ○ Do economies make sense? ○ What are the opportunities? 	Group discussions followed by Open feedback and discussion	
12:20 – 12:30	• Highlights of Session 1		
12:30 – 13:00	Lunch Break (30 min)		

Time	Topic	Name	Organisation
13:00 – 13:30	Roundtable discussion (Session 2) –	Group discussions followed by Open feedback and discussion	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there specific biomass feedstocks and waste streams that are immediately viable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do we know where they are and In what quantities? 		
13:30 – 13:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlights of Session 2 		
13:40 – 14:10	Roundtable discussion (Session 3) –	Group discussions followed by Open feedback and discussion	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the obstacles to a South African bioplastics industry – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is stopping us from already having a local industry? 		
14:10 – 14:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlights of Session 3 		
14:10 – 14:40	Roundtable discussion (Session 4) –	Group discussions followed by Open feedback and discussion	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there gaps in knowledge in moving to this goal immediately, and if so - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are these gaps in knowledge (be specific)? How do we close these gaps quickly (technology or research needs)? 		
14:40 – 14:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlights of Session 4 		
14:50 – 15:00	Discussion	All	
15:00 – 15:30	Q&A telecon with Mr Michael Knutzen	General Manager: Plant Bottle	Coca Cola (Atlanta, USA)
15:30	Recap, way forward and closure	Mr Douw Steyn	Plastics SA

Q&A with international expert:



Michael W. Knutzen
Global Program Director, PlantBottle
GSP - The Coca-Cola Company



Michael Knutzen is General Manager of The Coca-Cola Company's global PlantBottle™ packaging program. This internationally recognized innovation platform uses biological sciences to enhance the environmental and social performance of plastic packaging. Under Michael's leadership, PlantBottle™ packaging is demonstrating how big ideas for the planet can successfully be turned into commercial realities for delivering top-line growth and bottom-line efficiency.

Knutzen has over 20 years of experience in the chemical and petrochemical industries having been active in many different roles from both a tactical and strategic perspective. His roles have included Sales, Logistics, Foreign Trade, Market Management, Business Strategy, and Procurement. Prior to The Coca Cola Company, Knutzen spent 17 years with Eastman Chemical Company, where he was ultimately responsible for sourcing polyester raw materials. Knutzen, holds a B.S. with honors in Chemical Engineering from The University of Buenos Aires and a MBA from Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.