



– Press release –

## **Carbios stresses the need for the biodiversity bill in the French Parliament to promote all biodegradable plastics, and not just bio-based ones**

***Carbios focuses on the recycling of all plastic wastes to minimize their environmental impact and advocates a sustainable circular economy model***

**Clermont-Ferrand, France, July 3rd, 2014** – Carbios (NYSE Alternext in Paris: ALCRB), an innovative green chemistry company specializing in the development of breakthrough technologies for the recovery of plastic waste and the production of bio-polymers, supports the inclusion last week of an amendment to the biodiversity bill currently under review by the French Parliament. Promoted by Ségolène Royal, France's Minister of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, the amendment would ban single-use plastic bags that are not biodegradable from supermarkets, beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016<sup>1</sup>.

If the bill passes, it will halt the use of disposable plastic bags, free or for sale, that retail outlets use to package customers' goods, unless these packages are home compostable and entirely or partially made of bio-based materials.

While this new measure is consistent with Carbios' strategy, the company would like the amendment to adopt a more holistic approach and expand its aim to all types of biodegradable plastic materials, whether they are made from petroleum or plants. Indeed, the innovative process developed by Carbios allows for the full degradation of **petrochemical and/or bio-based plastics** into simple molecules, which can be assimilated by all living organisms in the environment.

Although Carbios supports the development of bio-based plastics, the company wishes to point out that bio-based materials account for only a very small portion of today's European plastics market (less than 1%). Additionally, all bio-polymers are not necessarily compostable. In the absence of a stronger stance to promote a truly disruptive technological breakthrough, the amendment, in its

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<sup>1</sup> Voted on June 26, 2014, by the French parliamentary commission tasked with reviewing the biodiversity bill, which aims to strike a better balance between human activities and biodiversity, the amendment was introduced by Ségolène Royal as a way to reduce the impact of plastic waste on the ecosystem and marine life. The objectives of this new measure are not only to foster and support consumers' responsible behaviors, but also to promote the companies that produce biodegradable and compostable bags, known as bio-based plastic bags.

current form, will create tensions in the markets and negatively affect employment and household consumption.

In this context, the bioprocesses developed by Carbios offer a growth perspective halfway between the traditional plastics industry, based on fossil fuels, and the bio-based plastics industry envisioned by Ségolène Royal.

*“Carbios fits into this virtuous trend, with our ambitious and sustainable technologies aiming to achieve biodegradability for all types of plastic polymers, without creating any costs or daily-use distortions. This is a huge environmental and economic challenge! In Europe alone, 25 million tons of plastic waste are produced every year,”* said Jean-Claude Lumaret, CEO of Carbios.

## **About Carbios**

Carbios is a young innovative green chemistry company, whose mission is to find biological solutions to the new environmental and sustainable development issues faced by industrial businesses. Carbios has acquired the rights to research that was conducted over a number of years by various public and private sector laboratories. By leveraging the unique properties of biological catalysts (enzymes), it has used this research as the foundation for developing innovative industrial bioprocesses that optimize the technical, economic and environmental performance of polymers (thermoplastic materials and synthetic or food-based fibers). The company has focused its efforts on a strategic application sector: plastics. Carbios’ growth strategy is based on a clear business model of industrial value creation that targets attractive markets, develops innovative and competitive bioprocesses and licenses them to major industrial stakeholders for commercialization. Carbios benefits from the financial support of the leading European venture capital firm Truffle Capital. Carbios was founded in 2011 and is managed, since its inception, via the  *Holding Incubatrice Chimie Verte*  fund. Carbios was granted the label “Young Innovative Company” by BPI France (former OSEO) and is eligible for investments by private equity mutual funds (FCPIs).

For more information, please visit: [www.carbios.fr](http://www.carbios.fr)

Carbios is eligible for the PEA-PME, a government program allowing French residents investing in SMEs to benefit from income tax rebates.



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