

## PRESS RELEASE:

Sittard-Geleen, 27th November 2017

### Suez and Lyondellbasell to boost production of high-quality recycled plastics in Europe

**SUEZ and LyondellBasell signed an agreement establishing a joint venture that will focus on the production of high-quality circular polymers<sup>1</sup>. The two parties will leverage combined expertise to provide European plastic industry with virgin-like secondary raw material. This is the first time ever that one of the largest plastics, chemicals and refining companies partners with a leader in the management of resources to contribute to circular economy objectives.**

Under the terms of the agreement, LyondellBasell will be a 50 / 50 partner<sup>2</sup> with SUEZ in QCP<sup>3</sup>, a high standard plastics recovering company located near Maastricht in the Netherlands. Founded in 2014, QCP produces high-quality raw materials for the plastics industry. Its Sittard-Geleen facility is converting consumer waste into 25,000 tons of polypropylene (PP) and high-density polyethylene (HDPE) per year. The company manufactures two grades of HDPE and eight grades of PP copolymer.

With an objective of 35,000 tons in 2018, and 50,000 tons before 2020, the production capacity of the plant will be unique in Europe. Within the new agreement, LyondellBasell will market QCP materials, as SUEZ will be responsible in feeding of the plant with post-consumer plastic waste. The two partners will benefit from the strategic location of QCP, located in the heart of the Netherlands - Belgium - Germany triangle and close to France.

*“As the circular economy continues to grow, we also believe that demand for recycled materials will grow as well,”* said Richard Roudeix, LyondellBasell’s Senior Vice President,

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<sup>1</sup> The transaction between LyondellBasell and SUEZ is subject to regulatory approval. The two partners are seeking to secure regulatory approval by the end of 2017.

<sup>2</sup> The governance was previously composed of SUEZ (45%), QCP managers (20%) and financial investors (35%).

<sup>3</sup> Quality Circular Polymers

Olefins & Polyolefins for Europe, Asia and International. *"This acquisition positions LyondellBasell to actively participate in the circular economy, marrying LyondellBasell's European market presence and technical capabilities with SUEZ's ability to reclaim and manage recoverable waste products."*

*"In Europe, only 7% of the 50 Mio annual tonnage used is recycled polymer, and 93% is still virgin materials coming from fossil fuels,"* said Jean-Marc Boursier, Group Senior Executive Vice President in charge of Recycling & Recovery Europe. *"Together with LyondellBasell, we aim to speed up the use of circular polymers and industrial manufacturers to reach their environmental targets. This partnership represents a new step in SUEZ plastics strategy in Europe, and it will help to reach our objective to process 600,000 tons of plastic waste in 2020."*

Plastics recycling is a key market for SUEZ. The group operates 9 specialist facilities in Europe in which every year 400,000 tons of plastic waste are processed and 150,000 tons of new plastic resources are produced.

In Europe, plastics recycling is now a growing market because of the constantly changing regulations – the EU aims at a 55% recycling rate in 2025 – and the growing demands of manufacturers. Almost 50 million tons of plastic waste are produced every year in Europe, and only 25% of which is recycled.

### **About LyondellBasell**

*LyondellBasell (NYSE: LYB) is one of the largest plastics, chemicals and refining companies in the world. Driven by its 13,000 employees around the globe, LyondellBasell produces materials and products that are key to advancing solutions to modern challenges like enhancing food safety through lightweight and flexible packaging, protecting the purity of water supplies through stronger and more versatile pipes, and improving the safety, comfort and fuel efficiency of many of the cars and trucks on the road. LyondellBasell sells products into approximately 100 countries and is the world's largest licensor of polyolefin and polypropylene technologies. More information about LyondellBasell can be found at [www.lyondellbasell.com](http://www.lyondellbasell.com).*

### **About Suez**

*With 90 000 people on the five continents, SUEZ is a world leader in smart and sustainable resource management. We provide water and waste management solutions that enable cities and industries optimize their resource management and strengthen their environmental and economic performances, in line with regulatory standards. To meet increasing demands to overcome resource quality and scarcity challenges, SUEZ is fully engaged in the resource revolution. With the full potential of digital technologies and innovative solutions, the Group recovers 17 million tons of waste a year, produces 3.9 million tons of secondary raw materials and 7 TWh of local renewable energy. It also secures water resources, delivering wastewater treatment services to 58 million people and reusing 882 million m<sup>3</sup> of wastewater. SUEZ generated total revenues of 15.3 billion euros in 2016. More information can be found at [www.suez.com](http://www.suez.com).*

### **About QCP**

*Quality Circular Polymers (QCP) provides brand owners and plastics convertors with polymers of high and consistent quality based on used plastics. Reliable supply, integration, leading technologies and innovative recipes enable QCP to push the circular plastics industry to the next level. More information can be found at [www.QCPolymers.com](http://www.QCPolymers.com).*