



EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CLEAN AIR AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ASSOCIATIONS

Annual Report 2005

Three major EFCA events marked 2005 as an active and successful year for the federation. VVM-CLAN organised its Fourth Non-CO₂ Greenhouse Gases symposium in July; TUNCAP held the third edition of their Air Quality Management series conferences in September; and in November CSIA mobilised CIPA and other Italian organisations to organise the workshop “Towards Clean Air for Europe: a Challenge”, in cooperation with the European Joint Research Centre in Ispra and EFCA itself. EFCA continued to participate in the CAFE Steering Group and welcomed the Polish association OKOPiK as Observer.

EFCA conferences

In 2005 two EFCA sponsored international conferences took place.

The Dutch member VVM-CLAN organized its Fourth International Symposium on Non-CO₂ Greenhouse Gases (NCGG-4) which was held in Utrecht between 3 and 5 July. The topic continued to attract a substantial group of scientists and policymakers resulting in some 150 presentations. The lower registration fee for members of VVM-CLAN’s sister associations in EFCA was appreciated.

The Turkish member TUNCAP organized its Third International Symposium on Air Quality Management at Urban, Regional and Global Scales (AQM2005) which was held in Istanbul from 26 to 30 September. The programme consisted of 200 presentations.

Clean Air For Europe (CAFE)

During 2005 EFCA continued to attend the meetings of the CAFE Steering Group, represented by Klaus Grefen, together with Peter Rombout and/or the secretary-general. The draft Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution for the period 2006-2010 was finalised by DG Environment in the first half year, based on input from Member States; a final version was sent by the European Commission to the European Parliament in September.

Discussions in the CAFE Steering Group predominantly concerned the implementation of existing Directives or their modification, such as the NEC Directive, and proposed new regulation, in particular concerning PM_{2.5}.

On the topic of Shipping emissions, which has been one of the focal points of the CAFE Programme recently, EFCA, in cooperation with DG Environment and SEAaT (Shipping Emissions Abatement and Trading), organized a Special session during AQM2005 in Istanbul which was completed by the Turkish organizers with a tour by boat on the Bosphorus. The presentations may be found at EFCA’s website.

Syracuse workshop

In view of the discussion in the CAFE Steering Group the Workshop on the Challenges of Clean Air for Europe was particularly well timed. The workshop has been organized under

the auspices of the European Commission, represented by the Joint Research Centre in Ispra, together with the Industrial Consortium for Environmental Protection for the Syracuse region (CIPA) and EFCA. In some 30 presentations experiences with the implementation of present regulation were exchanged and new approaches were discussed, including new challenges which will come forward from the Thematic Strategy. The presentations have been collected on DVD; a summary has been published at EFCA's website (www.efca.net).

Publications and website

The EFCA Handbook 2005 was published as well as an update of the EFCA leaflet with information on the Federation. The information of the Handbook is the basis for EFCA's website where it is being maintained up-to-date. The website, which has been upgraded in capacity this year, is developing gradually into a valuable resource with information on clean air science and policy in Europe.

VVM-CLAN, founder of the new journal Environmental Sciences, Journal of Integrative Environmental Research, finalised the arrangements with the Publisher (Taylor & Francis) for the intended co-founder status of EFCA. This implies that members of the EFCA associations may benefit from the preferential rate for private subscriptions. A special issue with 30 papers from NCGG-4 marked the relevance of the new journal for the atmospheric sciences and related policies.

Assembly

The Assembly meeting was arranged in Istanbul during AQM2005.

Membership

Membership remained constant at 10 members. EFCA welcomed the new Polish organisation OKOPiK as an Observer.