



EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CLEAN AIR AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ASSOCIATIONS

The European Symposium on Environmental Protection

Annual Report 2007

During 2007 EFCA made an important step forward in raising its profile in Europe. At the basis was an agreement on the EFCA-strategy for the period 2007-2011. As an immediate result of it EFCA started an electronic Newsletter, primarily addressing policy developments in Europe on air pollution and climate change as an important tool for furthering the internal cohesion of the federation. A successful specialty conference on Ultrafine Particles in Karlsruhe, Germany, completed the programme.

Conference

In June 2007 an EFCA-symposium was organised in Karlsruhe under the title “Ultrafine Particles: Key in the issue of Particulate Matter?”. It was sponsored and hosted by the Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe and chaired by GUS president Karl-Friedrich Ziegahn; sponsorship was also obtained of CEEES (Confederation of European Environmental Engineering Societies). By selecting this topic EFCA contributed to the discussion on the metrics of health risks of particulate matter. A conference report is available at www.efca.net; and a second symposium on the same topic is to be organised in 2009.

Strategy 2007-2011

Following a decision made at the Assembly meeting in Lille in 2006, a small Task Force started its activities early in 2007 and produced a draft strategy in two parts. The first part considered the actual activities and priorities in the 5-year period and discussed resources to realise EFCA’s ambitions. In the second part some internal procedures which are to be respected in a successful organisation were discussed. After a plenary discussion in the EFCA Assembly the Strategy document was finalised after electronic discussion rounds and approved by ballot at the end of the year; the first part was published at EFCA’s website. Members of the Task Force were: Klaus Grefen, Peter Rombout and the SG

EFCA Assembly meeting

The Assembly meeting 2007 was held in Karlsruhe in connection with the UFP symposium. Apart from having a first discussion of the draft strategy two important decisions were taken: the decision to start an electronic Newsletter and the decision to organise an annual EFCA symposium with a managed programme on a topic of European policy interest. At the meeting the election of Thomas Reichert in the office of EFCA vice-president was confirmed.

EFCA Newsletter

The draft strategy had revealed the weak internal coherence between the members of the federation and in particular the individual members of EFCA associations. Therefore, the

suggestion to start an electronic Newsletter was embraced and approved. Apart from the frequency of three issues per year its scope and content were left at the discretion of the secretariat. A format with a focus on the progress of European policies on clean air and climate change and news on the activities of EFCA and its members was developed and a first issue was delivered in November 2007. Apart from the members of EFCA associations, the circulation includes external relations of EFCA.

New activities

The decision to have an annual symposium on a topic of European policy interest resulted in the idea to have an activity in which the integrated approach of Air Pollution and Climate Change policies would be explored. A Task Force was formed which started the development of a symposium programme to be held in 2008. The development was made in cooperation with IUAPPA as it was preparing for a conference of the Global Air Pollution Forum on the same issue.

Members of the Task Force were Jeff Clark, Richard Mills, John Murlis, Jean-Marie Rambaud and Peter Rombout; in addition, the president and the SG were involved.

External relations

European Union

With the adoption of the Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution (TSAP) for the period 2006-2010 the Clean Air for Europe Programme had been closed and the CAFE Steering Group was discontinued. Steering of the TSAP is made by a committee of the Member States without seats for stakeholders or observers. EFCA's contacts with DG Environment in Brussels, therefore, have been continued during 2007 on an informal basis, in addition to exchanges with officials at JRC Ispra and EEA in Copenhagen, primarily by the delegates of CSIA and the Secretary General.

UN-ECE – Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution (CRLTAP)

At the end of 2007 the Executive Body of the CRLTAP agreed with accreditation of EFCA at the Convention with Observer status. Andrzej Jagusiewicz of the Polish association PIGEKO took responsibility for the representation of EFCA in Geneva, with support of the secretariat.

The EFCA Newsletter has been used to make our observations in connection with European policies public.

Membership

During 2007 membership remained constant at 10 Member associations and 3 Observer associations.

Approved in Strasbourg, France, 8 November 2008