



EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CLEAN AIR AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ASSOCIATIONS  
The European Symposium on Environmental Protection

## **Annual report 2012**

*In 2012 EFCA published its third Policy Initiative, dedicated to Black Carbon Particles. EFCA started the year with a vacancy for the presidency and elected Thomas Reichert as its fourth president. TUNCAP organised the international conference AQM2012 in Istanbul, the 4<sup>th</sup> one in their series.*

The year 2012 started under ad interim presidency of past-president Giuseppe Fumarola, whose main task was to organise the election of a successor of Jean-Marie Rambaud. The procedure resulted in the unanimous election of Thomas Reichert as EFCA's fourth president. He had been nominated by GUS with support of EFCA's other German Member, the Committee on Air Pollution Prevention VDI und DIN.

In July this year EFCA Policy Initiative No. 3 (PI-3) was published: "Black Carbon Particles: opportunities to strengthen policies on Air Quality and Climate Change in Europe". At UFP-3 in 2011 members of the scientific community in a session on Metrics made the proposal to introduce BCP as an additional metric for the protection of human health. The proposal was analysed in dedicated discussions at the Forum pages of EFCA's website where BCP was compared with Particle Numbers (PN) as alternative metric. In the EFCA advice the additional argument to address Black Carbon because of its contribution to global warming was added. PI-3 was officially sent to the Commissioners for Environment, Climate Action and Transport, with particular reference to its relevance for the running revision process of the Air Quality Directive. EFCA's Policy Initiatives can be downloaded from its website.

In response EFCA was invited for a further explanation of PI-3 in relation to present Transport policies. The president and SG had the opportunity to discuss possible implications with a staff member of vice-president Tajani.

PI-3 was also sent to WHO Europe as input for REVIHAAP (Review of evidence on Health Aspects of Air Pollution), a project commissioned by the European Commission as input for its new air quality policy. EFCA was invited then to nominate experts to read the draft report. The SG commented at some of the draft answers on personal title, in line with EFCA viewpoints.

A further opportunity to bring EFCA's viewpoints under the attention of policymakers appeared at the end of the year when the Commission announced a consultation on the

renewal of its Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution. The formal response on behalf of EFCA had to wait till 2013.

In September EFCA's Turkish Member TUNCAP, in cooperation with Istanbul Technical University, hosted its 4<sup>th</sup> international conference on Air Quality Management on global, regional and local scales (AQM2012). The conference with a broad programming of themes attracted strong regional participation. EFCA contributed in the programme with a special session on "Transboundary Air pollution in the Mediterranean Region" which had been convened by Giuseppe Fumarola and chaired by EFCA's president.

In Istanbul EFCA held its 21<sup>st</sup> Assembly meeting where it discussed its current activities and those of its Members and formally approved its Strategy 2012-2016. The Assembly approved a proposal to open mutual relations with relevant sister NGOs in Europe. Contacts with ENEP were prepared by Giuseppe Fumarola in his capacity as president ad interim in a meeting with ENEP president. The president, who is also an official in CEEES, had the opportunity to present EFCA at their annual meeting.

As usual the EFCA secretariat produced and circulated three Newsletters, respectively in March, August and December. The webmaster produced a complete overhaul of the EFCA website with substantial restructuring and improvements. Also, the secretariat made a start with updating its content.

Membership remained stable at 15 Member associations from 13 countries. The Swiss association Cercl' Air upgraded its position in EFCA by applying for Full membership.

Approved by the EFCA Assembly, 17 May 2013 in Brussels