



EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CLEAN AIR AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ASSOCIATIONS

The European Symposium on Environmental Protection

Annual Report 2014

EFCA's most prominent activity in 2014 was the 7th Non-CO₂ Greenhouse Gases symposium, hosted by EFCA Member VVM-CLAN in Amsterdam. The Assembly elected John Murlis as its vice-president.

In contrast with the crowded agenda of the preceding Year of Air, 2014 has been a quiet year. After delivery of the Clean Air Policy Package by the Commission Barroso at the end of 2013 policymakers in Brussels remained silent, awaiting elections for the European Parliament and the presentation of a new Commission in the last months of 2014. When in function the Commission Juncker announced a decision with considerable impact for air quality: opposing views of European Parliament and Council forced the Commission to withdraw the proposal for a new NEC Directive, in fact the most important element of the Clean Air Policy Package. The intention, however, is to submit a modified proposal better reflecting synergies with energy and climate objectives.

VVM-CLAN contributed to the EFCA agenda by conducting again its major scientific event on non-CO₂ greenhouse gases. The interest in this theme seems to be increasing considering the record participation this time. EFCA contributed in the programme by arranging a special session titled "Aerosol fractions, climate forcing and air pollution". Presentations considered black carbon, properties like hygroscopicity and studies to get more grip on organic aerosols which, in recent years have entered the research agenda on air quality as well as that of climate (brown carbon). In addition, work on the role of natural and anthropogenic aerosols in ice nucleation was presented.

In 2014 the secretary-general gave two presentations on behalf of EFCA. In June EFCA's plea for a fraction-by-fraction approach in PM-policy was explained in a presentation at the 18th ETH Conference on Combustion Generated Nanoparticles in Zurich¹.

In November, a presentation was given in the EFCA-session, chaired by EFCA president Thomas Reichert; its focus was on organic aerosols, the least studied fraction of PM and its relevance in air quality and climate forcing².

At its meeting in Amsterdam the Assembly elected professor John Murlis as vice-president. After a number of years EFCA has two vice-presidents again.

Membership remained equal to that of the preceding year at 16 Members. As usual, EFCA published three Newsletters and used its website to make its activities traceable.

1. Ham, J. van, T. Reichert and J. Murlis, Ultrafine particles and its fractions. 18th ETH Conference on Combustion Generated Nanoparticles, Zurich 2014; www.efca.net
2. Ham, J. van, T. Reichert and J. Murlis, Controlling the risks of fine particulate matter: size, numbers, chemical properties and forcing: how to proceed? Proc. 7th Non-CO₂ Greenhouse Gases symposium, Amsterdam 2014, VVM. <http://ncgg.info>; www.efca.net.