

Annual report 2015

In 2015 several EFCA Members organised international scientific events. GUS, in cooperation with KIT, hosted the 5th EFCA-symposium on Ultrafine Particles. CAPPa, hosted Air Protection 2015. KRdL im VDI/DIN arranged a second Expert Forum on Atmospheric Chemistry in Berlin. At the Assembly meeting EFCA Members agreed on new systematics for membership fees.

At the start of 2015 the Commission Juncker had just revealed its rather lean policy agenda, announcing withdrawal of the revised NEC Directive which was then being negotiated between the European Parliament and the Council. Though disappointing the political background of this move made it beyond EFCA's competence. As a result the focus of EFCA's activities in 2015 has been laying at the facilitation of scientific exchange in Europe.

GUS, in cooperation with KIT and EFCA, presented its 5th symposium on Ultrafine Particles – Air Quality and Climate. The programme reflected the trend in present research: more results on the chemical composition of nanoparticles and attention to nucleation as a source of nanoparticles; the programme also provided an update on their health effects. As usual, the venue was in Brussels.

CAPPa hosted Air Protection 2015, its 9th Croatian Scientific and Professional Conference in Porec. EFCA contributed to the programme with a special session on particulate matter and present policies which was chaired by EFCA's vice-president, John Murlis.

The 2nd Expert Forum on Atmospheric Chemistry, arranged by the Kommission zur Reinhaltung der Luft im VDI/DIN, was dedicated to particulate matter. EFCA's president, Thomas Reichert, presented an overview of EFCA's activities and the gaps in knowledge which still prevent solid progress.

In a joint presentation with KIT EFCA also summarised findings from its recent scientific conferences at the 19th ETH Conference on Combustion Generated Particles in Zurich.

At the Annual meeting of the Assembly in May Members agreed on a new system for membership fees, replacing the 'gentleman's agreement' between the five founding Members which had committed themselves to providing a basic budget for the secretariat. In the new system Members have a joint responsibility for EFCA's budget; fee levels correspond to association size, while considering the financial position of the respective associations. Members are encouraged to contribute at an ambitious level, though they are free to opt for the cautious or compromise level. Members that are temporarily unable to fulfil their financial commitment to EFCA may opt for an Observer status for a period of no longer than two year. Observers do not have to pay a fee; they do not have a vote on EFCA matters.

Membership remained constant at 11 Full Members, 2 Associate Members; 3 associations have Observer status.

Approved in Berlin, 18 November 2016