



EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CLEAN AIR AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ASSOCIATIONS

The European Symposium on Environmental Protection

Annual report 2004

The year 2004 was marked by the involvement of EFCA in the Clean Air For Europe Programme. With the 13th World Clean Air Congress in London the cooperation with IUAPPA was intensified. The Assembly meeting was held in London during the Congress week. EFCA membership increased to 10 members by the agreement of the Board of GUS to join EFCA.

Clean Air For Europe (CAFE)

EFCA's offer, late in 2003, to the European Commission to assist in organizing a European debate on the Clean Air For Europe programme was answered positively in the beginning of this year. The exchange resulted in a proposal for a workshop to be jointly organized and a cooperation with the Directorate-General for Environment in Brussels and the European Environment Agency to prepare the programme was agreed. For EFCA, Klaus Grefen and Joop van Ham, in continuous consultation with EFCA's president, participated in the organisation.

Workshop

The title of the workshop was "Improving Air Quality in the enlarged EU: Workshop on Plans and Programmes of Air Quality and National Emission Ceilings Directives" and was held on 1-2 September 2004 in Brussels. It focussed on the difficulties which Member States have to fulfil their reporting obligations under the Directives. EFCA's close relation with IUAPPA delivered an essential element for the workshop: a summary of a Special Conference on Managing Air Quality which took place during the World Congress in London the week before the workshop; it was presented by IUAPPA's DG, Richard Mills. The presentations and discussions provided valuable suggestions for clean air policy in Europe. Results of the workshop are available at:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/air.cafe/general/workshop_on_plans_programmes.htm

CAFE Steering Group

Following the successful cooperation on the workshop EFCA was invited by DG Environment to take a seat in the CAFE Steering Group. EFCA's vice-president, Klaus Grefen was nominated, while the EFCA secretariat receives the relevant documentation as well. In addition, an understanding on further future cooperation on topics of interest was agreed. DG Environment asked EFCA to pay attention to Shipping emissions. In the final months of 2004 one meeting the Steering Group was held and attended by EFCA's delegate.

Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution

The membership of the CAFE Steering Group commenced at a timely moment when preparations were being made for the drafting of a Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution against the evaluation of the first five years of the CAFE Programme. Member States were invited to come up with suggestions for improvements. EFCA sent a Memorandum to the Member States on the issue of populated weighted exposure with recommendations. It is available at www.efca.net.

Assembly meeting

The Assembly meeting was held in London on 28 August during IUAPPA's World Congress with 10 members represented at the meeting where the cooperation with the European Commission was welcomed and reconfirmed as an EFCA priority. With a view to this it was agreed to explore options for further geographic coverage of EFCA in Europe.

Membership

Membership increased to ten associations after the formal adoption as a member of the Gesellschaft für Umweltsimulation (GUS, Germany; Society for Environment Engineering). EFCA has one Associate member and two Observers.

Activities

In the year of the World Congress members confined themselves to national activities only, some of which were sponsored by EFCA.

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