



EWA's 20th anniversary

On 22 June 2001 the European Water Association (EWA) celebrated two decades of committed work to improve water management throughout Europe by means of technical and information exchange. The association was founded as EWPCA (European Water Pollution Control Association) on 22 June 1981 by eleven professional organisations.

Membership

The association *Employers' association for public services of Romania* (Patronatul Serviciilor Publice - PSP) was accepted as new national member association from Romania. The association represents the interests of employers and professionals from utilities in 262 Romanian towns.

The river associations *Wupperverband* (Wuppertal, Germany) and *Emscherogenossenschaft/Lippeverband* (Essen, Germany) were accepted as Corporate Members.

Wupperverband is a corporation under public law, managing an area of jurisdiction of 813 km² with a population of about 975,000. The corporation is responsible for run-off control, management and conservation of water bodies, water supply as well as sewage disposal and sludge treatment in the catchment area of the river Wupper.

The Emscherogenossenschaft / Lippeverband serves an area of 4,145 km² with 3.8 million inhabitants. The area disposes of 694 km water courses and is served by 64 wastewater treatment plants with a treatment capacity of 6.5 million PE.

The Finnish company *Painehuuhtelu Oy PTV* joined the EWA as well as Corporate Member. It is a privately owned Finnish company active in condition assessment and evaluation of water and waste water networks and maintenance of these assets with different methods according to the requirements of the work site.

Code of Ethics

After nearly one year of intensive discussion the EWA Council adopted a Code of Ethics. It is based on the thought that the community at large no longer automatically trusts experts as it used to, and that environmental professionals as assembled in the European Water Association are no exception to this development. The Council decided to adopt it for the EWA itself on its annual meeting. The member associations are asked to deliberate on if and how they wish to adopt the code on a national basis. Interested persons can obtain the Code by writing to the EWA Secretariat at ewa@atv.de or find it on the EWA homepage at <http://www.EWAonline.de>.

Elections

Raymond Pinoit (F) took over the Presidency of the Association from Claus Hagebro (DK) t. Haakon Thaulow (N) succeeded Avelino Herrero Martinez (E) as Vice President. Herman Hahn (D) was replaced both as Honorary Treasurer and as German Council representative by Jörg Londong (D). Another new member of the MC is Jana Zagorc-Koncan (Slovenia). Antoine Sadowski (F) was elected as new chairman of the European Affairs Committee (EUC). The new chairman of the Corporate Members Group is Peter Matthews (UK). Helena Marecos do Monte (P) will be the new chairwoman of the Editorial Committee from January 2002. Miroslav Kóllar (Slovakia) was re-elected as Member of the Management Committee. Fritz Conradin (CH) continues his work as chairman of the European Technical and Scientific Committee (ETSC).



Co-operation with other associations

IWA (International Water Association): A Memorandum of Understanding is being signed between EWA and IWA where the two associations agree upon co-operation for conferences, regular meetings of committees and working groups as well as an exchange of information.

Eureau: A Memorandum of Understanding between EWA and Eureau has been prepared and is being discussed by the responsible committees of the associations.

Conferences and workshops

As in the years before the EWA organised in 2001 two workshops on water related EU legislation and its national implementation in Vannes (France) and Celje (Slovenia). The Slovenian workshop dealt particularly with the implementation and transposition of EU legislation into Slovenian law and the country's environmental situation regarding water protection.

EWA worked together with some member and partner associations for several bigger conferences: Watershed 2001 in Tokyo, organised together with the Water and Environment Federation (WEF) and Japan Sewage Works Association (JSWA); a conference on sewage sludge in Vienna, organised together with the Austrian Water and Waste Management Association (ÖWAV); and a conference on water quality management in Spain and application of European legislation in Barcelona, organised by ADECAGUA (Asociación de la calidad de las aguas).

The revision of the EU Bathing Water Directive was the topic of another expert workshop. The results were summarized in a report with recommendations that was forwarded to the European Commission to be taken into account during the directive's revision.

Reports and (partly) transparencies from these events can be found on the EWA homepage, item "Workshops and conferences".

New Communication Strategy

At the end of 2002 the EWA journal "European Water Management", issued six times per year, had to be closed down after ten years of existence. The EWA takes this opportunity to switch its communication and information completely to modern media.

News from the European and international water sector will continue to be issued via the weekly e-mail news service. This service - to which interested persons can subscribe for free - currently reaches 5,200 readers and also contains information about the EWA work. Subscription can be made by sending an e-mail to jan.van.de.kraats@kabelfoon.nl with "Subscribe European Water Management News" in the subject line.

Articles will be published at irregular intervals on the EWA homepage. The EWA journal will thus change to an online version. Interested authors can contact the responsible chairwoman:

Dr Maria Helena F. Marecos do Monte SANEST
Rua Flor de Murta
2780-742 Paço de Arcos
Portugal
E-mail hmarecos@sanest.pt

Background documents on water pollution control issues such as EU Directives, working documents, reports, newsletters can be found on the European Water Pollution Control Network (EWPCN). The information is available as references or downloadable documents; currently over 50 are found in the network. The EWPCN is run by the EWA in co-operation with the European Environmental Agency (EEA). Partners are the European Commission (DG Environment, DG Research, JRC Ispra), Helcom, WHO and IWA. It is accessible at <http://ew.eea.eu.int/>.

Detailed information on the EWA work will continue to be distributed via this newsletter. The frequency will be doubled so that it will be produced four times a year. It will soon also be available on the EWA homepage.

The Editorial Committee (EdC), whose job so far was the selection of articles for the journal, will now co-ordinate all elements of the new Communication Strategy. It has therefore changed its



name to Communication Committee (CC). Helena Marecos do Monte (Portugal) is the new chairwoman of this Committee.

Meeting of Executive Directors and Presidents

A meeting of the Executive Directors or Presidents of the EWA member associations took place at the EWA offices. The aim was to discuss present the EWA activities, agree on further co-operation also between the member associations and the expectations towards the EWA. The meeting was very much appreciated; the participants agreed to organise a similar event every year.

European activities

One of the continuous EWA activities is the contact to European institutions. The EWA does this by participating in Brussels workshops and also by personal contacts to several experts from the European Commission. Apart from gathering further knowledge about ongoing legislation the goal of these contacts is to influence legislation, e.g. concerning the revision of the Bathing Water Directive.

Upcoming workshops and conferences

The following conferences and workshops, organised either by the EWA itself or in co-operation with it, will take place in the next months:

- 12th European Water, Sewage and Solid Waste Symposium and Workshops
13-15 May 2002, Munich (Germany)
- EWA conference on the Water Framework Directive
2-3 October 2002, Amsterdam (at Aquatech Amsterdam) - *Call for Papers open*
- Small water treatment plants
6-7 June 2002, Kaunas, Lithuania - *Call for Papers open*
- Protection of groundwater resources in Europe - state of the art
14-15 June 2002, Zagreb (Croatia)

Detailed information about these events including programmes and Call for Papers is available on the EWA homepage, item "Workshops and conferences" (<http://www.EWAonline.de>).

For further information please contact the EWA Secretariat:

European Water Association
Dr. Sigurd van Riesen (Secretary General) or
Kirsten Overmann (Technical Assistant)
Theodor-Heuss-Allee 17
D-53773 Hennef
Phone: +49 (0)2242 872-189
Fax: + 49 (0)2242 872-135
E-mail: ewa@atv.de
www.EWAonline.de