



## PRESS INFORMATION

**05/2002**

### **Europe Water – Directives and EU Enlargement Conference of the European Water Association**

**Negotiations for the accession of additional EU members from Central and Eastern Europe have been going on for a couple of years now. With the possible entrance date of 2004 coming closer and the number of hopeful aspirants for this date growing there is an increasing need for discussion and exchange on the environmental and the water sector in particular for experts from both Western and Eastern Europe.**

The European Water Association (EWA) thus organises a conference dealing with the topic of EU enlargement and water legislation, the “Europe Water – Directives and EU Enlargement”. The conference will take place on Thursday, 13 February 2003 in Warsaw, Poland, in combination with the exhibition Energy, Water and Waste Expo 2003, and in co-operation with the Polish Association Polish Association of Sanitary Engineers and Technicians (PZITS). Topics of the conference are among others the directives on urban wastewater, drinking water and nitrate. The question of funding for environmental projects will be treated as well.

The conference addresses environmental experts from both Eastern and Western Europe that deal with water questions in CEEC, be it engineers, researchers, consultants or experts from local, regional and national authorities, and that are familiar with the basics of EU accession and the related environmental questions.

# European Water Association



The speakers will be water experts from whole Europe. The conference will thus not only present long-term experiences from the existing EU member states, but also first experiences on the implementation of European water legislation from Central and Eastern European Countries. The conference will be held in English.

The detailed conference programme is available from November on at the European Water Association, Ms Kirsten Overmann, email: [overmann@atv.de](mailto:overmann@atv.de), phone: +49 2242 872 189, fax: +49 2242 872 135. The EWA homepage contains regularly updated information about the conference (<http://www.EWAonline.de>). Information about the trade fair EWW Expo 2003 can be obtained at <http://www.ewwexpo.com>.

The European Water Association (EWA) is an independent non-governmental and non-profit making organisation dealing with the management and improvement of the water environment. It is one of the major professional associations in Europe that covers the whole water sector, wastewater as well as drinking water and water related waste, providing best practice and best science. With member associations from nearly all Central and Eastern European Countries, it not only includes most of the current European Union member states, Norway, and Switzerland, but also most of the Candidate Countries and Russia.

Besides the information of its members on EU legislation and standardisation, the aim of the association is to provide a forum for the discussion of key technical and policy issues. This is done by international conferences, workshops and meetings, special working groups for experts and also publications. Through this exchange of knowledge the association intends to contribute to a sustainable water management: a safe water supply and the protection of water and soil.

The EWA has established close contacts to the European Commission (DG Environment), the European Committee for Standardization (CEN), the European Environment Agency (EEA) and the European Parliament.

The EWA consists today of nearly 30 European national associations representing professionals and technicians for wastewater and water utilities as well as consultants, and firms and enterprises as corporate members. The association thus represents about 55,000 professional individuals working in their national associations in a broad field of water management.