

EFAEP Informal meeting 2006 – Dec 8th

Venue: Kasteel van Ham – Steenokkerzeel, Belgium

10:30 Jan-Karel Mak - Opening

- Short Introduction Round (see below list of attendees)
- Minutes of former meeting not present, so they have not been formally approved.

First_Name	Last_Name	Organisation	Email	Email2
Linda van	Duivenbode	VVM	linda@vanduivenbode.nl	
Bruno	Weinzaepfel	AFITE	bweinz@afite.org	
Matthias	Friebel	VNU	M.Friebel@vnu-ev.de	info@gwoe.de
Jorg ten	Eicken	VBU	fuehrungskraefte.de	
Vlasmila	Mikulova	CSE	vmikulova@atlas.cz	
Hana	Mikulova	CSE	hanamkv@yahoo.fr	
Tim	Christophersen	IUCN	tim.christophersen@iucn.org	
Vera	Kessler	VDI	office@efaep.org	
Paul	Horton	CIWEM	paul@ciwem.org	
Jochen de	Smet	VMD	jochen@vmd.be	
Miira	Rupinen	FAEP	miira.riipinen@hel.fi	
Sini-Pilvi	Saarnio	FAEP	sini-pilvi.saarnio@hel.fi	
Peter	Hermens	VVM	peterhermens@xs4all.nl	
Carolyn	Roberts	IES	croberts@glos.ac.uk	
Mike	Barker	IEEM	barker@entecuk.co.uk	
Jason	Reeves	IEEM	jasonreeves@ieem.net	
Kristof de	Smet	VMD	kristof.de.smet@brocap.be	
Marc	Mestdagh	VMD	marc.mestdagh@vmd.be	
Jim	Thompson	IEEM	jimthompson@ieem.net	
Christian	Coslovi	AIAT	ccoslovi@ingegneriambientali.it	
Rink W.	Kruk	VVM	rkruk@geo.uu.nl	
Jan Karel	Mak	VVM	fam.mak@compaonet.nl	

10:45 Jim Thompson - Statute modifications

Question is how well the current statute will work when we have 50 members across Europe. Statutes are OK for now, because we cooperate. When the organization grows major differences in opinion could arise, especially on the expenditure of money and on financial and legal risks. The tasks of GA and Executive Committee (ExCo.) are not clearly separated. Present structure: GA takes decisions, approves main issues. ExCo takes routine decisions, develops ideas.

Points to consider:

- Vision and values not included in statutes.
- Changes in Belgian Law (name must include V.Z.W.) to be implemented
- Need more detailed list of powers and tasks of ExCo vs. GA
- Composition of ExCo to be restricted by country and organisation
- Legal liability
- Need to define benefits members
- Is difference between Full and Associate Members acceptable?
- Who approves new members, ExCo or GA?

- Which issues need simple majority, and others 2/3 majority?
- Which issues to be addressed in statutes, which issues in set of by-laws?

Timescale Constitution:

1. Preliminary discussion start 2007 (invitation to members from ExCo)
2. ExCo comes up with proposal / overview & details
3. Notice to GA in March/April 2007
4. Preliminary draft June 2007
5. Discussion GA December 2007
6. Approval GA June 2008

Marc Mestdagh (VMD) will inform the ExCo about the mandatory rules (conform Belgian Law) for the constitution (about how to elect ExCo, the maximum member fee and structure). Constitution must be conform Belgian law, otherwise individuals may be charged.

We may create a Domestic Rules book (not legally necessary), for less important issues, which can be changed frequently, with less official hassle.

Please think and send back your ideas so they can be included on the go. Issues raised in response to Jim's presentation:

- EFAEP as an employer
- EFAEP as an owner (websites, etc.)
- What are the objectives of EFAEP and how could this change in the future?

Original: To contribute to a better environment on scientific basis and not politic, to ensure sound Environmental Policy development.

Now: Function as an umbrella for individual professionals.

11:30 Matthias Friebe - New Members

Friebe talked with three new members in summer of which IES and CIWEM have now joined. It is now easier to acquire new members since we are getting bigger and this attracts others. Third is the possible Swedish member: municipal environmental, heads of environmental organisations of municipalities. They have a concern that they are too small (200 members).

J-K Mak: Important issue: The small organisations state they do not have any personnel and hence can do little. What is bad about small? We will be a network organization. Although small, they are important and influential and need to network with fellow Europeans.

Once EFAEP grows to a considerable extent, we may start organizing regional meetings. Identify members in your neighbourhood. We should consider regional operations.

Eastern Europe is target for new members (Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Baltic States). Capacity building might be necessary. Are there any professional structures for environmentalists? Mike asks if there are possibilities to set up a project to help E-European countries build structures/capacity. J-K Mak tried to get subsidies, so far no success. Czech may contact Slovakian & Polish.

Example from AIAT (Christian Coslovi): local courses, collecting experiences. AIAT invites and helps other universities and alumni-groups to set up their own network. Roma, Bologna,

Sicily, Liguria, Campania and Padova are realized already. Ideas exist to realize a national network. Christian promises the chairman to inform the other Italian AIAT-members about EFAEP, so they can become members of EFAEP as well.

At the beginning of EFAEP we started looking for different countries and now also are trying to find specialized members.

Aim:

- Complete European Coverage (still missing: Ireland, Greece, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Iceland, Baltic States, Cyprus, Malta).
- Find more specialisations.

Already containing

- Regulating municipalities
- Waste in soil & water
- Environmental Management Systems (EMS)
- Specialize in the scientific field

Paul Horton, Rink Kruk, and Peter Hermens, as well as Bruno Weinzaepfel, Christian Coslovi will actively work on expanding EFAEP. Paul Horton, Peter Hermens (Romania), Rink Kruk (Poland) form small action-plan/group, to take concrete steps.

11:45 Matthias Friebe - Reports on EMS

– *EFAEP Expert Group: European Management System (EMS)*. May 25th European verifier day. Connections with EC (Eichinger, regional Representative of Baden-Württemberg). Meeting held in European Room. Up to now Environmental Verifiers are subject to different national rules, etc. etc.. The European Commission wants harmonization. EFAEP could play strong role in this.

Activities of EMS

- SME (Small and Medium Enterprises)
- Basics Environmental Standard Accounting
- Accreditation (certification, etc)
- Legal compliance (VMD)
- CO₂-emission trading (German+AFITE) (millions-billions of Euro's).

Next meeting March 1st in Brussels.

Two main goals for EFAEP:

- Article 14 committee of the EMAS coordination
- Liaison partner in TC 207 of ISO standardisation committee (www.tc207.org) (ECOM New York)

Which liaison is possible depends on a solution for the travel costs for the representatives. To be effective the representative has to attend at least once or twice a year a European, respectively a global meeting. Friebe asks for financial assistance from EFAEP. J-K Mak decides to make a decision about that within the ExCo.

Conclusion: Excellent work! Bringing EFAEP further. Harmonizing EU legislation and as well EC-penetration.

12:00 Jason Reeves - Update ENEP marketing group

www.environmentalprofessionals.eu, so far called the DataBase of Environmental Professionals (DBEP), will be up and running by the end of 2006 / beginning of 2007.

It is now called **European Network of Environmental Professionals (ENEP)** developed by **EFAEP**, the European Federation of Associations of Environmental Professionals.

Things to do:

- Send Mario's presentation to everyone about ENEP (delegate through national members).
- By the end of March 2007 need to be invited to register:
 - 10 outstanding members of each association,
 - 100 members of each association.
- List of values on website (Email attachment).

Emanuel Regalini is the technical expert responsible for ENEP development.

13:15 Christophersen - IUCN Countdown 2010

An intermezzo-lecture by the World Conservation Union (IUCN), by Tim Christophersen (Tim.Christophersen@iucn.org)

IUCN is a cooperation of Nature conservation, Civil Society & Government and needs help of varying environmental professionals to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010. Sustainability is a resource, a base of biodiversity.

Visit the project website Countdown 2010 (www.countdown2010.net):

- 100x as fast as "normal" decline of species
- 2 out of 3 ecosystems are on decline

13:45 Jan Karel Mak - Report secretariats meeting

Successful secretariats meeting in October 2006 has been held.

Diagnose

- EFAEP still unknown within many associations
- No personal contacts between members yet
- Joint activities must be demand-driven, but not much demand exists yet.
- EFAEP needs to be known among Member's professionals!

Accomplished Activities, Discussed Points

- Email list exists for secretariats of EFAEP-members (secretariats@efaep.org) to distribute e.g.
 - List of joint activities
 - Active working groups

- Targeted information distribution (e.g. EU-policy development)
- Specific request for EMS-working group
- Database developed of activity per subject, including an overview of activities. This needs to be communicated on the EFAEP website.
- overlaps of EFAEP-members identified, still needs to be published on EFAEP site
- ENEP demonstrated by Mario Grosso (CV submission; search application; mutual contacts between EFAEP members)
- Role of Secretariats in management of ENEP explained
- Help asked from Secretariats (e.g. acknowledgement of new registrants)
- For new members “New member meetings” need to be organized, more or less once a year. A starter kit needs to be developed.
- When EFAEP grows, we will develop Regional meetings to limit travel costs

Short term actions

- Set priorities
- Involve people: find, inspire and get results
- Form duos, small groups to carry out actions
- Set up EFAEP base documents
- Knowledge exchange
- Influence EU-policy
- New bulletins and regular updates on environmental issues in EU.

Priority areas

- Fair (e.g. presence at fairs)
- Communication, Energy, EMS/IMS
 - Energy & Climate: contacting EFAEP-members
 - LCA, waste management
 - e.g. Debate on Nuclear Power: solution for climate change?
 - Actively link with EWA (European Water Association)
 - Involvement Public in Environment
- Internal communication (EFAEP)
 - Publish in Member’s newsletters, on a page on every associate’s website
 - Overhaul current website, conform VVM- or VMD-website model (www.vvm.info or www.vmx.be) (ExCo decides).
 - Careers for European Environmental Professionals
- EU focussed activities
 - Study EU-policies: become a leader on few issues => make us better known in EC
 - Climate Change Green Paper. February 21st. Paul is attending.
- Member focussed activities
 - Regional meetings and excursions
 - Make national activities internationally known. Secretariats should administer their activities on EFAEP-website
 - Develop a mechanism on how to make a local or national organisation (Starters kit including benefit of membership, responsibility local secretariat).
 - Professional Indemnity, insurance for Environmental professionals (especially for self employed people, but could also be for institutions).
- Instrumental issues
 - Make the functioning of EFAEP demand driven
 - Procedure development of addressing issues
 - Improvement management of EFAEP, larger role of secretariat

- Develop more contacts between “sections”
- Series of training
 - EU-legislation. Vera Kessler proposes to organise a workshop on EU-legislation; structure of EU and Funding opportunities, the day before the next GA.
 - How to lobby National Governments. Seminar (Carolyn).
 - What does sustainability mean for individual EFAEP-members.
- Finance: Improve finance for next GA (now only income through memberships).

Next General Assembly (GA) when and where?

Proposal by Mikulova to hold it in Prague on June 1st. On Thursday 31st we could hold the workshop on EU-legislation, structure of EU and Funding opportunities as proposed by Vera (above).

Possibly in December 2007 in Spain on 3rd or 4th of December. Jan Karel to approach ATEGRUS

14:45 Jan-Karel Mak - Closure

Thank you by the chairman to the VMD for hosting us, and for the opening dinner on Thursday.

Minutes by Rink Kruk (VVM)