

EFAEP : Report of the meeting of June 12th 2003

Venue : Representation of the Land Baden-Württemberg, Square Vergote 6, B-1200 Brussels

Attendance :

From The Netherlands : Jan Karel Mak, Theo Henckens VVM

From Great Britain : Jim Thompson, Mike Barker IEEM

From Portugal : Inès Freire APEA

From Czech Republic : Vladimír Prchlik, Libuše Deylová CSE

From Italy : Enrico Gattone, Diego Marazza AISA

Mario Grosso, Emanuele Regalini, Fosca Romani AIAT

From France : Dominique Bernard, Jean Lebègue, Bruno Weinzaepfel, Paul Degobert AFITE

From Germany : Hans-Friedrich Hinrichs, Rüdiger Wolfertz VDI-KUT

Vera Kessler, Jörg Niehoff VDI Brussels

Matthias Friebel, Hans Jürgen Wicht VNU

Karl Heinz Kahlenberg VBU

The meeting has been chaired by Jan Karel Mak, vice- president of EFAEP who made the apologies of Dominique Bernard, bound to be in Paris for professional reasons

Jan Karel Mak recalls that this meeting cannot work as an official General meeting, as the statute not still being officially published, the decisions written in the statute (for instance convocation to the meeting) have not been done following the statute

1/ Remarks about the last meeting in Düsseldorf

It has been asked at that meeting to collect the reactions of some associations to the presentation of "Visions and values" for EFAEP presented by Dominique Bernard. It concerns APEA, IEEM and AISA which are asked to communicate together in order to propose a new wording at the next meeting in December 2003. Paul Degobert will send them the set of slides presented in Düsseldorf.

Matthias Friebel regrets that the wording of the EFAEP statute looks too "technocratic" and concerns essentially the industrial aspects. It has been nevertheless decided not to modify the statute in the near future.

At Düsseldorf the network "ESSENCE" has been mentioned? During their next meeting in Berlin, would it be possible to organise a common meeting with EFAEP ?

The analysis network "Metropolis" was also mentioned in Düsseldorf and it was foreseen to have an EFAEP observer in each country. Bruno Weinzaepfel at AFITE will follow the question and let EFAEP informed.

Concerning the membership fee, Jan Karel Mak recalls that the figure of 1 € per association member has been unanimously accepted with a minimum of 250 € per association.

2/ Status of the official registration of EFAEP under the Belgian law

The French version of the EFAEP statute has been signed on May 11th by the King of the Belgians as an AISBL (Association internationale sans but lucratif). The permanent secretary is awaiting the invoice for publication in the "Moniteur Belge" (Belgian official gazette). Once published, our association will be able to open an account in the FORTIS bank in Brussels and operate legally.

A translation into English of the statute signed by the King of the Belgians has been distributed to the attendance and can be found in the appendix.

3/ Introduction of associations accepted as new EFAEP members by the Executive Committee

A slide (see appendix) show on a map of Europe that at the present time EFAEP covers 9 European countries through 12 associations including APEA Portuguese association (about 600 members) with a total potential membership of 13291 individuals

_New members can be expected soon :

In Belgium, SRBII (Société Royale Belge des Ingénieurs Industriels) who has a section "Environment"

In Switzerland, ASEP-VBU (Association Suisse des Professionnels de l'Environnement-Schweizerischer Verband der Umweltfachleute) who is awaiting to merge with the Swiss association of architects to take the decision to join EFAEP

In Italy, AICA (Associazione Italiana Consulenti Ambientali) present at the first EFAEP meeting in Lyons, which has problems within its board of directors

In Germany, VDSI (Vereinigung Deutscher Sicherheit Ingenieure) which Rüdiger Wolfertz proposes to contact

In Spain, APROMA (Asociación Profesional Interdisciplinar del Medio Ambiente)

In Poland, Vladimir Prchlik has contact with one association but it is a regional association.

And Jörg Niehoff knows the Polish association NOT he proposes to contact

But the general opinion of the attendance is that before trying to expand EFAEP (for instance by creating associations in countries where they do not exist), EFAEP has to demonstrate its real operation

4/ Organisation of EFAEP : who is doing what ?

Current Executive Committee

It is composed of :

the president Dominique Bernard from AFITE

the vice president Jan Karel Mak from VVM

the treasurer Rüdiger Wolfertz from VDI-KUT

It also includes some permanent guests, attending the ExCo meetings :

Paul Degobert, from AFITE, in charge of the supporting secretariat

Theo Henckens, from VVM, in charge of the bulletin and the agenda for actions

Jean Lebègue, from AFITE, in charge of the supporting secretariat
Jörg Niehoff, from VDI, in charge of the permanent secretariat
Bruno Weinzaepfel, from AFITE, in charge of the supporting secretariat

EFAEP has created two secretariats :

A supporting secretariat :

Located near the residence of the president,
with Jean Lebègue, Bruno Weinzaepfel and Paul Degobert

Its main tasks are :

- The general administration of EFAEP
- The preparation of ExCo meetings and general assemblies
- The record and control of the execution of the decisions
- The animation of the relationships between EFAEP members and the working commissions

A permanent secretariat

Located in Brussels at the seat of EFAEP

With Jörg Niehoff and Vera Kessler

Its main task is :

- To be the official office of EFAEP in Brussels with meeting rooms, permanent availability
- To operate the official exchanges with the Belgian authorities
- To make survey of EU environmental regulation
- To operate the EFAEP web-site

General meetings

It has been decided to hold the ordinary general assemblies in Brussels either on Friday or on Monday. But the location of a general assembly may be changed in case of a special event.

For the next general assembly it has been proposed to hold it **in Paris** during the next POLLUTEC exhibition from December 2nd to December 5th . **The date of the general assembly will be Friday December 5th.**

5/ Survey of pending environmental regulations in EU

Vera Kessler presented a survey of the EU environmental regulations :
Recalling the articles concerning the environment of the different treaties establishing the European Union, the principles of the legislation, and the role that EFAEP may play in the future in that case (see the different slides concerned in the appendix).
She detailed as examples three pending directives concerning the emission trading, the environmental liability and the taxation of energy products (see slides in the appendix)

Concerning the role of EFAEP in the establishment of environmental regulations, it has been recalled that some member associations have already such a role on a national level, such as VNU in Germany, VVM in the Netherlands or AFITE in France

At that moment Jim Thompson of IEEM said that the articles of the new European Convention recently adopted would reduce taking into account environment in the future of the European Union, mainly articles 6 and 8 of the treaty which will be weakened. In the United Kingdom, they have already sent a letter to their Prime Minister to protest for those dispositions, even if it may be too late to change the legislative text. He proposes to send the text of the letter prepared in England to everybody in order that every association translates it and adapt it in its own language and send it to the prime minister and the government of each country. That would furthermore have the advantage to let EFAEP be known at the governmental level.

6/ Financial situation of EFAEP and budget 2003

Rüdiger Wolfertz presented the expected income for 2003, based on the membership of the different associations and a minimum contribution of 250 €. (see slide) Including Portugal not mentioned on the slides the total income would be about 13.200 €.. But the money is not yet in the hands of the treasurer as invoices could only be sent to the members after the publication of EFAEP in the "Moniteur Belge" and the opening of the EFAEP account at the FORTIS bank.

The provisional budget for the first semester of 2003 amounts to 6400 € (see slide). It has been recalled that no expense cannot be engaged without permit of the treasurer, who is assisted by a financial committee, and that every month or at every meeting of the ExCo a state of the finance should be presented.

As EFAEP is a non-profit association a balance sheet showing no profit is necessary and will be adjusted for the next general assembly in December.

7/ Working groups

Four working groups have been created following the Düsseldorf meeting. The table in the appendix lists all the participants. Some of them have been recently designated or chosen during the meeting.

- **Environmental strategy, policy, legislation**
As Matthias Friebel wanted to create another group concerning sustainable development, but as for the present time we have some problems to find representatives of each association to take part to the four primitive working groups, it has been decided to add **sustainability** to the title of that group. Matthias Friebel of VNU (Germany) will be its group manager.
- **Environmental education, information and communication**
Günther Subklew of VDI-KUT (Germany) has been proposed as group manager. If not possible somebody from England will take the leadership
- **Waste management**
Mario Grosso from AIAT (Italy) offers himself to lead the group
- **Industry and Environment**
Walter Vermeulen from VVM (Netherlands) is proposed as the group manager.

Theo Henckens has indicated a calendar and a schedule for the working groups :
The group manager is on charge for the first six months.
He has to organise meetings, preferably by phone or by e-mail during July to September to agree on a way of working and on a focus. He has to prepare an action plan for 2004-2006 and let it approve and support by the ExCo to start the actual work on January 2004

The slides in appendix indicate the way of working, the focussing of the working groups

8/ Agenda for action 2003-2004

Theo Henckens recalls the EFAEP objectives and the general issues (see slides)
He made a survey among the attendants to look for their opinion on the possible activities and their priority for services, activity of the working groups or more general issues. He asked people to distribute six dots among all the items which were at first chosen by all the attendants.

The table in the appendix gathers the results : influencing the EU environmental policies has the highest priority, that confirms the importance of the corresponding working group.

Some services to members have a high importance :

- set up of a database of professionals and experts
- set up of a system for exchange of students/traineeships
- provide a periodic up-dating of EU legislation
- distribution of international job opportunities

The promotion of the environmental profession seems also very important

Concerning the operation of EFAEP three items came into view :

- Preparation of a 3 years business plan
- Generate subsidies
- Generate activities to attract more members

9/ EFAEP web-site

Jörg Niehoff presents the status of the EFAEP web-site www.efaep.org in construction with its requirements (see slides) and prospective contents. He details the services that the Brussels VDI office can offer to the members to make the web-site live

10/ Co-operation between EFAEP and the media : EEP proposal

Jan Karel Mak introduces EEP (Environmental European Press), its capacities and the possibility and advantages of co-operation on a non exclusive basis (see slides)

EEP is promoting awarding innovations in the field of environment by companies based in Europe. It is called EEP Awards 2003 which will be published during the next POLUTEC exhibition in Paris. A jury gathering both 12 international journalists and 4 members of

EFAEP will judge in Paris and attribute 3 Awards to companies selected from their proposals. Mike Barker of IEEM offers himself to take part to the jury, but it is necessary to have judges from other countries

APPENDIX

- 1/ Translation into English of the statute registered at the Belgian Ministry of Justice :
File Statuts anglais conformes à la version déposée Word file
- 2/ Set of slides presented at the Brussels meeting
File SlidesGAJune2003.pdf Acrobat Reader file
- 3/ Action plan 200462006 Survey of the opinions
File PrioritylistEFAEP12-6-2003. Word file
- 4/ List of the Working group members
File WGJuin03 excel file
- 5/ List of pending EU environmental regulations prepared by Vera Kessler
File SurveyEUmeasuresEnv.pdf Acrobat Reader file