

**THE
INTERNATIONAL
FEDERATION
of ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH**



2001 Annual Report

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PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

President – Lars Olsen

Honorary Secretary – Michael Halls, FREHIS FRSH MInstWM

Chairman of Council – Vic Andrich

Honorary Treasurer – Brynley R. Jones, FCIEH

Honorary Education Liaison Officer – John R. Stirling, MSc FREHIS MCIEH

Honorary Public Relations Officer – Kia Regner

Webmasters - Henning I. Hansen, Jan Jørgensen, FMK

Company Secretary – Graham Jukes FCIEH

ANNUAL REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT

The history of the International Federation of Environmental Health is to a large extent a history of conferences, congresses and meetings where professionals come together to share ideas and to develop this important field. In 2001 the major events of the IFEH took place in Tanzania in October, hosted by CHAMATA, the member organisation in that country.

Africa

The Africa Regional Group had a good meeting at Bagamoyo, Tanzania. An ambitious action plan for developing environmental health in Africa was on the agenda. Twelve resolutions were adopted, each of them with specific targets and time frames. This must be considered a good step forward for environmental health organisations in the continent, and certainly gives the Africa Group a set of challenges for the near future.

The meeting was followed by a very successful African Environmental Health Education Conference with more than 200 delegates from various parts of Africa. This turned out to be a fruitful meeting between people involved in education & research and professionals working in the field.

The week in Tanzania ended with the opening of the Clarence Phenix Memorial Library. This is a long-term project where IFEH, with the help of members of the Northern Ireland Centre of the CIEH, has funded a reference library which will provide support to students on a new B.Sc. degree course in environmental health at Muhimbili University.

One of our main objectives these last couple of years has been to strengthen the regional groups. These four groups will be the main instruments and arenas of the International Federation of Environmental Health in the future. As President I am therefore very pleased to see that the Africa Group has managed to meet and has decided to become more active both as member organisations and as a group.

Web site

The IFEH web site (www.ifeh.org) has become more popular during the year. The number of visits to the site increases week by week. We try to develop this tool all the time, so that there is always something new when you visit it. But a web site like ours will never be better than those who use it. So in order to keep it as up to date as possible, we are relying on all our members to feed in news and relevant information. Remember that the web site is also an opportunity for you to communicate your message world wide. Our challenge to you is: use our web site!

Meetings

The Board has met regularly through the year 2001. We had four regular meetings and a few telephone conferences. However, most business between Board members is handled via e-mail. This is a great advantage, and gives us the possibility to speed up the process of decision making and preparations for meetings of the Council and the AGM.

The Council met once in 2001. This meeting was linked to the Education Conference and the opening of the Clarence Phenix Memorial Library in Tanzania. As usual some time was set aside for the Annual General Meeting.

A Federation for the future

During the last few years we have been through a process of modernising the Memorandum and Articles of the Federation (its constitution). As more members have joined IFEH it has become clearer that the constitution we started with, needed to be changed to meet with new demands and new ways of working together. This is a process that will go on in the future.

The IFEH is fortunate to have an Honorary Secretary who is in a position where he can spend numerous hours each week doing Federation business, – and who is willing to do so. The Federation depends on people who are willing to work on a voluntary basis. But to expand our field of work we will need more than that. There is a need for a permanent secretariat with our own employed staff, not instead of the voluntary work, but in addition to it. This will enable us to do more project based work in various fields and to be more active. The Board is exploring several possibilities for funding such activities together with the Europe Group.

San Diego Next

The next major event of the International Federation of Environmental Health will be the 7th World Congress in May 2002 in San Diego, California. I hope to see many of you there!

Lars Olsen



ANNUAL REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

Meetings

Although the Council meets only once a year, Board Meetings are arranged throughout the year, as it is necessary for the work of IFEH to continue uninterrupted, if the Federation is to remain an influential international organisation. Meetings are arranged for when most, if not all, members of the Board can be present. When this is not possible, a telephone link to the meeting is established.

The following meetings have been held:

DATE	LOCATION	TYPE OF MEETING
March 3-4, 2001	Galashiels, Scotland	*Board Meeting
June 8-10, 2001	Honefoss, Norway	Board Meeting
September 13-14, 2001	Vienna, Austria	Board Meeting
October 22-23, 2001	Bagamoyo, Tanzania	IFEH Council Meeting
February 9-10, 2001	Dublin, Ireland	*Board Meeting
		(* - Telephone link)

Issues

The IFEH Website (www.ifeh.org) through the excellent work of our Danish colleagues continued to provide a valuable link in communication between members and others. The setting up of working groups such as the “Sustainable Indicators Working Group” has allowed members from all over the world to participate in international initiatives. Further promotion of the IFEH occurred with publication of further editions of the IFEH Magazine and our thanks are extended to John Stirling for his efforts.

Financial Arrangements

This year we saw a changing of the guard as long time IFEH Treasurer Graham Slee handed the reins over to Bryn Jones. Graham continued to work diligently up until the handover and he has our sincere thanks for an excellent job. The IFEH Policy on Corporate Sponsorship was further refined after feedback from members and was adopted at the Tanzanian Council meeting. Further work is required to develop guidelines and fine tune arrangements on how such sponsorship would operate.

Restructuring

The restructuring of the IFEH continues and will reach a milestone at the 2002 IFEH Council meeting in San Diego. At that meeting the position of Chairman and Vice-Chairman will be amalgamated into the positions of President and Vice-President

respectively. The Board will be looking for greater input from Coordinators of the Regional Groups to provide the expertise to carry the IFEH in between Council meetings.

Some Sadness in our Year

This year witnessed the passing of Eric Foskett, the “father” of the IFEH and a month later the events of September 11 in the United States. Great sadness was felt across the world and in particular in this Federation. Let us all demonstrate our ability to work together to achieve harmony and let's build on the cooperation that is the IFEH.

The role of the IFEH in the future will continue to depend upon the continuing efforts of those professional officers who devote their time. I personally would like to once again record my appreciation for the tireless efforts of Lars Olsen, Mike Halls and Bryn Jones.

Conclusion

Appreciation is extended to the member organisations that have made facilities and staff available to assist the IFEH in its deliberations.

To the incoming President, Diane Evans I congratulate you on the position and look forward to the further development of the IFEH under your steerage.

Vic Andrich

REPORT BY HONORARY EDUCATION LIAISON OFFICER

While the duties of this post have not been as onerous as in previous years, I can report that outside the Federation the two International Faculty Forums have been busy organising the educational conference scheduled to be held in conjunction with IFEH 7th World Congress in San Diego, USA.

John Stirling

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

Kenneth Collins, MSc (1987) – Nominated by REHIS

Roy Emerson, FCIIEH FRSH FCIH (1988) – Nominated by CIEH

Michael Halls, FREHIS FRSH MInstWM (1998) – Nominated by the Council

Terence Moody, MA FNZIEH MRSH (1989) – Nominated by the NZIEH

Frederick P. O'Brien, BA MBA MEHOA (1992) – Nominated by the EHOA

Haji Ugku Abu Bakar bin Abdul Rahman, AMN FRSH (1996)
– Nominated by the Past Presidents

Kia Regner (2000) – Nominated by the Council

Ronald G. Spratt, JP FAIEH (1991) – Nominated by the AIEH

ANNUAL REPORT BY THE HONORARY TREASURER

The year 2001 has been a difficult one for the administration of Federation finances. The decision of CIEH not to re-appoint Graham Slee as one of their representatives left the Federation without a Treasurer. This, in turn, caused difficulties with access to the bank account and the decision to move the account to another bank only added further difficulties. However, by the end of the year all was well and back on track. Thanks are due to CIEH for providing temporary financial arrangements during this difficult period. I would also like to pay tribute to Graham Slee for the work that he has done over the years, both as Treasurer and as a CIEH representative, and to thank him on behalf of the organisation.

While the overall financial situation remains satisfactory, the long standing dilemma that current sources of income in no way allow the aspirations of the Federation to be achieved, even to a small extent, is still with us. This became all too apparent during the successful Tanzanian Conference and Council meeting, when, for the first time, the potential contribution of the African members was realised. If the Federation is to make progress, some major sources of income must be identified, and some possibilities were being examined at the end of the year.

During the year, a decision was made to change the method of calculation of the amount of member organisations' subscriptions, principally so as to reflect their ability to pay. This is a delicate issue and it was important that any method chosen should not cause embarrassment to anyone. The adopted method involves the use of the Gross Domestic Product per Capita (GDP/C) level of each country to establish a "league table" on which subscriptions are based. For the year 2001 the GDP/C figures for 2000 were used, and it is not proposed to take account of any minor changes in GDP/C levels in the foreseeable future. The new system inevitably means an increase for some members and reductions for others, and while no method is totally satisfactory, it is felt that the new amounts are more realistic. Still on the topic of subscriptions, a pattern is emerging whereby some member organisations are paying the subscription of other members who have various currency difficulties and the Federation Council recommends this to others not yet involved, or where potential new members may be discouraged from joining by such difficulties.

In last year's report Graham Slee said that he was proud to have been a part of a "worthwhile organisation". I would echo those sentiments and add that with

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

(for the year ended 31 December 2001)

	Note	2001	2000
Income		£	£
Subscriptions and donations		9,365	12,372
Sundry income		1,000	1,250
Interest receivable		711	978
		14,600	14,600
Expenditure			
Administrative expenses	6	(6,372)	(13,174)
Surplus before taxation		4,704	1,426
Taxation	7	(63)	(209)
Surplus after taxation		4,641	1,217
Transfer to Development Fund		(-)	(1,000)
Surplus for the Financial Year		4,641	217

Brynley R. Jones
Treasurer

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

EHOverseas, England, UK

Greater London Centre – CIEH, England, UK

The Tidy Britain Group, England, UK

Water for Kids, England, UK

Scottish Centre for Infection and Environmental Health, Scotland, UK

Arizona Environmental Health Association, USA

California Environmental Health Association, USA

Minnesota Environmental Health Association, USA

Underwriters Laboratories Inc, USA

Peruvian Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineers

ANNUAL REPORT BY THE HONORARY SECRETARY

In my report I attempt to cover matters dealt with by the Federation during the past year but which my fellow office bearers have not mentioned in their reports.

The year 2001 will always be remembered, from a personal point of view as the year we lost Eric. I need use only his Christian name for everyone to know to whom I refer and that speaks volumes for the effect that he had on the international environmental health community. The Federation lost the person who had the vision to strive to make this organisation come into being. I, and, I am sure, very many more of you who read this, lost a true and loyal friend. We will never see his like again!



The membership of IFEH grew slightly during the year, with the admission as Associates of the Polytechnic at the University of Malawi and the charity, Water for Kids. Unfortunately the number of full members declined following the decision to consider the Indonesian Association as having resigned.

Many attempts over the past 7 or 8 years failed to elicit a response from the Association and the decision to cut the ties is regretted very much. On a more positive note the year ended with a spate of enquiries about membership, from a number of countries. The Association based in Zambia seems as if it might be the first new member in 2002.

A new feature, which I hope will be part of all future annual reports, is the inclusion of news from the Regional Groups. The result of the Africa Group meeting has been publicised and that from the Chairman of the Europe Group appears elsewhere in this publication. Unfortunately, the other two Groups (the Americas and the Pacific Rim) did not meet during the year but, when they do, reports will be made as intimated above.

I am pleased to report that at the end of 2001 I had managed to make contact with individuals who at one time supported the Federation in the guise of "Sustaining Subscribers". Indications are that by the time that the next annual report is produced quite a few persons will have signed up to assist the IFEH

financially. Further details of how you can become involved in this project can be obtained from me.

Planning continues apace for all the forthcoming World Congresses and during the year 2001, reassuring news was provided by the South African Institute about plans to be implemented relating to the security of delegates attending the Durban Congress in 2004. As the year came to a close, indications emerged that there would be two organisations (those based in Australia and in Canada) submitting bids to hold the Congress in 2008.

Mention has been made elsewhere in this document about the success of the events in Tanzania in October 2001 and there is no doubt that the thanks of all concerned are due to the member organisations in Africa for their hard work. However it would be invidious if I did not recognise the sterling efforts of a small band of volunteers who made it all happen. Without Stewart Petrie, Rob Couch and Steve Payne, things would not have gone quite so smoothly. Well done to all of you!!

As usual, my thanks are due to all my fellow office bearers for their help and support over the year and, again, I would express my own and the Federation's gratitude to EnCams (formerly the Tidy Britain Group) for the IT support given.

MAGAZINE CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

Acting on the advice of the Federation's preferred publisher the planned launch of the new annual review, which will in part replace the Magazine "Environment and Health International" (E&HI) did not occur.

Following the sad and tragic events of the 11th September the publishers reported a general drop in advertising revenue and indicated a further postponement in the launch date until the autumn of 2002.

This has resulted in the Federation having to produce in house two "final" editions of the Magazine in its present format and to bring forward the launch of its newsletter, which will alternate with the Annual Review.

I can report that these editions of the magazine have been well received and once again I thank the contributors and members of Council who have supported me throughout this period.

The newsletter will have briefer articles and more news of what is happening throughout the Federation along with summaries of interesting articles that have been published by our members.

John Stirling

REPORT BY CHAIRMAN OF THE EUROPE GROUP

This has been another quite active year for the Europe Group. Much of its focus has been on the follow-up of the European Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in London in 1999. This priority has also been expressed in the 7th IFEH Policy Paper. The follow-up work of the London '99 decisions is co-ordinated by the European Environment and Health Committee (EEHC), comprising representatives from governments, intergovernmental organisations and non-governmental organisations and with WHO Euro as its secretariat. IFEH represents the environment and health professionals on that committee. The development of National Environment and Health Action Plans has been a major topic as has been the implementation of these into local actions. The use of rapid risk assessment, as a tool to meet disasters like the Danube River contamination, has also been a timely topic, as has the development of the Precautionary Principle.

Public participation and access to information is a vital part of the development of environment and health protection strategies and is also an important element of the development of legal and administrative systems in the accession countries to the EU. Further information about the EEHC can be found at www.eehc.dk. The Europe Group has met twice during this year, once in Riga, Latvia and once in Vienna, Austria to share professional experience and expertise and learn more about environmental health in the host country but also to discuss the way forward for IFEH. We are currently in the process of trying to obtain financial support for our future work from the EU on behalf of IFEH. During this year a project to develop Sustainability Indicators has been launched by the Europe Group and should be a very good example of professional work. This project has been thoroughly presented in the E&HI. We have also established working groups on Food Hygiene, NEHAPs/Agenda21, Drinking Water and Children & Health following some of the London '99 topics.

Some projects have involved only some of the member organisations e.g. a EU Leonardo project on Food Hygiene and Unemployment which is now in its final stages. There are also Twinning agreements between some of the member organisations and this scheme is now being enlarged to cover all members of the IFEH Europe Group. More informal twinning arrangements also exist providing opportunities for individual members to visit and study environmental health in other countries.

The Nordic countries have a fairly long tradition of co-operation and have now established a Nordic Environmental Health Platform which is to be a regularly reoccurring event presenting and discussing the state of the art of environmental health within these countries.

WHO Euro is a major environmental health actor in Europe. We have, as

previous years, been involved in some WHO projects e.g. a project to set up an environmental health electronic network and a project to more explicitly include Health in Environment Impact Assessment and also Strategic Environmental Assessment as part of plans and policies. We have also publicised an article in the WHO Euro EH News Bulletin.

We have participated in a conference on Climate Change and the role of Local Authorities thus taking a stand on Climate Change issues.

In June 2001 the EU adopted its 6th Environment Action Program (EAP) and also a strategy for Sustainable Development. The EAP has listed Health as a priority area, which is an important step towards integrating environment and health actions. One EU project is Impel – Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental legislation – and we had the opportunity to make a presentation about IFEH at an Impel Plenary meeting which also was a way to stress the link between environment and health.

We have also made presentations about Environmental Health in Europe and the IFEH Europe Group at the annual meeting of the Australian Institute of Environmental Health as well as at the annual meeting of the Underwriter's Laboratories Environment and Public Health Committee in the USA.

Towards the end of the year some members of the group had the pleasure of visiting Tanzania and participating in the launch of the Environmental Health Library at the University of Dar-Es-Salaam. This was very much due to the efforts of European and African colleagues – a true international experience. It is now obvious that the IFEH Africa Group is a strong and important player in the environmental health field.

Schedule of Meetings of the Council

Since its inauguration fifteen years ago, until the end of 2001, the Federation Council has met on 36 occasions in 14 different countries. There follows a list of meeting venues:

1986	August	London, England	May	Gothenberg, Sweden	
	September	Scarborough, England	September	Bournemouth, England	
1987	January	Dublin, Ireland	1993	May	Oslo, Norway
	May	Glasgow, Scotland		October	Canberra, Australia
	September	Brighton, England	1994	February	Denver, USA
1988	January	London, England		September	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
	May	Dublin, Ireland	1995	March/April	Stockport, England
	September	Ashfield, Australia		October	Nicosia, Cyprus
1989	January	Dublin, Ireland	1996	May	Aberdeen, Scotland
	May	Glasgow, Scotland		November	Durban, South Africa
	September	Eastbourne, England	1997	April	Los Angeles, USA
1990	February	Aberdeen, Scotland		October	Launceston, Australia
	June	Stockholm, Sweden	1998	June	Stockholm, Sweden
	September	Bournemouth, England	1999	April	Hong Kong
1991	February	Dublin, Ireland		September	Bonn, Germany
	May	Aberdeen, Scotland	2000	June	Oslo, Norway
	September	Brighton, England		November	Nicosia, Cyprus
1992	January	Belfast, Northern Ireland	2001	October	Bagamoyo, Tanzania

ACADEMIC ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Australia
 Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia
 Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia;
 Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia

British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada
 Ryerson Polytechnic University, Canada

King's College, University of London, England, UK
 Leeds Metropolitan University, England, UK
 Manchester Metropolitan University, England, UK
 City College of Higher & Further Education, Norwich, England, UK
 Salford University, England, UK
 University of the West of England, Bristol, England, UK

Hong Kong Technical College

Dublin College of Technology, Ireland

University of Malawi – The Polytechnic

University of Ulster, Northern Ireland, UK

Edinburgh University, Scotland, UK
 Stevenson College, Scotland, UK
 University of Strathclyde, Scotland, UK
 West Lothian College, Scotland, UK

Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Singapore

Cape Technikon, South Africa
 M.L.Sultan Technikon, Durban, South Africa
 Peninsula Technikon, Belleville, South Africa
 Technikon Natal, South Africa
 Technikon North Gauteng, South Africa
 Technikon Pretoria, South Africa

Umea University, Sweden

Loma Linda University, California, USA

University of Wales Cardiff Institute, Wales, UK

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS 2001

Country Represented	Name of Organisation
AUSTRALIA	– Australian Institute of Environmental Health (AIEH)
AUSTRIA	– Verband der Osterreichischen Lebensmittelkontrollere
BOTSWANA	– Botswana Environmental Health Officers Association
CANADA	– Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (CIPHI)
CYPRUS	– Association of Public Health Inspectors
DENMARK	– Foreningen af Miljomedarbejdere I Kommunerne (FMK)
ENGLAND, WALES & NORTHERN IRELAND	– the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH)
FINLAND	– Finnish Communal Association of Environmental Health & Protection
FRANCE	– Association Nationale des Ingenieurs du Genie Sanitaire (ANIGS)
GERMANY	– Bundesverband der Lebensmittel Kontrolleure (BVLK)
GREECE	– Association of Public Health Inspectors
HONG KONG	– Hong Kong Public Health Inspectors Association (HKPHIA)
IRELAND	– Environmental Health Officers Association (EHOA)
KAZAKHSTAN	– Kazakhstan Association of the Sanitary-epidemiological Service
KENYA	– Association of Public Health Officers
LATVIA	– Latvian Association of Preventive Medicine Functioners
LITHUANIA	– Union of Hygienists & Epidemiologists
MALAYSIA	– Malaysian Association of Environmental Health (MAEH)
MALAWI	– Environmental Health Officers Association of Malawi
MAURITIUS	– Health Inspectors Cadre
NETHERLANDS	– College van Keurmeesters
NEW ZEALAND	– New Zealand Institute of Environmental Health Inc. (NZIEH)
NORWAY	– Forum for Miljo og Helse (FMH)
SCOTLAND	– Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland REHIS)
SINGAPORE	– Society of Environmental Health
SOUTH AFRICA	– South African Institute for Environmental Health Officers (SAIEH)
SWEDEN	– Miljo- och halsok yddstjanstemannaforbundet (MHTF)
TANZANIA	– Tanzanian Association of Health Inspectors (CHAMATA)
USA	– National Association of Environmental Health (NEHA)
ZIMBABWE	– Zimbabwe Environmental Health Practitioners Association (ZEPHA)