



The Newsletter of the International Federation of Environmental Health

FUTURE EVENTS

National Environmental Health Association Annual Education Conference, Washington DC, U.S.A. 29th June to 2nd July 1997. To be held at Marriott Gateway Hotel.

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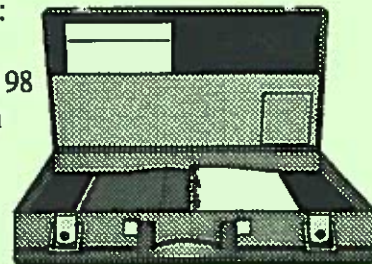
There will be a meeting of the North American Regional Group on 2nd July during the conference.

IFEH Annual General Meeting : 7th June 1998
Stockholm, Sweden

CALL FOR PAPERS

5th World Congress, Stockholm, Sweden - 7th to 12th June 1998 - required by 30th September 1997 to:

Birgitta Ericsson, IFEH 98
Environment and Health
Protection Admin,
Rosenlundsgatan 60,
Box 38024, SE-100
64 Stockholm, Sweden.
Fax: +46 8 61697 99.



PAST EVENTS

Report of the IFEH Council Meeting held at the Los Angeles airport Marriott Hotel Los Angeles, California, on 15th April 1997 (Courtesy of Michael Halls).

Present:

Sophoclis Anthousis
Melanthios Demetriades
George Georgallas
Brynley Jones
John McCandless
Graham Slee
Peter Ku
Gerry McDermott
Terence Moody
Bjorn Gudevold
Sonia Skotheim
Michael Halls
Kia Regner
Ginger Gist
Diane Evans
Tatjana Marchenkova

APHI Cyprus
APHI Cyprus
APHI Cyprus
CIEH England/Wales/
N. Ireland

Hong Kong PHIA
EHOA Ireland
New Zealand IEH
THF Norway
THF Norway
REHIS Scotland
MHTF Sweden
NEHA USA
NEHA USA
LPMFA Latvia
(observer)

Marsha Robbins
Vicki Everly
Michael Cooke
Eric Foskett

Arizona EHA
California EHA
Company Secretary
Hon. Co-ord. Officer

Chairman:

In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, the Chair was occupied by the President, Michael Halls, who welcomed those present to the meeting, making specific reference to Tatjana Marchenkova from Latvia who was attending as an observer and whose Association was to be considered for membership of the Federation during the Los Angeles Council meeting. He thanked the representatives of CEHA for the facilities which they had provided for the Federation to hold the relevant meetings.

Auditors:

It was agreed to reappoint Morison Stoneham as professional auditors for 1997 and thanks were expressed to the CIEH for again agreeing to meet the cost of the auditor's fees. Nigel Haverson and John Tiffney were reappointed lay auditors for 1997.

Appointments:

It was reported that Michael Halls (REHIS) was to occupy the position of President until the Fifth World Congress in Sweden in June 1998, and that the position of Chairman of the Council was to be occupied by Brynley Jones (CIEH) from 1st January 1997 until 31st December 1999.

Report:

The meeting took place in a room on the eighteenth floor of the Marriott Hotel and the less attentive delegates witnessed a fairly 'hairy' landing on more than one occasion.

Our hosts were the California Association of Environmental Health (CEHA) and a very efficient job they did, with the Council being their guests at lunch on both days. The Californians have always played a major role in the Federation since they joined as an Associate Member in 1989. Their commitment to our cause was there for all to see, not just over the two days of meetings but also in the Annual Educational Symposium which was held later in the week and in which a number of Federation personnel participated.

This should have been the first meeting at which John Stirling acted as Secretary but illness forced him to call off and the minutes were prepared by the President. The best wishes of all Members and Associates of the IFEH go to John for a full and timely recovery, especially true of the President whose fingers are now somewhat shorter due to an excess of typing!

The most weighty topic on the Council's agenda was the latest draft of the Memorandum and Articles of Association and it is pleasing to note that, on the whole, the document seems to meet the needs and wishes of the Members. A few mainly minor amendments were made by those present and the Members who could not be represented at the meeting will be given a final chance to comment on the proposals by the end of June, with a view to the new 'Constitution' being approved by a Special General Meeting to be held in conjunction with the next council meeting in Tasmania in October 1997.

It is pleasing to report that the Federation came to Los Angeles with 23 Members and 37 Associates and left with 24 and 40 respectively. Written applications for Associate status were received from two Technikons in South Africa - Vaal Triangle and Peninsula and, uniquely, a full Member application was delivered personally by the representative of the Latvian Association of Preventive Medicine Functioners (Tatjana Marchenkova) and by Donna Gurule on behalf of Loma Linda University Medical Centre, California, for Associate Membership. These most recent recruits see the Federation expanding in to new fields by virtue of the fact that Latvia becomes the first Member from Eastern Europe and Loma Linda the first University from the USA to join. Truly a historic event and yet more proof of the fact that IFEH is now firmly established and recognised as a force for good on

the international Environmental Health scene.

Associate Member status was also suggested for Public Health International whose representative, Dennis Kalson, gave a most interesting and thought-provoking address to the Council on the work which his organisation has undertaken to relieve human suffering caused by disease and disaster (both man made and natural) in South America. Further discussion will be held on this topic at the next (and possibly subsequent) meetings, to determine what role IFEH can undertake to support organisations such as P.H. International and E.H. Overseas in the essential work they are doing.

On the financial front, the Finance Group is now becoming more effective and is meeting on a regular basis with the sole intention of getting IFEH on to a firm financial footing. The Council has set itself modest financial targets over the next three years and hopes to boost its reserves by £4,500 during that period. The Honorary Treasurer is to report to the next meeting on a scheme for giving grants and loans to Members, particularly those embarking on running World Congresses and will also put information before the Council on what provisions IFEH should make for Insurance.

The Finance Group has also been asked to examine how the Federation could attract funding to enable it to expand its influence and undertake projects and this matter has also been referred to the Euro/Cypria Group to see if it can suggest ways in which assistance from the EU can be obtained.

Work is continuing on the preparation of a Code of Ethics which Members could adopt and the model produced by the Swedish Association is proving a good starting point. The Directory is to be re-issued, after updating, some time in the middle of the year and significant progress is being made on the Federation's Home Page which is accessible through the Web Site at the University of Edinburgh. Those of you with access to the Internet should look us up. Comments on the content are welcomed.

Planning is going on a pace with the preparations for the next three World Congresses. MHTF (Sweden) have issued a preliminary programme and if anyone wants a copy, they should contact Kia Regner, Tallholmsvagen 5, 18594 Vaxholm, Sweden. The Norwegian Association (THF) will host the World Congress from 5th to 9th June 2000, in Oslo which is celebrating its 1000 year history the same year and the seventh World Congress will be held in California in 2002. An interesting situation is developing with regard to the Congress in the year 2004,

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with both the South African and the Irish Associations actively campaigning for the honour. Watch this space!

Close liaison is being maintained with a number of organisations in the search for a greater role for the Federation and various reports to the L.A. meeting gave details of discussions with commercial publishers, Universities, professional training bodies, Pollution Control experts, the WHO and the International E.H. Faculty Forum. A significant number of these projects will be pursued by Regional Groups, thus widening the base of those who can do work for the Federation and, it is hoped, increasing the enthusiasm for IFEH which, sad to say, is still the prerogative of quite a small number of very active and committed volunteers. The President would be interested in hearing from anyone who has ideas or projects which the Federation could pursue or, indeed from anyone who has any criticisms of the Federation and its work. Although the Federation is an organisation of organisations, we are only as strong as the members of these organisations allow us to be. We need your help and support, for now we feel we are on the threshold of a major step forward in terms of the worthwhile tasks we set ourselves eleven years ago.

You as an individual, reading this report can help us and, as a first step, please could you search your home or place of work to see if you have any text books on Environmental Health which are now surplus to requirements and let your professional body know, as the Federation has decided to try to help colleagues in a number of African countries put together libraries of textbooks for their trainee EHO's who, at present, have in some cases NO books!

Magazine Articles

Journal of the Society of Environmental Health Officers, Singapore.

Editor: Mr. Chung Keng Meng, 16 Richards Place, Singapore 546346.

Vol.11 - February 1997

1. Environmental Public Health Education in Singapore
2. Current Challenges on Hazardous Wastes Management in Asian Developing Countries
3. An Outbreak of Food Poisoning caused by Salmonella Enteritidis
4. Getting the best from Domestic Kerbside Recycling Schemes
5. Outbreak of Vivax Malaria at Dairy Farm Estate
6. Aflatoxins

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Diane Evans a Past President of NEHA and active supporter of the Federation, was recently appointed by NEHA President Peter Thornton to be the Association's continuing liaison to the Federation. Her responsibilities include keeping the NEHA Board of Directors and members informed of the activities of the Federation and ensuring that NEHA has timely input and involvement in IFEH affairs. Either Diane or the Denver headquarters office of NEHA can be contacted for information exchange and inquiries relative to the Association.

Diane Evans, 3041 Arlington Drive, Aptos, CA 95003, USA.

Telephone: 01 408 454 2022 Fax: 01 408 454 3128
E-mail: scruza.env005@hwl.cahwnet.gov

NEHA has reciprocal discounted dues relationships with five other member organisations of the International Federation. They are Teknisk Hygienisk Forum (Norway), Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland, Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors, environmental Health Officers Association of Northern Ireland, and the Australian Institute of Environmental Health. Any member of these organisations who would like to enquire about discounted dues for members in NEHA should contact the NEHA business office: 720 S. Colorado Blvd, South Tower 970, Denver, CO 80222, USA.

E-MAIL

The Finance Working Group have recommended that Members are encouraged to contact each other via 'E' mail and to report their experiences to the Finance Working Group. Those of you with access to the Directory will note that 'E' mail addresses are being included, when available.

Public Relations Officer's 'E' mail address is:
Pauline.Hancock.@doncaster.gov.uk

Journal of Environmental Health - NEHA (USA)
Editor: Nelson Fabian, 720 S. Colorado Blvd, Suite 970
South Tower, Denver, CO 80222, USA.

March 1997

1. Surveying Household Hazardous Waste Generation and Collection: Trends in Arizona
2. Four day Work Week Improves Environment
3. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention - Fifty Years of History
4. A Water Supply Development Project in Bolivia

Caring for the Environment in the Interest of World Health

Environmental Health Scotland

Chief Executive: John Frater, REHIS, 3 Manor Place, Edinburgh, Scotland EH3 7DH

January 1997

1. The Braer: Environmental Health Problems Associated with the Spill
2. Nut Allergy can be Fatal
3. E.coli 0157 - Professor Pennington's Interim Report
4. Report on the 11th Biannual International Congress of the European Food Law
5. Enforcement of Vehicle Emission Standards by Local Authorities
6. Standards of Competence and Training for Health and Safety



March 1997

1. The New Contaminated Land Regime: What Will it Mean to Local Authorities?
2. Risk Based Approach to Contaminated Land
3. A Lowering of the Maximum Admissible Concentration for Lead in Drinking Water

Environmental Health

Editor: Clare Brown, CIEH, Chadwick Court, 15 Hatfields, London SE1 8DJ.

Volume 104/12 - December 1996

1. Growing Food in Cities
2. Are HMO Fire Proofing Products up to the Job?
3. The Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1964.
4. Choosing your Computer System



Volume 105/1 - January 1997

1. Invisible Killer: Carbon Monoxide in HMOs
2. Private Sector Housing Monitor
3. Radon in Private Water Supplies
4. Meeting the HECA (Home Energy Conservation) Challenge

Volume 105/2 - February 1997

1. Empty Property - A Wasted Resource
2. Practical Approach to Hazard Analysis
3. Going for a Charter Mark
4. Taking Responsibility for Contaminated Land

Volume 105/3 - March 1997

1. Risks for Swimming Pools
2. Sewage Pollution in Rural Areas
3. Gearing up for the Air Quality Strategy
4. Control of Cat Fleas: A Novel Approach

NEWS SNIPPETS

On 16th December, with two other MAEH Council members I had a dialogue session with the Minister of Health to discuss a MAEH memorandum on the various issues pertaining career development for the health inspectorate service in Malaysia.



Among other things the Minister has approved, in principle, the following to MAEH:

1. The scheme of service for the HIs will be upgraded from a Diploma entry qualification to Degree in B.Sc. Environmental Health.
2. The nomenclature of HI to be changed to EHO.
3. To get the advantage of the new scheme of service all eligible serving EHOs will be given the opportunity to follow Distant Learning in Environmental Health Programmes. On 18th December 1996, a training programme for Trainers in Food Handling was conducted by MAEH. 120 EHOs from all over the country, including six MOH, participated successfully in this one day training programme.

Haji Ungku Abu Bakar

Contact Addresses

1. Mr. R.W. Walukana, General Secretary, PO Box 1603, Kakamega, Kenya.
2. Mr. Brian Wilson, West Lothian College, Bathgate West Lothian, Scotland.
3. Mr. Covington Leung, Hong Kong Technical College (Chai Wan) 31 Shing Tai Road, Chai Wan Hong Kong.
4. Evan H. Henning, Chairman FMK, Posboks 115, Haslev, Denmark.
5. Laurence Mosweunyane, Secretary, Botswana EHOA, c/o BCL Limited, PO Box 3, Selbj-Phikwe, Botswana.
6. Dr. Geoff Cram, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Health and Social Care, Calverly Street, Leeds LS1 3HE, UK.