

THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

2004 Annual Report





Durban International Convention Centre



EHOA inviting delegates to Dublin in 2006

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PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

President - Jerry Chaka

President Elect - Colm Smyth

Honorary Secretary - Michael Halls

Honorary Treasurer - Stephen Cooper

Honorary Editor - John R. Stirling

Honorary Public Relations Officer - Kia Regner

Company Secretary - Graham Jukes

REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT

The year 2004 started with the hosting of the IFEH 8th World Congress on Environmental Health by the South African Institute of Environmental Health. This Congress was held on 23-27 February 2004 in Durban, South Africa. The 8th World Congress, the first to be held on African soil, attracted many delegates from all corners of the World and, as a result, the educational sessions were well-attended, particularly the IFEH Open Forum which attracted a record number of attendees. This Congress was also a resounding success for the IFEH in general.

The IFEH membership is currently 35 national associations. The year ended with the Federation losing two of its full members, the Greek Association and the Kazakhstani Association as well as gaining the national organisation based in Rwanda.

The Board of Directors met three times during the year, once in Durban, South Africa, once in Malahide, Ireland and once in Denver, USA. Two Council meetings were held during the year, one in Durban in February and one in Denver in September. Key issues considered at these meetings were: the responses to questionnaires circulated to members regarding the benefits for them in becoming and remaining members of IFEH; a recruitment drive for new members; the uses for the development fund; the role of associate members and progress regarding the Sustainability Indicator Project.

Important developments have been made report in discussions held with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) regarding co-operation on the Sustainability Indicator Project with IFEH.

A new publicity brochure is now available both electronically and in hard copy for member organisations. Copies can be requested from the Hon. Secretary.

The German Association (Bundesverband der Lebensmittel Kontrolleure) continues to represent IFEH on the Codex Alimentarius Commission and to report to Council on the activities of the Commission . The Federation's sincere appreciation goes to Kati Gruenwald and her colleagues for the work done thus far for IFEH in respect of the Commission.

At the Annual General Meeting, Isobel Stout of the New Zealand Institute of Environmental Health was elected as Education Officer of IFEH. She will be playing an important role as a link between the IFEH and the International Faculty Forum and she also expects to drive education related matters for IFEH. Congratulations to her on her new responsibilities.

The year closed with the most horrendous disaster ever, the devastation wreaked by the South Asia tsunami. IFEH issued a statement on the disaster and also made a donation to the Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies. On behalf of the Federation, congratulations are due to Dennis Kalson, former Director of Environmental Health, County of Solano, California, USA who sacrificed his family time and did voluntary work in Banda Aceh keeping IFEH informed about environmental concerns in that part of South Asia hard hit by the disaster. My appreciation also goes to all those other environmental health professionals who were involved in bringing new hope to communities affected by the disaster. We will continue monitoring developments in that part of the world and be prepared to assist through our contacts all over the world, should the need arise.

Jerry Chaka, President

REPORT BY HONORARY TREASURER

I am pleased to present to you my second report as Honorary Treasurer. The accounts for 2004 have been sent to our auditors and we have entered 2005 with a small surplus.

Expenditure during the year has remained steady thanks to slight cost decreases particularly in the areas of the web site, where our Webmasters have organised a more cost effective service with Telekom Denmark, and in general administration where the increasing use of electronic communication has resulted in a drop in postal and telephone charges.

Members are still a little slow in paying the annual subscriptions and although this has not raised a problem for financial administration so far, it would help your Treasurer's peace of mind if members would forward their subscriptions on receipt of the invoice. Subscriptions make up the bulk of the Federation's income but at the time of writing only four of our national members have paid up!

We still continue to explore ways of raising additional financial support and this year the Europe Group has formed itself into the European Federation of Environmental Health, which we hope will enable easier access to funding from the EU. Full time support staff would greatly help the development of the Federation and would lessen considerably the workload of the willing volunteers.

We received financial support for the publication of the Annual Report and "Environment & Health International" from a number of our members and I thank them for their contributions. The success of the World Congress also contributed to our income for 2004 and I thank our South African colleagues not only for an outstanding Congress in a beautiful location but also for their hard work in making sure everyone enjoyed the event.

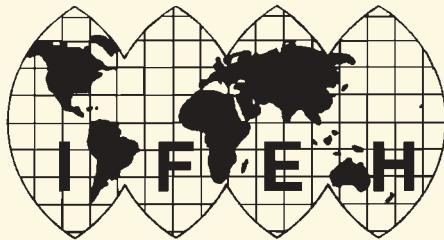
The dreadful events in South Asia at the end of the year brought home to many of us the fragile nature of life on this planet and how much all of us depend on the generosity and help of others. Many of our professional colleagues were able to contribute their time and talents on the ground and those of us unable to do so raised money in any way possible for the relief efforts. The Board of Directors on your behalf agreed a donation of £1000 to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

In closing I offer my thanks to our auditors, Phelan and Prescott for their assistance in the preparation of the annual accounts and to Andrew Gardner, Group Accountant at CIEH for his help and advice through the year.

S J Cooper FCIEH

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2004

General Fund	Notes	2004 £	2003 £
Income			
Subscriptions and donations		9,916	13,697
Sundry income		1,200	870
Interest receivable		795	694
		<hr/> 11,911	<hr/> 15,261
Expenditure			
Administrative expenses		(11,889)	(13,049)
Surplus before taxation		<hr/> 22	<hr/> 2,212
Taxation	2	-	14
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Surplus after taxation		22	2,226
Transfer to development fund		-	-
Surplus for the financial year	6	<hr/> 22	<hr/> 2,226



EFEH REPORT

The IFEH Europe Group comprises the Federation's members and academic members in the wider "Europe" which stretches from Ireland in the west to Latvia in the east and northwards from Cyprus in the Mediterranean to Finland and the Arctic Circle.

Meetings

Twice during 2004 the group convened, once during the 8th World Congress on Environmental Health in Durban, South Africa where a number of its representatives presented papers. Later the group reconvened in October in Hamburg, Germany. The Group was also well represented at the Council meeting in Denver in September.

It has been agreed that in future, agendas and minutes of the group's meetings will be placed on the IFEH website.

For most of the year the group was led by the Environmental Health Officers' Association (EHOA) from Ireland in the persons of Gerard McDermott as Chair and Raymond Ellard as Secretary. As the EHOA continues with its preparations as organiser and host of the 9th World Congress on Environmental Health in June 2006, leadership of the group passed to the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH). Peter Archer assumed the role of Chairman and Les Milne became Secretary.

Work Programme and Working Groups

While the group met only twice, it has developed a work programme, which is reviewed each year. It also has a number of working groups, which address areas of interest or concern such as environment and health policy in Europe, food safety and sustainability.

The group has taken advantage of the fact that IFEH is now a recognised observer organisation within Codex Alimentarius. Codex sets the standards for food safety across the globe. BVLK, our member in Germany, together with colleagues from our Academic Associate Members, continue to represent IFEH at the Codex Committee on Food Hygiene. It is hoped that other member organisations will adopt a similar role in respect of other Codex committees.

Formed by the World Health Organization, the European Environment and Health Committee was at the centre of agenda setting and planning for the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health held in Budapest in June 2004. The group would wish to record its thanks to Kia Regner for her continuing commitment to the work of the Group and in particular her representation of the IFEH on EEHC. The theme of the conference was "*The Future for Our Children*" within the broader context of sustainable development. A significant output from the meeting was agreement on a Children's Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe (CEHAPE). The group hopes to provide practical support for this plan over the coming years.

The group's project on "Sustainability Indicators" continues to attract international attention and has been presented by Henning Hansen at seminars within Europe and beyond. A resulting welcome development during 2004 was the opening of exploratory discussions on co-operation with the International Institute for Sustainable Development.

The group continues to encourage professional exchanges. The network, which comprises the group and the wider IFEH, provides an ideal opportunity to organise exchange programmes.

Finance and Company formation

The group had sought financial support under various schemes operated by the European Union. It was realised that one obstacle to benefiting from such programmes is the fact that the group has no legal status of its own, being simply a part of a wider international organisation. Accordingly, a decision was taken to form a legal entity to be known as the European Federation of Environmental Health. This new legal entity was registered in 2004 in the UK. However membership is confined to those organisations, which are, in the first instance, members of IFEH. There will be no change in the relationship between the group and IFEH.

In future years this report will be in the name of EFEH

Raymond Ellard (Secretary EFEH)

HONORARY EDITOR'S REPORT

I am indebted to the Council of the Federation for seeing fit to change my title from that of Magazine Co-ordinator to Honorary Editor. I take it is a compliment and recognition of how the Magazine, since its re-launch in 1999, has developed under my care and I am sure that Eric Foskett would have been proud to see the proof of the encouragement he consistently gave me.

Each year I pay tribute to the many contributors and quite rightly so, as without them there would be no Magazine and this year is no different. Once again we produced two copies in the year, each of them being made readily available on the Federation's website, and I thank our Webmasters Henning & Jan for their endeavours.

Each edition reflected the broad interests of our membership, with the authors hailing from a variety of countries. I am sure that every Editor has a favourite edition and I am no different. This year saw my favourite edition, with the cover photograph being a montage of life from beyond the Arctic Circle in the form of an Inuit mother and child surrounded by an Inuksuk, Caribou herd, Char and the Nunavut flag. The article by our Honorary Vice President Fred O'Brien was evocative and one which I found had such a profound effect, that I continue to search out articles and books concerning this area. The book entitled *Caribou Rising* by Rich Bass places in vivid style the case for protecting our ancient cultures and associated ecosystems against the ravages of oil exploration.

In conclusion I express my thanks to the IFEH Secretary Mike Halls who metamorphoses into a proof-reader when asked and also the two Presidents (each of whom served for part of 2004) Diane Evans and Jerry Chaka whose contributions were always stimulating.

John R Stirling

REPORT BY HONORARY SECRETARY

It is usually the task of the Honorary Secretary, in his contribution to the report, to mention matters dealt with by the Federation during the year in question, which have not been mentioned by other contributors. This year is no different.

In my eyes one of the most significant matters dealt with by the Council in 2004 was to institute a process whereby a member organisation could apply to IFEH to receive a grant to enable either it or the Federation itself to develop. The scheme was approved by the Council at its 2004 meeting in Denver and the first applications will be invited in 2005, with grants, it is hoped, being paid the following year.

In terms of membership, the Federation is in the process of seeking views from its members as to what benefits they perceive come from membership of IFEH and it is hoped that a result of the findings, IFEH will be able to target potential new recruits. One new Academic Associate member joined in 2004, from, until then, completely uncharted territory for IFEH, the Middle East. The College of the North Atlantic, based in Qatar is the establishment in question and it is hoped that in the not-too-distant future, contact made in 2004 may result in a new member being recruited in Saudi Arabia.

The Individual Associate Member scheme continues to bring a number of benefits to IFEH, not least of which is the annual subscriptions paid by those individuals in membership and, of course, the scheme allows IFEH activities to be much more widely publicised and thus raise its profile.

In a further effort to widen interest in the Federation, the Council recently resolved to make available on its web site (www.ifeh.org) all relevant documents such as agendas, minutes, reports etc. Next year should also see the long-awaited restructuring of the web site completed.

One of the major benefits that members have identified as stemming from membership of IFEH is the facility to link with similar organisation in different parts of the World and, in recognition of this, the Council has established a working group charged with identifying all twinning links already set up and bringing forward a report on good practice to include advice for future arrangements.

Another potentially significant step taken by the Council in 2004 was to set up a joint working group with the International Faculty Forum to see if a definitive list of core competencies could be drawn up which would assist in guiding educational establishments wishing to start courses to train environmental health professionals have the benefit of the experience of those who have already established such courses.

In closing I would like to thank all my fellow office bearers for the support they have given me during the year in question and I know that others will excuse my singling out the outstanding contribution made to IFEH by the President who demitted office this year, Diane Evans. Nothing was ever too much trouble for Diane and she worked tirelessly to ensure that IFEH moved forward and gained respect from the international environmental health community. Her enthusiasm and support, so willingly and unselfishly given, made my job as Honorary Secretary that much easier.

Michael Halls

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC GROUP REPORT

The first item the reader will notice is that this group has changed its name from 'Pacific Rim' to 'Asia and the Pacific' to better reflect the current and hopefully growing future membership of this Group.

The Group met twice in 2004, the first occasion in Durban, South Africa as part of the World Congress events. The meeting was chaired by Peter Davey of the Australian Institute. The second meeting took place in Melbourne, Australia in October where the chair passed to SV Mohan of the Malaysian Institute.

Business at both meetings has focussed on plans and preparations for the World Congress to be held in Brisbane, Australia in 2008. The Congress is intended to be a Group effort and centre around recruiting new member organisations from Asia and the Pacific Islands.

The Group has also been invited to take the opportunity of promoting the 2008 Congress in Dublin at the 2006 event with a themed party that engages all the Group members.

Before the World Congress takes place however there are plans in place for a regional conference to be held in Malaysia in 2005, with the theme being the control of Dengue fever. Mosquito borne arboviral diseases are becoming an increasing problem in not only the tropical countries but also more temperate climates as the vectors are more temperature tolerant.

Isobel Stout (acting Group Secretary)

AMERICAS GROUP REPORT

The Group was unable to undertake any significant work in 2004 and what it attempted to do was try to recruit new members from this region into the IFEH.

The Chairman had meetings with representatives of the University of Technology in Jamaica at which Environmental Health Inspectors are trained, and the prospects look favourable for this organization joining the IFEH.

Efforts were also made to seek out Public Health or Environmental Health Organizations in the Caribbean region with a view to recruit them into the IFEH. This was not very encouraging as there are not many such organisations in the territories contacted. Efforts were then turned to revitalising the Caribbean Association of Public Health Inspectors which was thought could form a platform from which to work towards encouraging these territories to establish national organizations. This effort is encouraging and there are plans to continue the effort into the new year.

Further progress might have ensued but during the latter part of the year much effort went into responding to the challenges of recovering from the ravages of Hurricane Ivan.

Don Lewis (Americas Region Chairman)

AFRICA GROUP REPORT

Introduction

The South Africa Institute of Environmental Health (SAIEH), with assistance from the Africa Group successfully hosted the 8th World Congress of Environment Health in Durban, South Africa from 23–27 February 2004 with an attendance of 600 plus delegates. During this historic occasion, Mr Jerry Chaka, President of SAIEH took over the Presidency of IFEH for the next two years.

In terms of membership, there is a need to mount a vigorous campaign to attract membership within the continent. One notable addition during the year under review was the Rwanda Environmental Health Association. Our Francophone colleagues have not yet taken the advantage of joining the group and our efforts in 2005 will be to sensitize them to the IFEH.

The Africa Group has not taken advantage of the Funds advertised during the last IFEH Council Meeting for £ 250 to assist in the administration of the Groups. The request will be put forward in 2005 to the IFEH Treasurer.

The Africa Group has hailed the Chartered Institute of Environment Health (CIEH) in UK for introducing EHN International as it captures activities in the African Region.

Africa Group Meeting

During the course of the 8th World Congress on Environmental Health in Durban, the Africa Group met on 26 February 2004 with representation from SAIEH (South Africa), ZIEH (Zambia), KAPHO (Kenya), CHAMATA (Tanzania), ZEPHA (Zimbabwe) and by invitation AAEHA (USA) and EHSA (Kenyan Students)

Resolutions

At the said Africa Group Meeting above, a number of issues requiring attention by Associations were spelt out as follows:

Regarding attendance at the 9th IFEH World Congress in Dublin, Associations based in Africa were urged to start soliciting for resources to attend the Congress.

In so far as the development of the African section of the IFEH website and a newsletter are concerned, CHAMATA has started the initiative and Associations have been urged to peruse and give inputs to improve them.

With reference to Communications with Members and contributions, members have strongly urged the Africa Group Secretary (ZIEH) to use any available resources to open up effective communications with all Members Associations. On a membership drive, the Secretariat of the Africa Group will liaise with WHO offices to prepare campaign packages for distribution to WHO Member States with a view of attracting Environmental Health Association members.

National Conferences

The need to utilize all National Conferences to articulate the activities of IFEH Africa Group activities was emphasized. The target was the KAPHO (Kenyan) Annual Conference in 2005.

African Academy of Environmental Health

During the 8th World Congress of Environmental Health, the Africa Group convened a meeting on 27 February 2004 to consider the Draft Constitution of the Africa Academy for Environmental Health and approved it, with amendments.

The objective of the Academy is to advance the science and practice of environmental health in Africa, to represent academic institutions and the Africa Group of IFEH and to promote the interest and uphold the status of environmental health training in Africa.

Finance

The Africa Group is financially weak and as indicated above, a need has arisen to request Africa Member Associations to contribute US \$500 so that a financial base is initiated. This will be done as soon as the Africa Group Secretary has opened a Bank Account.

Conclusion

The year 2004 was an exciting year for Africa Group as it successfully hosted the 8th World Congress on Environmental Health and also honoured to preside over IFEH issues, through Mr Jerry Chaka, from the SAIEH. We surely look forward for another challenging year in 2005.

Fordson Nyirenda (Secretary)

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS 2004

AMERICAS REGION

USA

California Environmental Health Association, USA
Minnesota Environmental Health Association, USA
Underwriters Laboratories Inc, USA

EUROPE REGION

England, Wales & Northern Ireland

EHOversea, England, UK
Greater London Centre – CIEH, England, UK
Water for Kids, England, UK

Scotland

Health Promotion Scotland, Scotland, UK

ACADEMIC ASSOCIATE MEMBERS 2004

AFRICA REGION

Malawi

University of Malawi – The Polytechnic

Qatar

College of the North Atlantic

South Africa

Cape Peninsula University of Technology, South Africa

Durban Institute of Technology, South Africa

Tshwane University of Technology, Pretoria, South Africa

AMERICAS REGION

Canada

British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada

Ryerson Polytechnic University, Canada

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION

Australia

Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia

Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia;

Hong Kong

Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education

Singapore

Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Singapore

EUROPE REGION

England Wales & Northern Ireland

King's College, University of London, England, UK

Leeds Metropolitan University, England, UK

Manchester Metropolitan University, England, UK

Salford University, England, UK

University of the West of England, Bristol, England, UK

University of Ulster, Northern Ireland, UK

University of Wales Cardiff Institute, Wales, UK

Ireland

Dublin College of Technology, Ireland

Netherlands

Groningen University, Groningen, Netherlands

Scotland

University of Strathclyde, Scotland, UK

Sweden

Umea University, Sweden

ORGANISATIONS IN FULL MEMBERSHIP (2004)

Country	Name of organisation
Australia	Australian Institute of Environmental Health (AIEH)
Austria	Verband der Oesterreichischen Lebensmittelkontrolle
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 & N. Ireland	Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH)
Finland	Finnish Communal Assoc. of Environmental Health & Protection
France	Association Nationale des Ingenieurs du Genie Sanitaire (ANIGS)
Germany	Bundesverband der Lebensmittel Kontrolleure (BVLK)
Hong Kong	Hong Kong Public Health Inspectors Association (HKPHIA)
Ireland	Environmental Health Officers' Association (EHOA)
Jamaica	Association of Public Health Inspectors
Kenya	Association of Public Health Officers
Latvia	Latvian Association of Preventive Medicine Functioners
Liberia	Liberia Association of Public Health Inspectors
Lithuania	Union of Hygienists & Epidemiologists
Malaysia	Malaysian Association of Environmental Health (MAEH)
Malawi	Environmental Health Officers Association of Malawi
Malta	Malta Association for Health Inspectors
Mauritius	Health Inspectors Cadre
Netherlands	College van Keurmeesters
New Zealand	New Zealand Institute of Environmental Health Inc. (NZIEH)
Nigeria	Environmental Health Society of Nigeria
Norway	Forum for Miljo og Helse (FMH)
Rwanda	Association of Environmental Health
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 halsoskydd- stjanstemannaforbundet (MHTF)
Tanzania	Tanzanian Association of Health Inspectors (CHAMATA)
Uganda	Public Health Inspectors Association of Uganda
USA	National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)
Zambia	Environmental Health Institute of Zambia
Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe Environmental Health Practitioners Association (ZEHPA)

Durban - venue of 2004 Council Meeting



Above: *8th World Congress* Below: *Council Meeting, Durban*





The International Federation is grateful for the financial support given by the Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland to enable the production of this Annual Report and in support of other Federation activities.