

THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



2003 Annual Report



Top: Vilnius, Lithuania - venue for meeting of Europe Group

Bottom: Europe Group hard at work!



CONTENTS

Principal Office-Bearers	1
President's Report	2
Honorary Vice-Presidents	3
Europe Group Report	3
Americas Group Report	5
Honorary Treasurer's Report	5
Accounts	6
Next World Congress	6
Honorary Secretary's Report	7
Honorary Editor's Report	9
Pacific Rim Group Report	10
Associate Members 2003	10
Academic Associate Members 2003	11
Organisations in Full Membership 2003	12
Acknowledgements	8 / Back Cover

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

President – Diane Evans

President Elect – Jerry Chaka

Honorary Secretary – Michael Halls, FREHIS FRSH MINSTWM

Honorary Treasurer – Stephen Cooper

Honorary Editor – John R. Stirling, MSC FREHIS MCIEH

Honorary Public Relations Officer – Kia Regner

Webmasters – Henning I. Hansen & Jan Jørgensen

Company Secretary – Graham Jukes FCIEH

ANNUAL REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT

While the years in which World Congresses are held are important ones for the Federation, the years in between Congresses are also busy and significant, as was 2003.

Membership in the Federation grew by the addition of two new full members, bringing the number of national associations involved in IFEH to 36. The new members are: Liberian Association of Public Health Inspectors and the Public Health Inspectors Association of Uganda. Joining as an academic associate member was the University of Groningen (Netherlands). The continuing growth of the Federation is especially notable in the African continent, which now has 10 national associations in IFEH membership.

The Council met in Paisley, Scotland in May, where the Renfrewshire Council and the Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland hosted the members. The Board of Directors held two meetings during the year; the first in Durban, South Africa, an occasion that was also used to review the planning for the 2004 World Congress; and the second in Belfast, Northern Ireland. In between meetings, the Board communicated extensively via electronic means to conduct the day-to-day business of the Federation.

In terms of the organization of IFEH, Stephen Cooper became Honorary Treasurer of the Federation, replacing Bryn Jones, who had held the position for two years. Mike Halls continued in his role as Honorary Secretary and saw to the accomplishment of the majority of the Federation's routine business in his usual stellar fashion.

For the first time, an open nomination and election process was held for the position of incoming President Elect. Colm Smyth of the Environmental Health Officers Association of Ireland was elected to assume the President Elect post during the 2004 World Congress in Durban.

Additionally, the Council agreed to change the name of the Sustaining Subscribers scheme to Individual Associate Member, and launched an effort to attract more individuals into the program.

Environment & Health International, the Federation's magazine, was issued twice in 2003, thanks largely to the dedication of its editor, John Stirling.

The Federation was represented in several venues during the year. The German association (Bundesverband der Lebensmittel Kontrolleure) took the lead role of speaking for the IFEH to the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Henning Hansen, one of the Federation's Webmasters and the principal officer involved in the Federation's Sustainability Indicators project, made a presentation on the project at the International Conference on Sustainability Indicators in Vilnius, Lithuania.

A continuing goal of the Federation is to obtain a stable source of funding, other than from members' dues, which would enable the hiring of permanent staff to represent the views of the IFEH at important meetings and conferences, as well as to see to routine functions and activities. With this goal in mind, a second application for funding was

submitted to the European Commission, using the experience of the Federation's unsuccessful 2002 application to prepare the new one. This application was also denied. However, the Council is determined to continue the effort and agreed to allow the Europe Regional Group to form a separate legal entity (with strong and unbreakable ties to the IFEH) to submit a third application.

The year 2003 ended with the Federation looking forward to its first World Congress to be held in Africa, the 8th World Congress on Environmental Health in Durban, South Africa, during February 2004.

Diane Evans, President

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

Kenneth Collins, MSc (1987) – Nominated by REHIS

Roy Emerson, FCIEH 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, OAM JP FAIEH (1991) – Nominated by the AIEH

Lars Olsen (2002) – Nominated by the Council

REPORT BY EUROPE GROUP

Meetings

During 2003, the Europe Group met three times: in Amsterdam, Holland, in Renfrewshire, Scotland and in Vilnius, Lithuania. Learning from each other is an important benefit of IFEH membership. On each occasion, the host delegation made a presentation on environmental health in their country.

The European Federation of Environmental Health

For the Europe Group to progress, it was decided that there was a need for paid professional staffing and office facilities to be available. With this in mind, the group agreed to establish itself as a legal entity in Europe. It will be called the "European Federation of Environmental Health".

The European Federation of Environmental Health (EFEH) however will maintain the closest relationship with IFEH. It will be IFEH that decides membership of the EFEH. Like many other non-governmental organisations in Europe, EFEH will seek financial support for its projects from European Union programmes.

Professional Exchange

The aim of this project is to build bridges between Environmental Health professionals and educational structures, in particular to facilitate mobility in Europe in the field of environmental health and to share a common educational background. It has been agreed to provide a section on the IFEH website which will provide contact details for persons seeking a period of professional exchange in other countries.

European Environment and Health Committee.

The EEHC is a coalition of countries and organizations in the WHO European Region, which brings together representatives from health ministries, environment ministries intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations. Its role is to provide a forum for the discussion of environment and health policy, and it also serves as the steering committee for a series of ministerial conferences on environment and health, the next one of which is to be held in Budapest in June 2004. Kia Regner represents the IFEH on the European Environment and Health Committee.

Working Groups:

The Sustainability Indicators Project continues its success. A second call for action was prepared. A promotional leaflet will be distributed at the World Congress in 2004 and is available from the website. Henning Hansen presented the project at a UN sponsored conference in Vilnius on 10th October 2003.

In Food Safety, BVLK (Germany) leads the project and peruses the agenda and papers submitted to the Codex Alimentarius Committee meetings on Food Hygiene (CCFH) and Food Import & Export Inspection & Certification Systems (CCFICS). Hans Hohenleitner has now passed on his role in this process to Kati Gruenwald (BVLK) and Gary Coleman from Underwriters Laboratories also represents the IFEH in person.

Translation of IFEH Web Pages

The text relating to the Sustainability Indicators Project is now available in German. Policy Papers numbered 1 to 4 and the tri-fold publicity brochure have been translated into French.

Conference

On 10th October the Lithuanian Public Health Association held a conference in Kaunas, Lithuania. A number of IFEH delegates participated in the conference and Gerry McDermott presented a paper.

Officers

For 2003, Ray Ellard and Gerry McDermott from the Environmental Health Officers Association of Ireland acted as Secretary and Chairman respectively, of the Europe Group.

Gerard McDermott, Chairman

REPORT BY THE AMERICAS GROUP

For the year 2003 membership of the Group remained at three full Members (the national associations covering Canada, Jamaica, and the USA) and a similar number of Academic Associate Members (two in Canada and one in the USA). The Group was represented at the Annual General Meeting and Council Meeting in Paisley, Scotland in May. A position paper entitled “West Nile Disease a Global Threat” was submitted by the Region for debate at the 2004 World Congress in South Africa. There was a change in the leadership of the Group with Don Lewis of the Jamaica Association of Public Health Inspectors (JAPHI) assuming the Chairmanship in September 2003.

Don Lewis, Regional Chairman

REPORT BY HONORARY TREASURER

I am pleased to present to you my first report as Honorary Treasurer. The accounts for 2003 have been audited and I can report that the Federation’s finances are in a reasonable state. The large items of expenditure reported to you last year have been met, which has resulted in a lowered surplus for 2003. We continue to monitor expenditure closely and we are encouraging the increasing use of electronic communication in the hope that it will assist in minimising some administrative expenses.

With regard to income, a drive in the latter part of 2003 has resulted in a significant amount of the membership arrears being paid but many members are still slow in paying their subscriptions. Subscriptions make up the bulk of the Federation’s income and members are urged to ensure payment at the earliest opportunity. At the time of writing reminder invoices are going out to over 50% of the total membership.

Expenditure is rising all the time whereas subscription rates have remained fairly static. The Board of Directors will be considering, early next year, proposals for increases in subscription rates, which, although relatively small, will nevertheless provide support for the administration of the organisation. I hope that members will respond positively.

The Federation continues to explore ways of raising financial support from external organisations and whilst we have had little success so far, we remain optimistic. An office location with support staff would be our hope and such support would assist the work of the organisation greatly. It would enable a raising of our profile and influence, and full time staff would be able to devote their efforts to the Federation, lifting some of the burden from the dedicated volunteers.

I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor, Bryn Jones. I have known Bryn for some years now and his commitment to the position of Treasurer was evident in the ease with which we achieved the transfer of responsibilities. Thanks Bryn.

With that, I look forward to 2004 in the hope that the Federation will move from strength to strength and continue to make its influence felt in global environmental health.

Steve Cooper, Honorary Treasurer

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 2003

General Fund	2003	2002
	£	£
Income		
Subscriptions	12,861	11,669
Individual Associates donations	496	1,500
Advertising income	870	600
Donations	340	5,695
Bank Interest	694	195
	15,261	19,659
	2003	2002
	£	£
Expenditure		
Meetings & conferences incl travel & subsistence	5,918	5,034
Web Site	1,292	2,400
Postage, stationery, phones	4,960	3,983
Audit & accountancy	500	529
Legal & professional	15	15
Bank charges & fees	111	-
Depreciation	254	-
	(13,049)	(11,961)
Surplus before taxation	2,212	7,698
Corporation tax	14	65
Surplus after taxation	2,226	7,763

The next World Congress on Environmental Health (the ninth) will be held in Trinity College, University of Dublin, Ireland, from 19th to 22nd June 2006.

Further details can be obtained from the host organisation – the Environmental Health Officers Association of Ireland –
[see www.ehoa.ie](http://www.ehoa.ie)

REPORT BY HONORARY SECRETARY

The task of the Honorary Secretary, in contributing to the annual report, is to cover those areas missed by other officers in their contributions and to insert a few well-thought-out comments on the year under scrutiny.

My fellow officers have covered the vast majority of the significant matters, which the Federation dealt with during 2003, so my contribution will tend to concentrate on some of the more mundane matters. First, however, I require to express my thanks to all officers for their assistance during the year and I know that my fellow office bearers will forgive me if I single out one of their number for special praise.

The year 2003 will be the last full year in which Diane Evans (President until February 2004) plays a leading role in IFEH. As Honorary Secretary, I probably had more dealings with Diane than anyone else and she was always available to give good advice, sound guidance and eminently sage comments when called upon to do so. Diane and I have known and worked with each other for 18 years and her enthusiasm for the Federation and its objectives have never wavered in all that time. Well done, thou good and faithful servant!

Elsewhere it is reported that IFEH membership grew by two new full members in 2003 but it looks set to lose the Greek Association, who have been out of contact for 3 years now, as well as three Associate Members. However, we continue to make fresh contacts in many parts of the World and have high hopes of those made in Croatia, India, Namibia and Rwanda bearing fruit.

For some time the Council has been searching for ways to involve Associate Members more in the work of the Federation so that they have a better sense of ownership. Last year we set up a small working group to come up with ideas as to how we could achieve this wish but pressure of work has prevented the conclusion of the exercise. We hope to have something "to get our teeth into" early in 2004.

IFEH hopes to attract more interest and support from individuals by a change in what used to be the Sustaining Subscribers Scheme. Persons supporting us in this way are now entitled to call themselves Individual Associate Members and at present there are 30 enthusiasts in that group. We hope for more to come in and will be mounting a recruitment campaign early next year. Any one reading this and who is not already subscribing should get in touch with me and I will set the ball rolling to get you in.

IFEH is also investigating producing a Mission Statement and an Environment Policy and is also keen to bring forward more policies or position papers on matters affecting global environmental health. By the time of the 2004 World Congress in Durban, work to produce these statements should be nearing completion.

One of the Federation's most successful undertakings is the concept of twinning and we hope that there will be increased activity in this matter over the next few years. The benefits of twinning are there for all to see; the facility to learn from others; the chance

to help others; the opportunity to visit another country or even to work abroad. The cutting edge organisation in this sphere is undoubtedly the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health, which has a number of geographical centres, which are twinned with IFEH member organisations, predominantly in Africa. Other member organisations are also active in this field but more could be done to try to assist in the achievement of one of IFEH's basic goals – the exchange of expertise and knowledge.

On the regional front, all but one of the 4 Regional Groups have contributed to this report, the exception being the Africa Group, which has very real problems in meeting due to the relative poverty of the associations in membership and the vast distances that have to be travelled. The Board of Directors is looking into ways that financial and other support can be made available to members in Africa and it is hoped that the occasion of the Eighth World Congress on Environmental Health being held in South Africa in 2004 will have the effect of kick-starting the Group.

On the subject of World Congresses, it is anticipated that at least one bid to hold the Congress in 2010 will be submitted to the Council early in 2004.

I have decided that, by the time of the Ninth World Congress taking place in 2006 in Dublin, I will have been Honorary Secretary for 8 years, all of which I have enjoyed immensely. However, all good things have to come to an end and I have informed the Board of Directors that it should endeavour to appoint a successor to me to take over after Dublin 2006. More on this topic next year!

Michael Halls



**Chartered
Institute of
Environmental
Health**

IFEH acknowledges the support given by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health towards the production of this report and its assistance in other areas of our operations.

REPORT BY THE HONORARY EDITOR

During the year under review the Federation was advised that the potential publisher of the proposed Annual Review no longer intended to proceed with the proposal, due to the global downturn in the advertising market. Given the Federation's commitment to, and its development of, the project we did receive cash compensation from the company.

Our commitment to publish two editions of the magazine "Environment and Health International" (E&HI) each year was met, with Volume 5, Numbers 1 and 2 being published during 2003.

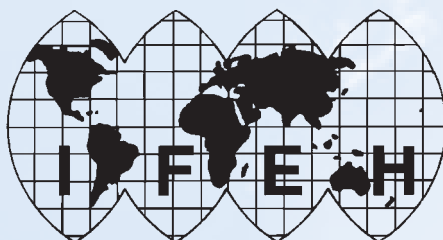
A logical but tremendously exciting development occurred this year with the publication of the Magazine on the Federation's website, www.ifeh.org. The Federation is indebted to our webmasters, Henning Hansen and Jan Jorgensen, for ensuring the success of this project. I add my personal thanks for their assistance and advice they gave to me, thus ensuring that everything was supplied in the correct format.

The Magazine, now in its 6th year of continued publication, has developed into the principal means of communication with the membership. If it is to fulfil its true potential I will continue to require contributions to the high standards already set, from the very members it serves. I take this opportunity of thanking all the contributors who have ensured that E&HI presents the widely diversified field within which Environmental Health Practitioners work. If I can be allowed to single out one contributor, it has to be the President, who was always first with her contribution and provided much support.

The bibliography section continues to grow, and I have dealt with many enquiries throughout the year concerning articles displayed. It is, of course, founded on the excellent magazines published by some of our Member organisations.

Standard references for "Environment and Health International" are ISSN 1683-3805 and ISSN 1726-9210 (on the web)

John Stirling, Honorary Editor



REPORT BY THE PACIFIC RIM GROUP

The year 2003 was a period of consolidation for the Pacific Rim Group but for one member organisation, the Australian Institute of Environmental Health (AIEH), it was the start of what could prove to be a busy period. The Institute's Board of Directors and the Committee, which is organising the IFEH 2008 World Congress, met together for the first time to start preparations for that event which is to be held in Brisbane.

The initial meeting of the organising Committee itself will include not only members of AIEH but also representatives of the Singapore Society of Environmental Health and the New Zealand Institute and will be held in October 2004 in Melbourne at the AIEH 2004 National Conference (see www.aieh.org.au)

There have always been close links between the institutes in Australia & New Zealand and at the 2003 conference of the latter the AIEH President encouraged colleagues in New Zealand to participate in IFEH activities, particularly the World Congress to be held in South African in 2004.

During the above Congress a Pacific Rim Group Meeting will be held and it is hoped that members from all countries in the region will be able to attend this important regional event.

It is proposed that after this meeting a representative of the Malaysian Institute of Environmental Health will take over as Chairman of the Pacific Rim Group.

At the end of the year a project is well underway to include a Pacific Rim page on the Federation's web site – www.ifeh.org

Peter Davey, Chairman

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS 2003

AMERICAS REGION

USA

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

EUROPE REGION

England, Wales & Northern Ireland

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

Scotland

Scottish Centre for Infection and Environmental Health, Scotland, UK

ACADEMIC ASSOCIATE MEMBERS 2003

AFRICAN REGION

Malawi University of Malawi – The Polytechnic

South Africa

(at the end of 2003 it seems as if some Technikons will be the subject of mergers)

Cape Peninsula University of Technology, South Africa

Durban Institute of Technology, South Africa

Technikon North Gauteng, South Africa

Tshwane University of Technology, Pretoria, South Africa

AMERICAS REGION

Canada British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada

Ryerson Polytechnic University, Canada

EUROPE REGION

England Wales & Northern Ireland

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

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 Edinburgh University, Scotland, UK

University of Strathclyde, Scotland, UK

Sweden Umea University, Sweden

PACIFIC RIM REGION

Australia

Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Australia

Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia

Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia;

Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia

Hong Kong

Hong Kong Technical College

Singapore

Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Singapore

ORGANISATIONS IN FULL MEMBERSHIP (2003)

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 Miljømedarbejdere 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)
Greece	Association of Public Health Inspectors (membership likely to be terminated at the end of 2003)
Hong Kong	Hong Kong Public Health Inspectors Association (HKPHIA)
Ireland	Environmental Health Officers' Association (EHOA)
Jamaica	Association of Public Health Inspectors
Kazakhstan	Kazakhstan Association of the Sanitary-epidemiological Service
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 (from 1/1/04)
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 Miljø og Helse (FMH)
Scotland	Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland (REHIS)
Singapore	Society of Environmental Health
South Africa	South African Institute for Environmental Health (SAIEH)
Sweden	Miljö- och hälsoskydd- stjänstemannaförbundet (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)

Paisley - venue of 2003 Council Meeting





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.