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## Editorial

### Greetings

*by Gordana Pehnec, EFCA President*

I

It is my great pleasure to write an editorial for the EFCA Newsletter for the first time.

In September 2023, at the EFCA Assembly meeting during the CAPPa conference "Air Protection 2023" in Dubrovnik, I was elected EFCA president, taking this duty from Dr Andrzej Jagusiewicz, whom I would hereby once more like to thank. During his two terms, Andrzej kept the EFCA recognizable and active, even through the pandemic. Over the last six years, he improved the relationship between our national associations, PIGE and CAPPa, and EFCA, especially through organizing the CAPPa workshop in Poland, and supporting CAPPa "Air Protection" conferences. He was also very active during UFP symposia, co-opening the events, making presentations, and taking part at round-table discussions. I hope I will succeed to keep EFCA equally visible as well as achieve successful collaborations with national associations.

I have the pleasure to invite readers to the 9<sup>th</sup> EFCA Symposium on Ultrafine Particles in Brussels, 3-4 July 2024.

This Symposium is organized in the year when the recast of the Directive on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe should be put in force. This Directive represents a revision of current ones and strives to improve the existing legislative framework, along with aligning European air quality standards more to World Health Organization 2021 air quality guidelines. For the first time, the

Directive set an obligation to member states to measure ultrafine particles and black carbon, which was the subject of many previous EFCA initiatives. There is no doubt that the work of scientists and professionals gathered at previous EFCA UFP symposiums significantly contributed to that matter.

This year Symposium will enable an exchange of experiences and discussions on new challenges in UFP research and implementation of the recast of the Directive. For that reason, I invite you to join us at the UFP Symposium in Brussels.

<https://ufp.efca.net>

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## News from EFCA

### Revision of the Amended Gothenburg Protocol (AGP)

*by Andrzej Jagusiewicz*

Progress in the revision of the Amended Gothenburg Protocol (AGP) in light of the decisions taken by sixty-second session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review held in Geneva from 27 to 31 of May 2024 and attended by EFCA Honorary President PhD Andrzej Jagusiewicz



The main purpose of the session was to develop a draft plan for the revision of the Gothenburg Protocol as amended in 2012 (AGP). The Group took as a basis its version prepared by the Bureau of the Working Group on Strategies and Review, which implemented the Executive Body's decision from the last session regarding timing and sequence of agreed negotiation items.

It's obvious that this process will require the involvement of the Convention's subsidiary bodies and task forces, particularly the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling and the Centre on Integrated Assessment Modelling, the Task Force on Techno-economic Issues and its techno-economic secretariat CITEPA and the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen and be based on their outputs and different studies made for the purpose as well.

Most attention at the session was given to the informal document entitled "Draft policy brief on potential targets to reduce risks for health and ecosystems", including the scenarios developed to reduce regional air pollution by 2040. The study integrated climate, energy and air pollution policies, taking also into account other metrics like condensable PM and Black Carbon (BC). Important place was also given in the study to methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), as global precursor of ground-level ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) together with nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

According to the study 50 % reduction of 2015 (as base year) premature death by 2040 (as target year) is feasible in the ECE region provided that all countries of the region, including EECCA and West Balkans (WB) implement the current regulation.

The WGSR requested the Task Force on Integrated Assessment modelling and the Centre on Integrated Assessment Modelling to continue to include and further develop within the study staged and phased approaches in their emission reduction scenarios and update the draft policy brief by September 2024 considering comments received related to this issue. It also reiterated the necessity to addressing

global methane emissions in view of ground-level ozone effects that are increasing in the ECE region.

Important was also the decision to hold the workshop on best available technology (BAT) in cooperation with UNEP and back-to-back with annual meeting of the Task Force on Techno-economic Issues (TFTEI) in Paris from 15-17 October 2024 as important opportunities to involve non-Parties into the revision process.

Finally, the WGSR amended the draft Plan for the revision of the AGP during the session; entrusted its Bureau to harmonize the structure of the content of the tables and requested the secretariat to submit it as an official document for consideration and adoption by the Executive Body at its forty-fourth session from 9-12 December this year in Geneva.

The core element of the draft Plan is its Table 1, which provides an overview of activities that will be required, the existing corresponding items of the 2024–2025 workplan for the implementation of the Convention with potential lead bodies, potential gaps in capabilities and potential interdependencies and decisions that would need to be addressed as part of negotiations.

Considering these interdependencies, a sequential prioritization of activities and decisions has been proposed. Of these the most important seems to be:

- scope, indicator(s) and impact assessment method for an overarching target(s), including type of reduction scenarios, optimization method and desired calculations results based on documents provided by the Task Force on Integrated Assessment Modelling.

- base and target years and other specifics for the negotiation of possible emission reduction commitments.

- whether and how to include methane in the Protocol, including how to further elaborate the options to address methane.

to start a general discussion on the scope and the mandatory or voluntary nature of technical annexes in connection with an initial exchange with non-Parties on their needs or preferences for possible flexibilities or other approaches facilitating revision and implementation.

Tentative timeline of the revision process includes four official sessions of WGSR (from 63rd to 66th in 2025 and 2026 and still three sessions of the Executive Body in 2024, 2025 and 2026 ending finally the process.

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## Visit in Warsaw of the Christine Van Ham de Vries and his younger son Hubert with his wife Catherine in Warsaw on 1 - 2 May 2024

*by Andrzej Jagusiewicz*

As a follow up to the presence of EFCA President at the funeral of our friend Joop Van Ham last June in Delft and friendly relationship established with his Family, Andrzej Jagusiewicz has had an honour and pleasure to guide his guests over the historical city museums and host the family at home.

The guests visited the Museum of the History of Polish Jews-**POLIN** and the Museum of the Warsaw Insurrection against the Nazis in 1944, including nice walks through the city and long discussion during badly needed coffee-breaks. Andrzej's friend from the UNECE, just for purpose the Dutch citizen established in Warsaw, Wiecher Scrage also took part and served as custom-oriented guide and interpreter from Dutch to Polish.. During the dinner needless to write that the Polish specialty was served in case PIEROGI in all tastes.



Figure 1:Christin van Ham and Family visiting Warsaw

Setting standards for clean air and shaping environmental protection are the tasks of the VDI/DIN Commission on Air Pollution Control (KRdL) - Standards Committee. The commission is a joint institution of VDI and DIN and performs tasks to relieve the state of air pollution control.

A great deal of interdisciplinary knowledge is required to develop standards for air pollution control. This is why around 1,300 voluntary experts from industry, science and administration are involved in the KRdL in around 180 working groups. In addition to engineers, specialists in physics, chemistry, biology, meteorology and medicine are also involved. The commission focuses on four areas: environmental protection technology, environmental meteorology, environmental quality and environmental measurement technology.

Further information about the VDI/DIN Commission on Air Quality Control can be found at:

<https://www.vdi.de/krdl>

## News from EFCA Members



### New management at VDI/DIN Commission on Air Pollution Prevention (KRdL)

by Thomas Reichert



Dr. Ljuba Woppowa takes over the management of the VDI/DIN Commission on Air Quality Control (KRdL) on April 1. Dr. Woppowa has worked for the VDI since 1996, initially in the KRdL until

2012. She was then Managing Director of the VDI societies Technologies of Life Sciences (TLS) and Process and Chemical Engineering (GVC). She is looking forward to the task of advancing the interests of air pollution control at national, European, and international level.





## New President of PIGE

*by Andrzej Jagusiewicz, past president of EFCA*

During the General Assembly of the Polish Economic Chamber „Sustainable Development-PIGE, a new President has been elected in the person of professor Dariusz Gronek, expert in water management and engineering. The outgoing President, Krzysztof Zareba was leading the organization for more than 16 years.

Let's hope that the PIGE membership at EFCA will be kept.



*Figure 2: Outgoing PIGE President Krzysztof Zareba*



## Cercl'Air Newsletters

Cercl'Air publishes three newsletters per year. They contain the highlights on air pollution control in Switzerland and the cantons. Links to them you find under [Newsletter - Cercl'Air \(cerclair.ch\)](https://cerclair.ch)

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## News about Air Quality



## EEA Published European Climate Risk Assessment Report

EEA Report No 1/2024

The first European Climate Risk Assessment (EUCRA) identifies 36 climate risks that pose a threat to Europe's energy and food security, ecosystems, infrastructure, water resources, financial stability, and people's health. It shows that many of these risks have already reached critical levels and can become catastrophic without urgent and decisive action. The knowledge in this first-of-its-kind assessment is synthesized to support strategic policymaking.

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## Calendar



### 27th ETH Nanoparticles Conference

10.-14. June 2024, ETH Zurich, Switzerland

<https://npc24.scg.ch/?idU=4>



**9 th Symposium Ultrafine Particles-Air Quality and Climate, 3-4 July 2024, Brussels, Belgium**

**EFCA Assembly 5 July 2024, Brussels, Belgium.**



**TFTEI Annual Meeting back-to-back with BAT Seminar, 15-17 October 2024, Paris, France**

**44th session of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution**

9-12 December 2024; Geneva, Switzerland



**Finnish Air Pollution  
Prevention Society**

### The national congress on air pollution prevention and climate issues

20.-21.8.2024, Lappeenranta, Finland

Finnish Air Pollution Prevention Society (FAPPS) organizes and hosts 2024:

<https://www.hsy.fi/en/>



EFCA

GUS



### Ultrafine Particles - Air Quality and Climate; International Symposium 2024

3-4 July 2024, Brussels, Belgium

Representation of the State of Baden-Württemberg to the European Union

<https://ufp.efca.net>

## **EFCA**

**President** Gordana Pehnec (CAPPA, Croatia)

**Vice Presidents** John Murlis (EPUK, UK)

**Past Presidents** Andrzej Jagusiewicz (PIGE, Poland)  
Thomas Reichert (GUS, Germany)  
Giuseppe Fumarola (CSIA, Italy)

**Administrative Officer** Sabine Aref (GUS, Germany)

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