

ISWA Newsletter

International Solid Waste Association



NEWS AND ITEMS FOR ISWA MEMBERS – DECEMBER 2008

BROUGHT TO YOU MONTHLY BY THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT,

WHERE WE REVIEW THE MOST RECENT PAST AND LOOK TO THE MONTHS AHEAD

ANNUAL CONGRESS IN SINGAPORE

For those of you who could not join your colleagues in Singapore last month, you missed a great program. Our host and Singapore National Member WMRAS (the Waste Management and Recycling Association of Singapore) ensured a good time for all, including technical aspects and social events. Some 400 participants, exhibitors, and speakers enjoyed opportunities to share ideas and experiences, beginning with the Opening Reception, as well as to attend various technical tours, try out Asian dancing skills at the Gala Dinner, explore the city's cultural diversity, and play in the ISWA Golf Tournament. Some details of Congress activities are shared below.

ISWA General Assembly

As is customary, prior to each Annual Congress, the ISWA National Member representatives meet to conduct the business of the Association. Among elections and some discussion on budget items, a request for proposals was launched for the allocation of the funds that ISWA will receive from the City of Vienna starting January 2010. A call for proposals will be sent out to various member groups by the General Secretariat in the upcoming month.

New ISWA President and ISWA Board

The General Assembly gave its farewells, thanks, and best wishes to outgoing President Niels Jorn Hahn, completing his 2-year term. Moments later, Dr. Atilio Savino of Argentina was welcomed in as the new ISWA President. Also, Mr. Jeff Cooper of the United Kingdom was welcomed as the new ISWA Vice President. With the further elections and approvals that took place during the General Assembly, the ISWA Board now constitutes the following individuals:

President:	Atilio Savino, Argentina	*newly elected*
Vice President:	Jeff Cooper, United Kingdom	*newly elected*
Treasurer:	Helmut Stadler, Austria	*newly elected*
STC Chair:	Antonis Mavropoulos, Greece	*newly elected*

National Member Representatives:

Jean-Paul Leglise, France	
David Newman, Italy	*newly elected*

Organizational Member Representatives:

Stephen Jenkinson, United Kingdom	
Jorgen Haukohl, Denmark	*newly elected*

Regional Development Representatives:

Gunay Kocasoy, Turkey	
Alberto Bianchini, Brazil	
Ian Coles, Australia	*newly elected*

The next meetings of the Board and the STC are 12-15 February 2009 in Vienna, Austria.



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New National Member: Nigeria

Other business by the General Assembly was to approve the application from the Waste Management Society of Nigeria (WAMASON) to be ISWA newest National Member. WAMASON is already promoting its ISWA Landfill Training workshop to be held in Abuja on 21-22 April 2009, in conjunction with the Landfill Working Group.

Publication Award

Annually, ISWA recognizes a superior publication contributing to advancement in the solid waste management field. The 2008 ISWA Publication Award was presented in Singapore to Professor Thomas Hojland Christensen from the Technical University of Denmark for his paper on "Experience with the Use of LCA-modeling (EASEWASTE) in Waste Management". The publication is the fourth in a series of papers covering the development and use of a life-cycle assessment tool, EASEWASTE. It aims to ensure increasingly comprehensive assessment of environmental and resource impacts of different waste management options. The model can identify the most environmentally sustainable solution for different waste compositions and varying geographical situations and has been implemented in assessing the impact of waste management in several Danish municipalities.



Communication Award

The ISWA 2008 Communication Award was presented at the Congress's closing ceremony to Ms. Anna-Carin Gripwall, Communication Manager of Waste Sweden (ISWA's Swedish National Member) for its campaign on bringing awareness to the disposal of hazardous waste in households. The campaign focused on developing television spots, fliers, posters and other media items for the general public. In recognition of the campaign's professionalism and creativity at addressing an often forgotten but high priority topic, judging panel (with members from ISWA and UNEP) considered this candidate to be most worthy of ISWA's first annual Communication Award.



Future Annual Congresses

Preparations are well advanced for the 2009 ISWA Annual Congress to take place in Lisbon, Portugal. Our Portuguese National Member, APESB, provided a sneak preview of the Congress programme and awarded three weekend getaways in Portuguese castles. The Annual Congress will take place 12-14 October 2009, so mark your calendars and start planning!

Also, the locations of the ISWA Annual Congresses for 2010 and 2011 have already been selected and will be held in Hamburg, Germany, and Daegu City, Korea, respectively. Contracts between ISWA and our German and Korean National Members were signed at the General Assembly.



HAPPENINGS AT THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT

You have noticed, we have noticed! Your General Secretariat has been quiet and busy these last two months as the Transition Period has moved into 'high gear'. Following the General Assembly in Singapore, annual mailings were compiled and sent to all ISWA members from Copenhagen. Then, shutdown operations in Copenhagen were conducted and completed within two weeks, including:

- distribution of the ISWA library
- packing of office files and historic materials for shipment to the temporary offices in Vienna
- recycling and donations of miscellaneous office items to facilities and institutions
- saying "farewell!" to our locally-based employees Borge and Karen Marie, and to co-tenants Dakofa and Waste Denmark, and
- transfer of computer-related information and archives.

Concurrently, in Vienna at the General Secretariat's temporary offices, various tasks were underway:

- changeover of staff and ISWA emails (to '.org' from '.dk') and a new email system
- transfer of server functions to Vienna
- transfer of web site to Vienna
- upgrade of the ISWA Shop (for easy transactions)
- full upgrade of ISWA database, conversion to English language, beta testing, etc., and
- finding room for the Copenhagen shipments.

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Mostly, things have gone smoothly, given good coordination on both sides. But we recognize member communications were slowed a bit, particularly as the member database upgrade and reporting functions are being tested for accuracy and completeness.

For 2009, the schedule of ISWA event shows an expansion of planned activities, including Working Group Meetings, workshops, and Beacon and Regional Conferences.

So check things out on the ISWA website www.iswa.org at your convenience.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 13 Feb. 2009 ISWA STC Meeting, Austria
- 14 Feb. 2009 ISWA Board meeting, Austria
- 26 Feb. 2009 Workshop on Greenhouse Gases by the Taskforce on Greenhouse Gases, Denmark
- 05 Mar. 2009 ISWA Working Group on Hazardous Waste Meeting, Lithuania
- 26 Mar. 2009 ISWA Working Group on Communication Meeting, Hungary
- 02 Apr. 2009 ISWA Working Group on Thermal Treatment Meeting, Hungary
- 19 Apr. 2009 ISWA Working Group on Recycling and Waste Minimisation Meeting, France
- 21 Apr. 2009 "Closing dumpsites and opening landfills", Nigeria
- 01 May 2009 ISWA Working Group on Collection and Transportation Technology Meeting, Israel
- 04 May 2009 ISWA Beacon Conference, Brazil
- 08 May 2009 ISWA STC Meeting, Brazil
- 09 May 2009 ISWA Board meeting, Brazil
- 18 May 2009 ISWA Working Group on Landfill Meeting, France
- 19 May 2009 Workshop on Greenhouse Gases by the Taskforce on Greenhouse Gases, France

We hope you find this first issue of News and Items to be informational. From the General Secretariat, our best wishes to you for the upcoming holiday season!



W. Gregory Vogt
Managing Director



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