

# Newsletter from the President



International Solid Waste Association



## NEWSLETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT NO. 5 - MARCH 2007

### ISWA seminar on the revision of the Waste Framework Directive

On Monday 7 of May 2007 ISWA will organise a seminar on the revision of the Waste Framework Directive in Brussels.

At the seminar various aspects of the revision of the Waste Framework Directive will be presented. Different interest organisations will discuss and give their opinion on the proposed revision of the directive.

Points of view will be given from: CEWEP, ECN, EEB, ISWA, the Parliament and the German Presidency as well as selected new ISWA National Members.

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) is also invited to give an opinion. The American organisation will give their opinion and explain to what extent the American legislation is influenced by the EU.

The seminar gives you an excellent opportunity to keep you updated with the point of view of the key players in waste management. Opinions will be presented both in plenum and afterwards be items for panel discussions.

The preliminary programme will be available at [www.iswa.org](http://www.iswa.org) within a few days.

Please remember to register for the Seminar as soon as possible. The number of seats is limited and many members have already shown their interest.

I hope you will use this opportunity to learn more about the Waste Framework Directive and participate in this exciting ISWA event

### Approval of Bosnia Herzegovina

In February 2007 CENER 21 of Bosnia Herzegovina joined ISWA as a new National Member. Bosnia Herzegovina was approved by the National Members through a written procedure. I would like to use this opportunity to welcome Bosnia Herzegovina to ISWA.

As stated in my January newsletter the trend of getting new National Members is clearly showing the need of ISWA around the world. I encourage all ISWA members in countries without National Members to consider forming national organisations in order to join ISWA as National Members. Having a National Member in ISWA gives you further benefits. For instance a National Membership will increase your influence in ISWA.

If you have questions regarding National Membership I advise you to contact the General Secretariat. Contact person for National Members is Mr Borge Boes Hansen. Mr Hansen can be

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reached either at [bbh@iswa.dk](mailto:bbh@iswa.dk) or +45 32 64 61 41.

### Use the ISWA web site for upcoming event

At [www.iswa.org](http://www.iswa.org) you are able to find information on upcoming events. Under “events” in the menu you will find information on ISWA Annual Congresses and conferences, ISWA meetings (Board-, STC-, and Working Group meetings) and other conferences.

The “event section” at the website makes you able to see all the listed events at one time, which makes it easier for you to keep your diary up to date.

Currently there are many important events, first of all our Annual Congress in Amsterdam in September, but there are also two interesting events in Australia in November. Here it might still be possible to send abstracts.

In order to keep this part of the web site as relevant and interesting as possible ISWA needs your help. I therefore kindly ask you to send the General Secretariat information on upcoming events from your part of the world. Information can be sent to [iswa@iswa.dk](mailto:iswa@iswa.dk)

### New ISWA-EU network formed by European/EU National Members

The 18 ISWA EU National Members were called for a meeting in Brussels 26 February 2007. The meeting was attended by UK, Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Greece and the Netherlands. Also Spain, Italy, Austria and Bulgaria had shown their interest in the network prior to the meeting.

As it is now, many EU National Members are having difficulties trying to follow the EU policy and at the same time serve their members with policy analyses on expected consequences.

This led the EU National Members to form a new EU network at the meeting.

The ISWA EU National Members will now be asked to appoint a person from each secretariat to be part of this network, which is mainly directed towards EU specialists working for the National Members or Organisational Members.

In the future the ISWA General Secretariat will help the National Members by facilitating this special EU network with the latest EU news through a special EU website. This website will be finalised in May 2007 and will be available to members of the network at [www.iswa.org](http://www.iswa.org).

I welcome this initiative and hope that all ISWA EU National Members will see the benefit of this important knowledge sharing possibility. I am sure this will strengthen the National Members to become leading national organisations within the EU area as well as strengthening ISWA as such. The network will serve as an EU knowledge base for all the ISWA Working Groups and all ISWA members, who will also have access to the forthcoming ISWA EU website.

I give my strongest support to the network and I hope that we through this initiative also can strengthen the co-operation among the National Members in other areas.

### Revision of the EU Waste Framework Directive: Deregulation?

#### -EU workshop the 26 February 2007 in Brussels.

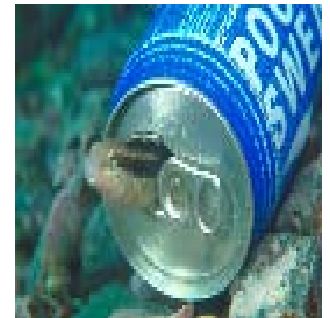
ISWA, FEAD, CEMR and EEB organised 26 February a very successful workshop in Brussels. The workshop was arranged as an inter-institutional dialogue with almost 140 key players from the Council, the Parliament, and the Commission, the Committee of the Regions, Economic and Social Committee and various stakeholders. In particular, the rapporteur of the European Parliament, Dr. Caroline Jackson, presented the outcome of the first reading in the European Parliament which took place 13 February.

The first reading was overwhelmed with amendments to the proposed text of the Commis-

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sion, which very clearly shows that the various institutions of the EU systems are moving in various directions. The Parliament has taken the road of strong prevention, re-use and recycling legislation as the way to the recycling society of Europe. The proposal from the Commission was focused on a simplification through the use of harmonised standards and criteria and not at least through the market mechanisms. The struggle is therefore left to the Council to find a way in the middle of these two opposite paradigms.



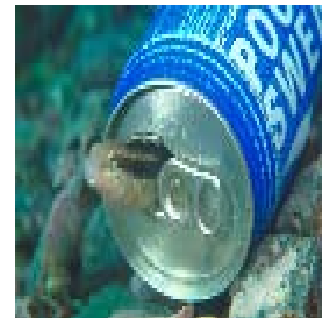
ISWA has proposed an integrated recovery strategy, which was welcomed by many of the participants at the workshop. The ISWA strategy is to introduce harmonised prevention and reuse targets and then optimise an integrated recovery system where recycling and energy recovery goes hand in hand. It is also important for ISWA to raise the issue of the problems in connection with the increased export of waste to countries outside of Europe with low environmental standards.

As the ISWA President I believe that the most important outcome of our workshop was to gather the institutions and stakeholders in an inter-institutional dialog. The dialogue is at the moment tense, but we do learn very much by listening to all the various concerns.



I find that we need to consider the communication with all new EU countries and explain in detail what our proposals will mean to them environmentally and economically. It is also very important that ISWA acknowledge the strong role of the Environmental Committee of the Parliament, who managed to get almost all of their 97 amendments adopted at this first reading.

I therefore encourage all ISWA members to look more closely on their contacts to the European Parliament. We do have a role to play, when it comes to finding practical and balanced proposals. This role could be improved through the new established ISWA-EU network.



[Click here](#) to read more about the workshop. You will also find more background information about the voting in the Parliament 13 February.

Niels Jørn Hahn  
President of ISWA



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