

# EEA Annual Report 1997

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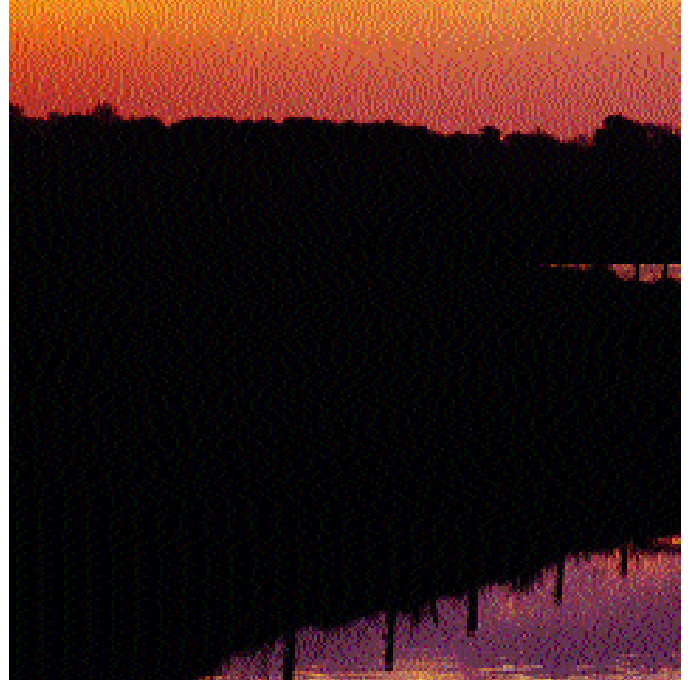
## EEA history in short

The European Council requested in December 1988, in the Rhodes Declaration, a major European effort in environmental matters and the European Commission reacted immediately: President Delors himself announced in his speech to the European Parliament in January 1989, the “setting up of a European measurement and control network comprised of public or private, regional or national facilities”. With this declaration, Jacques Delors was anticipating the need for a separate body dealing mainly with environmental information, and for which reliability and credibility would be paramount.

While presenting the proposal for the creation of the European Environment Agency (EEA) in July 1989, Mr. Ripa di Meana (the Commissioner in charge of Environment at the time) stated that “... the main purpose of the Agency is to aid the Member States in meeting the environmental protection and restoration goals, as defined in the Treaty and in the different environmental programmes of the Community”.

At this time, the Commission was responding to the pressure from the European Parliament’s Environment Committee, and to the need, also recognised by EC Environment Ministers, for improved information to face their growing and complex responsibilities. The Agency and the European Environment Information and Observation Network (EIONET) were conceived to deliver improved information on the environment and to contribute to a better database for environmental policy-making.

The Agency and EIONET were set up on the basis of EC Regulation 1210/90, which was adopted in May 1990 and came into force on 30 October 1993, after the seat of the Agency (Copenhagen) was finally decided upon.



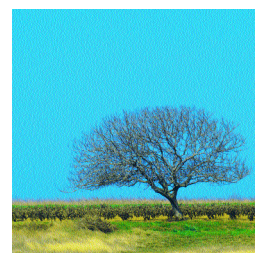
The foundations for the EEA’s work were in fact already laid in the period 1985-1990, by the CORINE programme. Its databases were transferred to the EEA Task Force, set up by DG XI in 1990, which took care of the preparation of EEA’s activities in the interim period 1990-1994.

The EEA’s Executive Director was appointed in June 1994. In August of the same year, the Brussels based Task Force completed its work and the premises on Kongens Nytorv, in the heart of Copenhagen, were occupied with a first skeleton staff of six people. Recruitment of the main staff began in the second half of 1994. The open and extensive recruitment procedure elicited a large interest and more than 7000 applications were received for the initial 26 posts advertised. First staff arrived in the second half of 1995 and by the end of 1996, 50 people were working at the EEA’s premises. One year later by the end of 1997, the number of people working in the Agency had grown to 75. The Agency’s 1997 budget was 16.9 million ECU (MECU).



Based on the establishing Regulation, the following mission statement has been agreed: “The EEA aims to help achieve significant and measurable improvement in Europe’s environment through the provision of timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policy making agents and the public”.

The work of the EEA is based on the activity of the European Environment Information and Observation Network (EIONET). EIONET now includes nine European Topic Centres, 18 National Focal Points, 124 National Reference Centres and 334 other Main Component Elements. All national units are appointed by the national authorities in the 18 countries presently members of the EEA (the 15 EU countries plus Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.) Furthermore, co-operation with the Phare countries includes contacts with 13 Phare National Focal Points and Phare Topic Links for three of the ETCS.





# Preface



*EEA's Executive  
Director, Domingo  
Jiménez-Beltrán*

While 1996 was dedicated mostly to consolidating the EEA basics and building up the EIONET, 1997 has been a year of operational progress in the three main instrumental pillars of the Agency: Networking, National Monitoring to European Environmental Reporting, and the European Reference Centre on Environmental Information. These are depicted by the 'ENVISION' model, which aims at establishing a 'seamless' environmental information system:- environmental information facilitating the Community to move towards sustainability including integration of environment in economic policies.

These three pillars are:

- the building up and implementation of an European monitoring to reporting system delivering information of direct use;
- the operation of an extended network (EIONET and beyond), to produce the Best Available Information (BAI) in an efficient way, exploiting and building up existing capacities in Member States, at EU and International level;
- presenting all this knowledge in a structured, accessible and user-friendly way at the disposal of the Community, Member States and public, a European Reference Centre on Environmental Information, or a "doorway" to it.

This annual report shows that the Agency has progressed significantly in these three areas.

The production chain, from monitoring to reporting is establishing a common discipline to transform data into effective information. Many technical reports have seen the light as tools to establish more consistent (and comparable) monitoring environmental data and information all over Europe, in particular, on air and water. Some new EEA integrated assessments are setting the pattern for evaluations for environmental problems (eg air pollution), issues (eg negotiated environmental agreements), or for early warnings (eg statement on water stress). Other results have been to move towards creating a discipline in the form of guidelines and models for comprehensive reporting on EU's/Europe's environment and trends.

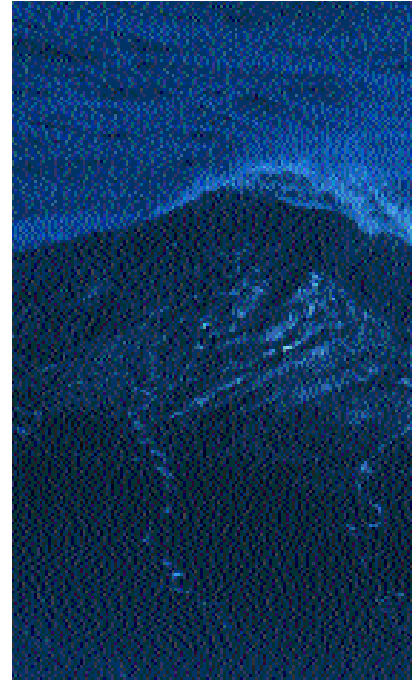
A huge effort was made in '97 to elaborate the comprehensive report "Europe's Environment: The Second Assessment", to be published in '98, which updates the report "The Dobris Assessment (1995)". Another major effort in '97 was the development of the framework for the more forward-looking report, 'EU's Environment Outlook '98', to be available late '98/early '99. It has been a big and rewarding effort and the regular comprehensive environmental reporting is a major task for the EEA.

In support of 'networking' the installation of the informatics and telematics for EIONET, sponsored by the Community's IDA project, has given the system the capacities to make it an operational network, serving not only the Agency, but also the Member States. This is a low cost, high added value, project.

The concept of the EEA as a Reference Centre, which is made explicit in the proposed amendment of the EEA Regulation, is making its way as an operational tool for the EEA's own work and EIONET data and information. Beyond this, the EEA is aiming to develop a kind of 'World Library' on environmental information, that the EEA is developing for the G7, and covering specific information pools for the 'doers' (business and local authorities) as 'EnviroWindows'.

The synchronisation of our products and services with the EU/European Political agenda (timely reports targeted to users/events) and the broad dissemination of those in a friendly way (versions in the different languages and adequate formats) are our challenges for 1998. The launch of 'Europe's Environment: The Second Assessment' is timed to be of use by European Ministers at the June '98 Aarhus Conference in order to make progress on the Environment for European Programme. Similarly "EU's Environment '98 Outlook" is intended to help the EU's environmental (and development) policy as it moves forward from the 5th Action Programme. As we move towards one more expansion of the Union this will be a major preoccupation, and provided resources are available, the EEA could play a valuable part in facilitating a more sustainable development for the EU and the accession countries.

Up to now the resources available to the Agency have grown broadly in line with the tasks required of it, and the capacities of the organisation and staff. But with the budget freeze in 1998, and the prospect of further budgetary restrictions ahead distinct signs of stress are emerging, and it is proving impossible to undertake all the tasks which are requested of us, and which we should like to tackle.







This problem looks likely to become more acute in the coming years, where environmental information will be key to support the progress towards the new goal of sustainable development established under the Amsterdam Treaty and in guiding all the challenges under Agenda 2000, such as enlargement towards the East, review of the CAP, ... and the necessary shift in Energy and Transport policy following the Climate Change Convention and the Kyoto Protocol. The inconsistency between freezing the EEA budget at a low level and expanding tasks needed to fulfil the mandate of the Regulation (now reinforced in the Review of the Regulation, to be adopted in 1998), and increased needs and expectations of operational environmental information must be faced urgently.

I want to thank again all those who made the progress of the Agency possible in '97. Thanks in particular to the 'doers', to the very devoted and professional team work of the EEA staff, to the EIONET and the ETCs and to EUROSTAT and the JRC. In spite of the pressure, you have continued to deliver a high quality work. We count on you for '98. Although Environment is one of success stories of the EU, a lot still remains to be done.

*Domingo Jiménez-Beltrán*  
*Executive Director, EEA*

*Copenhagen*  
*July 1998*

## Foreword



Chairman of the EEA Management Board, F. A. (Derek) Osborn

1997 has been a year of steady progress in the Agency's work, marked by a series of important products. Budgetary constraints mean that the Agency has not been able to tackle all of the subjects on which it could do useful work. But with careful prioritisation of tasks, and very hard and determined work by the Director and all his staff, a high level of output, both as to quality and quantity is being maintained.

Great efforts are being made to ensure that an increasing number of the Agency's publications are directly relevant to the current and emerging European agenda, and I was very glad that the Agency was able to make further progress in this direction during 1997. The year began with an overview document, prepared with UNEP, on Water Stress in Europe, which was a significant contribution to the strong emphasis on fresh water issues at the United Nations' General Assembly in June and the intensive work on water problems that has followed. Air Pollution in Europe was timely for several air pollution policy initiatives being developed in Europe. Joint work with WHO, starting with the Air and Health pamphlet, will be an important input into the 1999 pan-European Environment and Health conference in London.

1997 was also important as a year for review of progress and planning for the future. Following a review of the Agency's work and performance, the Commission brought forward a proposal for amendment of the Agency's Regulation. The review recognised the progress which the Agency has made and a number of useful proposals for reinforcing the Agency's role and clarifying its tasks and responsibilities. The Agency co-operated fully in the review and will look forward to implementing the reinforced functions, once the amended Regulation has been adopted.

One particularly important element in the new Regulation is the possible reference to the extended concept of environmental information to cover also information about sustainable development, laid down in Articles 2 and 6 of the Amsterdam Treaty as one of the goals of the European Union. This points to the growing importance of assembling and analysing information about the interaction of different economic sectors with the environment, and the development of integrated policies to deal with them. The new obligation to publish regular reports on related indicators is especially significant, and is likely to become a key role for the Agency in the future.

Following on from the Review of the Regulation, 1997 was the year for the establishment of the Agency's second Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP 2). In order to allow time to conduct this review of the Regulation, the Management Board unanimously decided to extend the timetable for the preparation of the MAWP and not to finalise it until summer 1998. This gave time for a wide consultation with all stakeholders during 1997, and the Management Board itself held a valuable seminar

in November to consider the strategic directions for the second MAWP. It was generally felt that strategic themes to be emphasised in the new MAWP will need to include sustainable development and integration; partnership with other bodies; continued efforts to improve the quality, consistency, timeliness and policy relevance of data and information in member states and at the aggregate European level; capacity to identify emerging issues and to give early warnings. All of these elements will need to be built into the final text of MAWP 2, and into the Agency's ongoing work.

The Agency has continued to attach great importance to working closely with neighbours outside the European Union and the European Economic Area, both in Central and Eastern Europe and in the Mediterranean area. Preparation of 'Europe's Environment: The Second Assessment' has been a major preoccupation throughout 1997, and will be a major publication of 1998, in June, in time for the Aarhus Ministerial Conference.

The Agency is steadily strengthening its links with all these countries, and working collaboratively with them. The environment has no physical boundary at what is the current political boundary of the Union, and a wider perspective obviously makes very good sense for the analysis of environmental trends and problems. But there are financial and institutional limitations to this while these countries remain formally outside the Agency, and the Management Board has urged the Commission and the Council to consider ways in which links could be formally strengthened, or new members added.

This is particularly relevant for countries which are seeking or may seek to become members of the Union. The state of the environment in those countries, and the impacts both positive and negative which enlargement may have on their environment are crucial issues on which the Agency ought to be able to make a valuable input, provided that it is able to work closely and openly with those countries.

The most important partnerships of all for the Agency remain those between the Agency in Copenhagen, the Topic Centres, the National Focal Points and the rest of the EIONET network. Working links are now well developed and consolidated. There is growing understanding throughout the network of what information exists and how it can be aggregated and monitored. As we look ahead, one of the most important tasks of the next few years will be how to improve the quality of this basic information, and its consistency and timeliness. This will require fresh efforts in member states as well as in the Agency to help to fill gaps and to change some existing practices in the collection and monitoring of information. One of the most encouraging aspects of working with the Agency is to see the network building trust and confidence between its partners so that it can become a real engine for the changes that are needed over time.

*F. A. (Derek) Osborn*  
Chairman of the EEA Management Board

*July 1998*

# 1997 – the year in brief<sup>1</sup>



The goal of the EEA is to deliver timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policy making agents and the public to support development and implementation of environmental policies in the Community and the Member States.

Following the initial setting up of the Agency and recruitment of staff in 1994-95, 1996 was the first full operational year and 1997 was the year of progress in implementing the main functions of the Agency. 1998, in contrast, will be a year of completion and transition when the cycle of the Agency's first Multiannual Work Programme will be closed, and two major reports on Europe's Environment will be completed: *Europe's Environment: The Second Assessment*, the follow-up to the Dobbris Assessment, being prepared for the Aarhus Pan-European Environment Ministers Conference (23-25 June, 1998), and the EU 1998 triennial State and Trends report. Also in 1998, the second Multiannual Work Programme (MAWP 2) will be finalised and adopted. The main achievements in 1997 can be summarized under the headings: Networking, National Monitoring to European Reporting, Reference Centre and Support to Policy Action.

In 1997, main achievements in the field of *Networking* were the installation of the EIONET telematics network, the establishment of a new European Topic Centre on Waste, the extension of the EIONET to the entire Phare area, a gradual extension of EEA projects to the Phare countries, and a new Memorandum of Understanding between EEA and UNEP.

The installation phase of the EIONET telematics network began in March 1997, with the final scheduled installation test for the entire network being made on 16 June, at the Agency in Copenhagen. The first phase, connecting the NFPs in the EU

Member States, was thus made operational. Further online extensions will be added in 1998, including NFPs in 11 Phare countries and the nine ETCs. The entire Network will thus comprise about 40 leading environmental institutions in almost all European countries. Significant progress was made during the year in developing each of the main elements of EIONET, e.g. the designation of NFPs by all Member States, the designation of NRCs by most Member States to help coordinate national activity with the ETCs in the relevant topic areas.

The establishment of the new European Topic Centre on Waste (ETC/W) – which had its official opening on 30 October 1997, the day of the Agency's Fourth Anniversary – brought the number of Topic Centres supporting the Agency, the Member States and the European Commission to nine. The ETC/W was designated by the Management Board in June 1997, and is funded by a subvention from the EEA for an initial period of up to three years, with the option of renewal. The ETC/W is led by Denmark in a consortium formed by the Danish EPA and the City of Copenhagen. Other participants are the Hazardous Waste Agency in Baden-Württemberg, Germany, and the Environmental Protection Agencies of Austria, Catalonia (Spain) and Ireland.

Co-operation with Eurostat and the EC's Joint Research Centre (JRC) continued successfully in 1997. The work with Eurostat focused on the gathering of socio-economic information and the development of indicators. The JRC continued to support the Topic Centres in the fields of air, water, soil and land cover focusing on monitoring, harmonisation and data quality issues, as well as providing direct support to the Agency in the fields of information handling and the analysis of data flows in the EIONET.

1. This section of the EEA Annual Report is available in all official EU languages

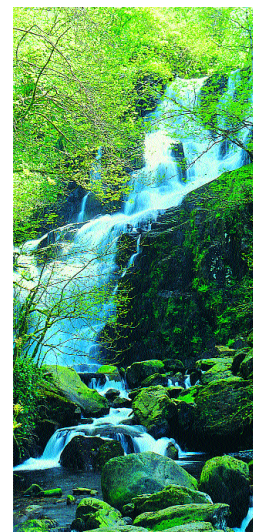
A new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the European Environment Agency and the United Nations' Environment Programme (UNEP), on 23 October 1997, at the Agency, between EEA's Executive Director, Domingo Jiménez-Beltrán, and the Regional Representative and Director of UNEP's Regional Office for Europe, Mr Frits Schlingemann. EEA and UNEP have already been co-operating for more than two years in order to develop mutually supportive activities in the field of reporting and networking. Results include the joint statement on Water Stress mentioned below. The new MoU between the two organisations provides new opportunities for a deeper and closer relationship.

Under the heading *National Monitoring to European Reporting* the Agency's main achievements in 1997 included a first annual joint statement with UNEP on *Water stress in Europe*; a report on *Air Pollution in Europe 1997*; a pamphlet on *Air and Health* (with WHO); a guidebook on *Sustainable Development for Local Authorities*; a report on *Voluntary Environmental Agreements*; an *Expert's Corner* report on *Public Access to Environmental Information*, some derived products from the Dobris Assessment, in particular an educational package and a range of Topic Reports. In addition, much development and preparatory work was carried out in 1997 towards the next two major State of the Environment reports.

*Water stress in Europe – can the challenge be met?* makes the point, that water stress – shortages, floods, pollution and damaged ecosystems – requires radical new approaches to the use and management of water resources if Europeans are to avoid severe water crises. This condensed, focused summary of a particular issue has been well received and this format will be repeated in future years.

*Air Pollution in Europe 1997* summarises the latest information on state and trends of climate change, acidification, eutrophication, urban air quality and low level ozone. The European Topic Centres on Air Emissions and Air Quality have collected most of the data and information presented in this report as part of their work for the Agency. The main focus of the report is on pressures, state and impacts, but information is also provided on the main driving forces that influence the state of the environment. The report covers the Member States of the European Union and for several problems also most European countries. The report was timed to support major policy initiatives on air pollution abatement from the European Union, Member States and several international conventions.

In a new exercise with WHO, the EEA jointly published in 1997 a pamphlet for local authorities on *Air and Health*. The pamphlet gives an overview of the main air pollutants, their sources, their main effects on health and the global environment, and what can be done to reduce them. Although this is the first such pamphlet produced in co-operation with WHO, it is no.19 in the WHO series of Environmental Health briefing pamphlets. These are written in particular for the many professionals in local authorities in a wide range of disciplines, whose responsibility is to manage the living and working environment of cities, schools and working places. It is planned to follow the *Air and Health* pamphlet with several other joint pamphlets in the same series, beginning with some giving more details on the different problems of air pollution and on solutions for local authorities. Preparations continued with WHO in the fields of water resources and health and transport and health with a view to joint publications in 1998-99.

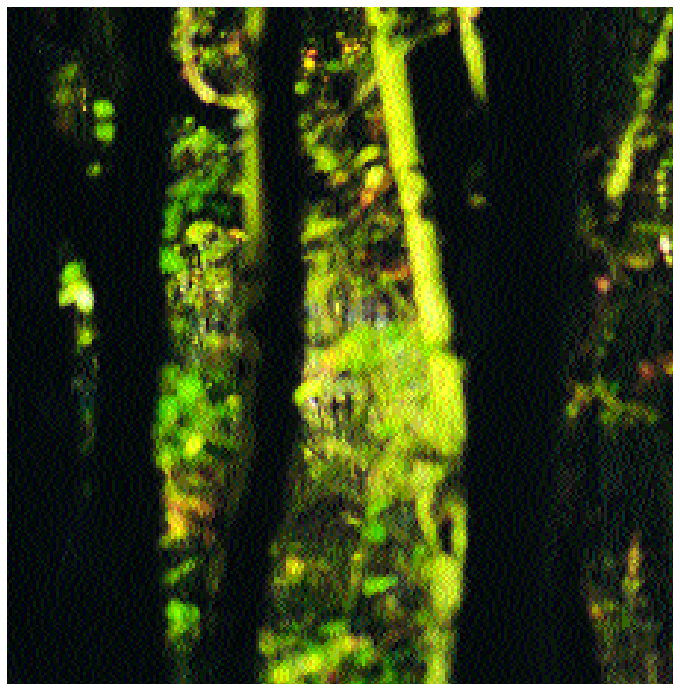




The guidebook *Sustainable Development for Local Authorities* was available on the EEA web site in November and released on paper on 15 December 1997. It is the fifth product in the Environmental Issues Series published by the EEA. The book is intended as a guide to the newly evolving paradigm of sustainable development at local level. Local authorities have a key role to play in the transition to more sustainable ways of living. This report introduces the history, interpretations and development of the sustainability debate and describes the efforts of local authorities putting into practice the sustainable development concept.

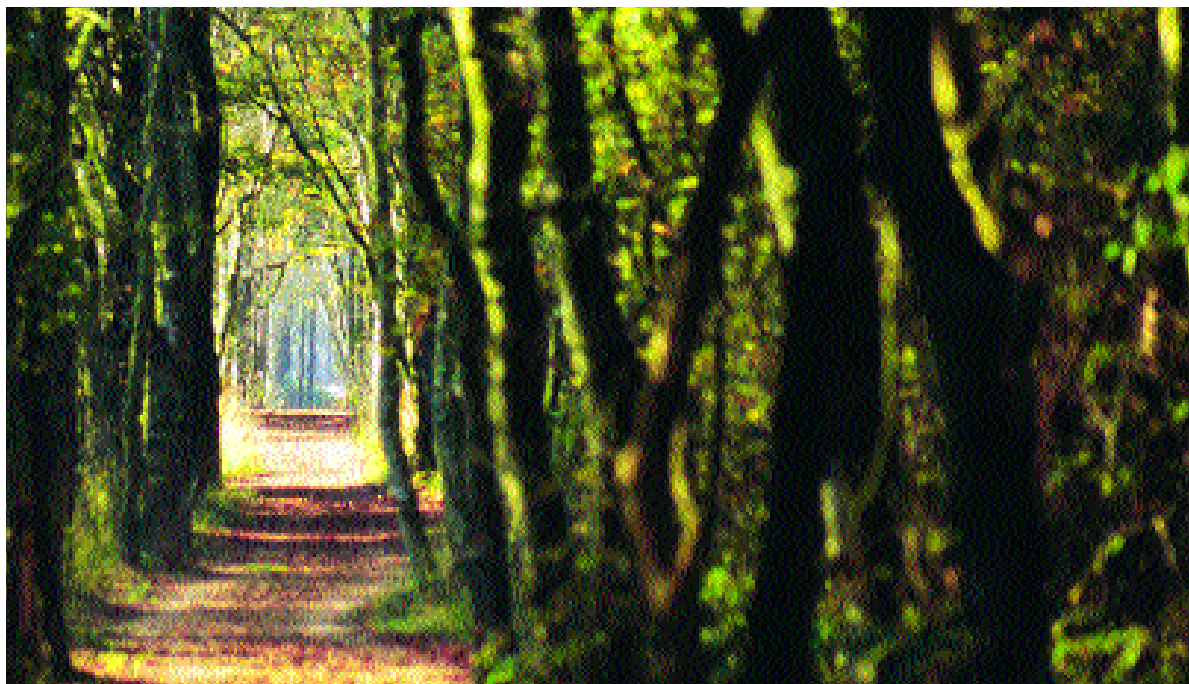
*Environmental Agreements, Environmental Effectiveness* was first released at a meeting in May of the European Parliament's Committee on Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection, which had originally asked the Agency to prepare the report for its deliberations on the issue. The two-volume report focuses on the assessment of the environmental effectiveness of a selection of environmental agreements, and includes a review of the use of environmental agreements in Europe as well as an overview of the on-going debate on the subject.

In May, EEA also published *Public Access to Environmental Information*, as a report in the Expert's Corner series. The report, written for the Agency by Ralph Hallo (Stichting Natuur en Milieu, The Netherlands), an expert in the field, describes the issues at stake in the current debate about improved access to environmental information & public participation in environmental decision-making in both the EU and the UN ECE framework.



Ongoing, throughout the year, was the preparation by key Agency staff, together with many experts from all over Europe, of the update to the Dobris Assessment: *Europe's Environment: The Second Assessment*, which the Agency was asked to prepare for the Fourth Pan-European Conference of Environment Ministers, from 23-25 June, 1998, in Aarhus, Denmark. The co-operation with the Green Spider Network, started in 1997, will lead to national launches of this report in 19 European countries, starting at the beginning of June, 1998.

During 1997, three derived products have been prepared from the original Dobris Assessment: a translation of the full report into Spanish, a CD-ROM and (jointly with WWF) an educational package. The educational package, *Exploring Europe's Environment*, is targeted at students in secondary level, between the ages of 11 and 16. The 130-page book and the associated software, in Windows95 format, were developed in a joint venture between the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and EEA (printed and published by Earthscan, UK) and are receiving a high level of interest.



Much preparatory work was also carried out for the EU 1998 triennial state & trends report scheduled for publication in the first half of 1999. Data collection, assessment and writing of this report will be performed during 1998.

The Agency also published during the year a number of reports prepared by ETCs. These reports cover legal requirements for monitoring and provision of data on the environment; current monitoring in EEA member countries; proposals to improve monitoring; as well as summaries on the state of Europe's environment on selected topics.

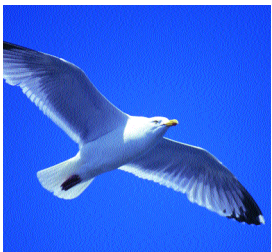
The continued development of the Reference Centre can be considered through the ongoing work regarding the EEA web site. The web site was redesigned during 1997 and is now receiving 300,000 "hits" or 15,000 visitors a month. In mid-1997, the General European Multilingual Environmental Thesaurus (GEMET) was

finalised in an English version and in six other languages. The thesaurus provides a classification and description of information, but overall it will be a major tool in the multi-lingual search for specialised environmental information. The thesaurus – and other tools developed by the CDS Topic Centre – serve as the building blocks to support the further development of the *European Environmental Reference Centre*. The objectives of this *Reference Centre* are to facilitate access to objective, reliable and comparable information on the state and trends of the European environment, including all data and information supplied to or emanating from EIONET; and provide a gateway to other sources of environmental information.



EEA staff and ETC experts provided *Support to Policy Action* through participation in meetings and the preparation of papers, reports and databases concerning – among others – the Water Policy Framework Directive, the Air Quality Framework Directive & daughter Directives, the Ozone Directive, the Auto-Oil II Programme, the CO<sub>2</sub> Monitoring Mechanism, the UNFCC Second Conference of the Parties (Kyoto), the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (First Conference of the Parties, Rome), the Habitats Directive – NATURA 2000, Waste Directives, the Strategic Environmental Assessment of Transport TENs, the IPPC Directive – Polluting Emissions Register, and – last but not least – the Standard Reporting Directive.

The Agency hosted many events in 1997. *Main events* in 1997 included a highly successful roundtable consultation about the Agency's draft-second Multiannual Work Programme with representatives from various Commission Directorates-General, European environmental NGOs, European businesses and trade-unions, regional and local authorities' organisations and members of the EEA Management Board. The 1997 Princes' Award event (with twice as many entries as the year before); a successful "Open Day" on the occasion of the Agency's Fourth Anniversary (with 200 visitors); and, last but not least, the launch of the EEA-Green Spider Network co-operation.





# Highlights

Highlights in 1997 (main developments within and achievements by the European Environment Agency during 1997) are reported on below within the framework of ENVISION, whilst reference is made to relevant parts of the establishing Regulation 1210/90.

ENVISION, EEA's Environmental Information Vision, tries to present a view of the way forward over the coming years, whilst reflecting the EEA mandate (Regulation 1210/90) and the progressive development of the conceptual framework of the EEA Information Strategy. ENVISION has four main elements: Networking, Monitoring to Reporting, and the Reference Centre, which are all there to Support Action. These four elements allow the EEA to carry out its main functions, as laid down in Regulation 1210/90. The four elements, do not only enable the Agency "to know more" and "to know better and for all", but also "to do better", i.e. to provide support for policy making, implementation and enforcement of EU environmental legislation.

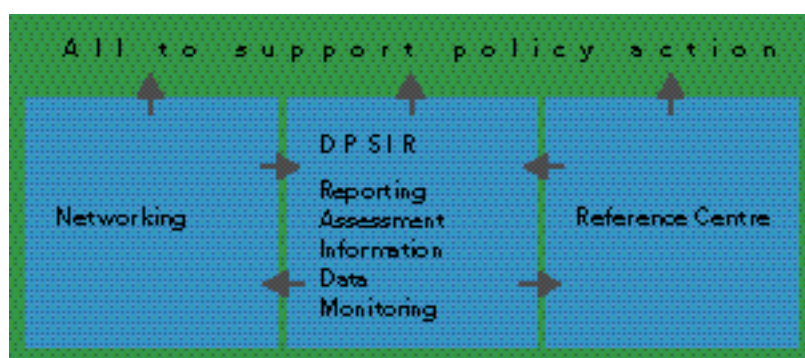
EEA activities are intertwined – as illustrated in the 'Implementation of ENVISION' model below (Figure 1). The activities of the Agency are centred on the flow from national monitoring to European reporting – a flow of activities along the Monitoring Data – Information – Assessment – Reporting (MDIAR) chain. From these central activities are derived periodical reporting, integrated reporting and reporting on topics, building on the databases and information developed in the EIONET and beyond.

Targeted products and services directly linked to the framing and implementation of EU environmental legislation are also based on these central activities. EEA is thus developing European information based on national monitoring, using networking as an important tool to obtain the necessary input and co-operation and to avoid duplication.

The Reference Centre is the key instrument to ensure access to environmental information relevant to key clients in the EU Institutions, EEA member countries, socio-economic actors, regional and local authorities, NGOs and the general public.

Implementation of ENVISION

Figure 1



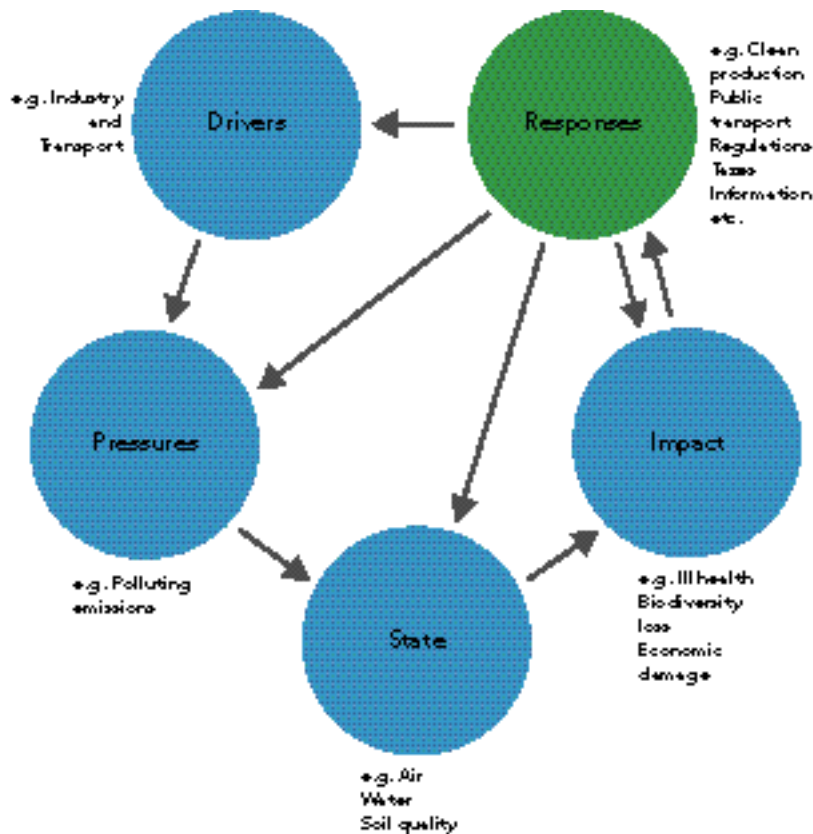
All activities in the Agency are seen within the DPSIR framework, thus ensuring that the full causal chain leading to environmental damage is considered in the information delivered. In using this framework (Figure 2), both the DPSIR elements and the connections between elements are considered. This framework supports the Agency in producing reports and services allowing environmental policy-makers and authorities to identify the most efficient policy targets and instruments towards sustainable development.

The work of the EEA is developed as a support in particular to the European Commission. Therefore the ENVISION model for providing European environ-

mental information is closely linked to the “Five I’s”, defined by DGXI (Directorate-General for Environment, Nuclear Safety and Civil Protection) of the European Commission as the framework for priorities following the review of the EU Fifth Environmental Action Programme, i.e. Integration, Instruments, Implementation, Information and International.

The following sections – Networking, National Monitoring to European Reporting, Reference Centre and Support to Policy Action – elaborate on the Agency’s products & services in 1997, all geared to support policy development and implementation by the EU Institutions and the Member States.

Figure 2 The DPSIR Framework for Assessment and Reporting



# 1. Networking

Regulation 1210/90 mandates the Agency, with the Member States, to establish and develop the EIONET (Articles 1.1, 2.i and 4), and joint programmes with related Community Services or Institutes (JRC, EUROSTAT) and to co-operate with International Organisations and Programmes (Articles 15, 2.v and x) and to avoid duplication. *Networking* and capacity building are thus specific tasks of the Agency, which is rapidly becoming the node of an extensive operational network for the flow and exchange of data, for improving data and for conducting analyses and aggregation on such environmental topics as air quality; water quality; state of flora and fauna; and waste.

## 1.1 EIONET – the European Environment Information and Observation Network

### 1.1.1 EIONET – Organisation

Significant progress was made during the year in developing each of the main elements of EIONET:

- With the establishment of a new European Topic Centre on Waste – which had its official opening on 30 October 1997 – there are now nine European Topic Centres (ETCs) supporting the Agency, Member States and the European Commission in the collection of data and the assessment and reporting of priority topics and Prominent European Environmental Problems.
- By now, all Member States have designated National Focal Points (NFPs), which co-ordinate their national organisations involved in the collection of data and assessing and reporting on the environment. The NFPs work closely with the Agency through the NFP/EIONET Group to develop and implement the Agency's work programme.

- Most, though not all, Member States have now designated National Reference Centres (NRCs) from among their Main Component Elements (MCEs) to help co-ordinate national activity with the ETCs in the relevant topic areas. Initial steps were taken to improve the participation of, and communication with, the NRCs for each topic.
- Organisation of an EEA/ETC Workshop on Biodiversity Monitoring (Helsinki, November 1997) and the second meeting of the Inter-regional Forum (with the regional sea conventions) (Rome, November 1997).
- Annual Topic Workshops were organised by the ETCs on Marine and Coastal Environment, Air Quality, Land Cover and Air Emissions with the participation of relevant EEA and ETC staff, NRCs, NFPs, Commission Services' staff and other experts.

### 1.1.2 EIONET – Telematics

The installation phase of the EIONET telematics network began in March 1997, with the final scheduled installation test for the entire network being made on 16 June at the EEA in Copenhagen. The first phase – built by a consortium led by Finsiel, Spa, Rome, Italy – connecting the NFPs in the EU Member States was thus made operational. Further online extensions will be added in 1998, including NFPs in 11 Phare countries and the nine ETCs. The entire Intranet will thus comprise about 40 leading environmental institutions in almost all European countries.



- Funds continued to be spent during 1997, on the following basis: DGIII/IDA Programme funds to connect NFPs to the Internet-based Network; DGI/Phare funds to connect Phare NFPs to the Network; Agency funds to connect ETCs to the Network. (Proposals are being developed for connecting NRCs.)
- Consistency and comparability were continuously improved in a number of ways during the year, including implementation of topic-based monitoring networks based on current national monitoring to provide more comparable and representative data at European level (for example: EuroAirnet, EuroWaternet).

### **1.1.3 New European Topic Centre on Waste**

In 1996, the European Commission published its review of the Community Strategy for Waste Management, which was also discussed by the Council before it adopted a resolution on the issue. The Commission's review, as well as the Council's resolution, emphasised the need for better data on the subject of waste. Even though in the Community there is common legislation on many waste issues, it is still very difficult to compare the situation and developments in the various Member States.

This was basically the reason for the EEA to set up the ninth European Topic Centre, this time on Waste. The official opening of the new ETC took place on EEA's fourth anniversary on 30 October 1997 at the headquarters of the Agency in Copenhagen. Together with more than 100 special guests, Danish Minister of Environment and Energy, Mr Svend Auken, participated in the launch of the new Topic Centre.

The moves to establish the ETC on Waste can be traced back to February 1996 when the EEA, after an open tender in 1995, placed a contract for a Scoping

Study on Waste Generation and Flows. This contract was placed with AEA Technology, United Kingdom, on behalf of EN-ERO (European Network of Environmental Research Organisations) to produce a final report by December 1996. The draft of this report was discussed at an expert meeting held in the Agency, in November 1996, and was revised, in the light of discussions at this meeting, to produce a final draft which was presented to the EEA Management Board on 12 December. The Management Board agreed to proceed with the designation of an ETC on Waste on the basis of this specification, derived from the study report and subsequent comments received from NFPs, Eurostat and others.

The ETC on Waste was designated by the Management Board in June 1997 and is funded by a subvention from the EEA for an initial period of up to three years, with the option of renewal.

Projects from the Agency's work programme to be carried out by the ETC on Waste are waste pilot projects for further assessment of inventories and analyses of main flows, and inventories and analyses on waste movements and transfers. In this connection, there are basically five main tasks to cover:

- The ETC will review existing data on waste in the EU and produce a full set of reliable data on municipal solid waste and waste generation for the period 1993-97;
- Secondly, scenarios of waste generation shall be developed;
- The ETC is to work out inventories of waste flows, including air and water emissions;
- A database of waste management facilities in the EU countries plus Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland will be designed;
- The ETC will document current waste management practices and make recommendations for further action.



The ETC on Waste is led by Denmark in a consortium formed by the Danish EPA and the City of Copenhagen. Other participants are the Hazardous Waste Agency in Baden-Württemberg, Germany, and the Environmental Protection Agencies of Austria, Catalonia (Spain) and Ireland.

Costs for the establishment of the new centre are budgeted at ECU 5 million, with around ECU 1.6 million provided by the EEA and the remainder supplied by the member countries of the consortium.

## 1.2 External networking

### 1.2.1 Phare Programme Team in the EEA

During 1997, many activities planned under the framework of the Phare-EEA co-operation developed from the planning stage to full operation. The co-operation embraced all programme areas of EEA's work programme and resulted in the following main outputs:

1. Concerning the development of EIONET – a comprehensive institutional network has been developed for the whole Phare area, comprising more than 200 experts in various fields. The network is organized on the EIONET model, comprising NFPs, NRCs, Phare Topic Links (PTLs) and experts in each specific area.
2. In the area of monitoring and data bases – 3 PTLs are already operational and an additional two are in the phase of contracting. The project consists of the extension of ETC activities to the Phare countries and the bringing on board of common activities and products from relevant institutes from the entire Phare area. Inland Waters, Air Quality and Air Emissions, Land Cover and Nature Conservation were the areas identified by Phare countries as priorities for initial EEA topic work in these countries. EEA projects are gradually extended to the Phare countries

and particularly focused on bringing on board the developments in Bosnia-Herzegovina, FYROM and Albania. The already acquired experience in the CORINE programme (Biotopes, Corinair and Corine Land Cover) is to be shared between the old colleagues and the newcomers, and is a continuous learning by doing process.

3. In the field of reporting, several activities were carried out having as a main focus the Phare countries' contribution to the Dobris +3 report. From a consistent and mature data collection process to comments and concrete case studies provided to the writers, the contribution of the Phare specialists was relevant and pertinent. Besides that, the maps and diagrams accompanying the report were prepared by GRID-Warsaw, contracted by the Phare Programme. The first steps were made as well for the preparation of the EU98 report, the first EU document to include the ten Accession Countries. But the final goal of these actions was to develop reporting capacities in the region and develop a standardised and uniform reporting system throughout Europe.
4. The support of the EIONET ensuring the fast link between the participants and the wide exchange of environmental data and information is ensured and made possible through the extension of the telematic network to all Phare countries. The project is under development and the system will be fully operational mid 1998. As a consequence all NFPs from both Member States and Phare countries will be 'on line' concerning all activities and projects developed and invited to open a wide platform for dialogue and sharing ideas.



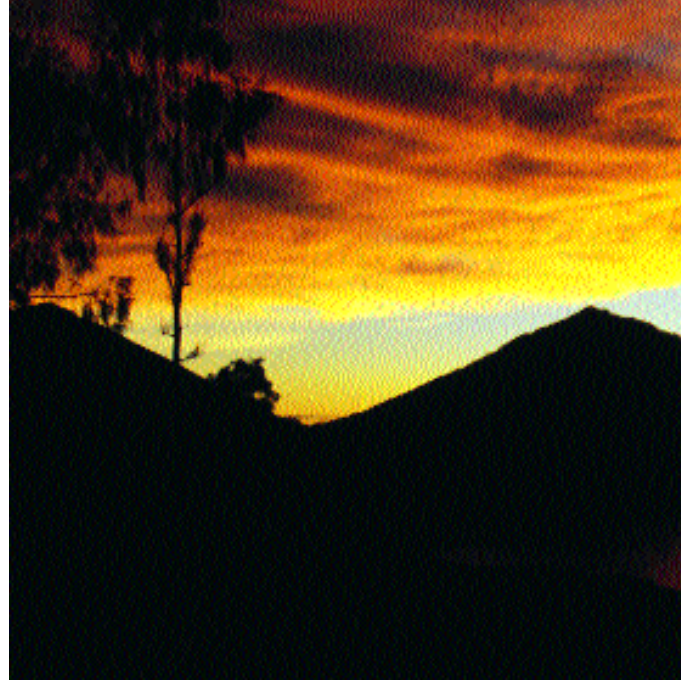


5. Public awareness is also a key area of action. A regular CORINE-EEA newsletter is produced, informing about the progress made in different areas and a Phare-EEA homepage is under preparation. A Phare Natural Resources CD-ROM, containing the land cover results in the first six Phare countries was produced and disseminated to all interested institutes in the Phare countries and in the Member States. More and diverse activities are foreseen for 1998 especially in line with the preparatory process for the Aarhus Conference.

All these activities were carried out with Phare Environment Multi-Country support which allocated 7 MECU from the 1995 budget for this co-operation. As a recognition of the importance of this co-operation, in particular in line with the accession process, 3.5 MECU were allocated from the 1997 Phare Multi-Country budget for continuation and further development of this co-operation. Due to the interest by the Phare countries in this form of co-operation, as well as due to the accession process, the present developments may be considered as a stage on the road to accession to the EEA, when, on an individual basis, the Phare countries will take over and develop this co-operation from the position of being full EEA members.

#### **1.2.2. Co-operation with JRC**

The Joint Research Centre (JRC) continues to provide support to the Agency in two main fields: (1) Monitoring and Data Analysis, and (2) Information Handling. A co-ordination meeting between JRC and EEA staff in February, hosted by Mr Jean-Marie Martin, Director of the Environment Institute, Ispra, and attended by EEA's Executive Director Domingo Jiménez-Beltrán, agreed upon priority areas of work for the next period of co-operation. During 1997, support was given in particular to the Topic Centres: Air



Quality, Inland Waters, Marine and Coastal, Land Cover and Soil. Monitoring, network design and data quality issues, particularly intercalibration of air and water quality measurements, are at the forefront of this unique support received from the JRC. Also featuring in the support are data handling issues, including the analysis of data flows in the EIONET, and technical support in the use of new communication technologies. An additional list of priority collaborative activities has also been established where the EEA and JRC agree to implement existing ongoing activities to their mutual benefit to avoid duplication and to increase synergies. Examples include: analysis of coastal land use changes (the Lacoast project), approaches to integrated environmental assessment, the use and application of Geographical Information Systems, and links with the Centre for Earth Observation (CEO), the Alps Observatory, the Soil Bureau and the European Chemicals Bureau.



### **1.2.3 Co-operation with Eurostat**

Co-operation between EEA and Eurostat in 1997 focused on two main areas: the gathering of socio-economic data for EEA's state of the environment report – *Europe's Environment: the Second Assessment* and the joint development of methodologies for compiling environmental pressure indicators for Eurostat's Early Harvest Report, to be published in autumn 1998. A Statistical Compendium of the main datasets used to compile indicators for the Second Assessment will be published by Eurostat in time for the Aarhus Ministerial Conference in June 1998 as a companion volume to the main report. EEA and Eurostat also co-operated closely in 1997 to improve the consistency and quality of data for air emissions and waste. Eurostat is using the CORINAIR methodology and data to develop a statistical framework for material flows in the environment. EEA's ETC on Waste worked closely with Eurostat towards the end of 1997 to develop a survey to improve the comparability and understanding of waste statistics collected under the joint OECD/Eurostat questionnaire. Extensive bilateral

contacts continued across a wide range of other issues, for example, forests and land cover to improve consistency and to avoid duplication. In May 1997, Eurostat granted EEA and its contractors, such as the European Topic Centres, access to a selected part of the Eurostat Geographical Information System – GISCO.

### **1.2.4 Co-operation with WHO**

In a new exercise with the World Health Organisation (WHO), EEA jointly published in 1997 a pamphlet for local authorities on *Air and Health*. The pamphlet gives an overview of the main air pollutants, their sources, their main effects on health and the global environment, and what can be done to reduce them. Although this is the first such pamphlet produced in co-operation with WHO, it is no.19 in the WHO series of Environmental Health briefing pamphlets. These are written in particular for the many professionals in local authorities in a wide range of disciplines, whose responsibility is to manage the living and working environment of cities, schools and working places. It is planned to follow the *Air and Health* pamphlet with several other joint pamphlets in the same series, beginning with some giving more details on the different problems of air pollution and on solutions for local authorities. EEA and WHO are currently co-operating in the development of two joint monographs: *Water and Health*, and *Transport and Health*. These are scheduled for publication in 1998-99. The monographs are part of the preparatory work for the Environment and Health ministerial conference to be held in London, in 1999. EEA continued its participation in the European Environment and Health Committee which, in particular, is steering the preparation of the conference.

### **1.2.5 Co-operation with UNECE**

Co-operation with the United Nations' Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in the 'Environment for Europe' process continued in 1997. Official preparations for the Aarhus Ministerial Conference to be held in June 1998, began in earnest in May 1997. EEA's participation in this process is focused on the development of the state of environment assessment report (working title 'Dobris+3'), preparations for which began already in 1996. The report is scheduled for publication shortly before the Aarhus Conference, in June 1998. During 1997, EEA continued to be actively involved in the UNECE Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution Convention's Task Force on Emission Inventories.

### **1.2.6 New MoU between EEA and UNEP**

A new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the European Environment Agency and the United Nations' Environment Programme (UNEP) was signed on 23 October 1997, at the Agency, between EEA's Executive Director, Domingo Jiménez-Beltrán, and the Regional Representative and Director of UNEP's Regional Office for Europe, Mr Frits Schlingemann.

*'Our co-operation is not new', said Domingo Jiménez-Beltrán. 'Joint ventures have already been carried out, including assessments of critical issues'. He referred in particular to a joint statement produced on water resources and pollution at the beginning of 1997 and a joint statement on chemicals to be released during 1998. Both directors agreed that drinking water and chemical pollution are major concerns in Europe and that it is essential to have as much information as possible about the presence of chemicals in groundwater and in the food chain.*

In the context of the next major Pan-European Ministerial Meeting on the Environment, in Aarhus, Denmark, 23-25 June 1998, the harmonisation of the EEA Environment Information and Observation Network (EIONET), UNEP's ENRIN (Environmental and Natural Resources Information Networking) and INFOTERRA networks and their mutual activities will improve efficiency in both organisations and provide an improved information base. The new level of co-operation has facilitated the development of the latest progress report on the state of the pan-European environment, *'Europe's Environment: The Second Assessment'* (or Dobris+3), to be published in June 1998. Input from this report has been used in the preparation of UNEP's second Global Environmental Outlook (GEO-2).



Fundamental to all these activities is the use of existing facilities, the mobilisation of additional resources and the complementarity of both agencies' networks. The objective is to improve access to environmental information for the countries with economies in transition in Central and Eastern Europe and in the Greater Mediterranean Region.





## 2. National Monitoring to European Reporting

Providing data and information (*'to know more'*). Defining, co-ordinating and supplying a simple, coherent, reliable routine monitoring and reporting system, at the lowest possible cost to the EU and the Member States, is a core activity of the Agency.

As mandated by the Regulation, this information shall describe the present and foreseeable state of the environment, including pressures on it and its quality and sensitivity (Art.3. 1), including transfrontier and global phenomena, and taking into account the socio-economic dimension (Art.3.2). EEA shall draw up reports (to be used also by the European Commission to ensure implementation of legislation) (Art.2.ii), and publish a triennial State of the Environment report (Art.2 iii & vi). This routine reporting system shall be based on networking and shall exploit all existing information, as well as develop external capacities for data collection and analysis. It should deliver 'Best Available Information' (BAI), comprising – inter alia – of: regular and routine periodical reports, topic reports every year, a yearly environmental report based on a progressively improving package of indicators, etc.

### 2.1 Special Reports & Monographs

#### 2.1.1 Water Stress in Europe

On 20 January 1997, the European Environment Agency (EEA) and the United Nations' Environment Programme (UNEP) launched their first annual joint Statement on the Environment: *Water stress in Europe – can the challenge be met?*

Water stress – shortages, floods, pollution and damaged ecosystems (see graphic) requires radical new approaches to the use and management of water resources if Europeans are to avoid severe water crises, the joint Statement concludes.

Some of the main points from the Statement:

- The low availability of water demanded for households, agriculture and industry;
- Drinking water losses from pipes are estimated at 30% in most countries and up to 70-80% in some cities;

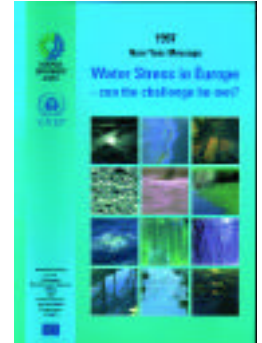
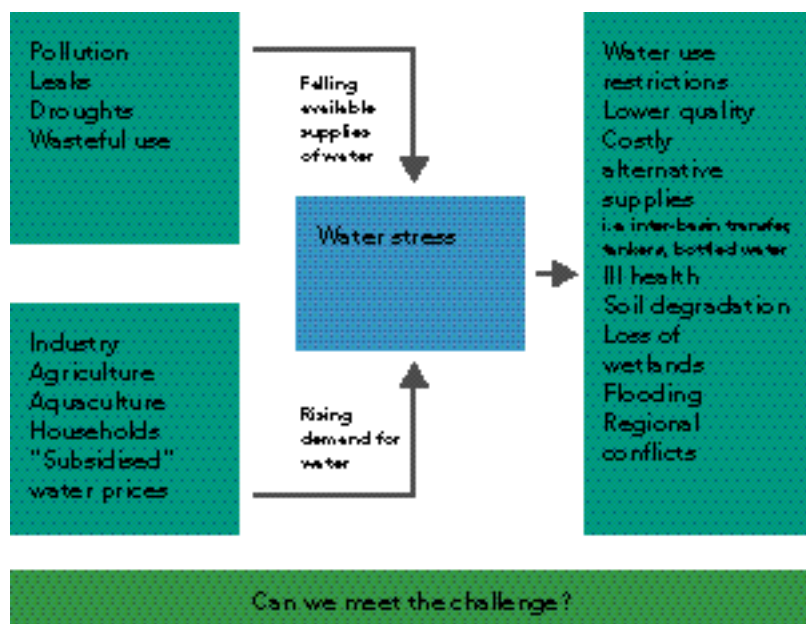


Figure 3

Water stress in Europe



- As water shortages increase, river basin authorities are restricting water use for industry. Similar pressures on agriculture are likely to occur in the near future;
- About 60% of large European cities are over-exploiting their groundwater resources for their drinking and other water needs. If depleted or polluted, these resources are expensive and time consuming to restore;
- Other threats include the increase of the global mean sea level due to changes in climate and run-off patterns of water courses in some areas.

The Statement summarises many water initiatives, such as the EU Framework Directive on Water, UNEP's Cleaner Production Programme, and EEA's improved pollution monitoring work. It stresses, that new political agreements on integrated river basin management and greater public support for new types of policy instruments such as taxes, voluntary agreements and tradable permits are needed, if these initiatives are to be implemented successfully.

### 2.1.2 Air Pollution in Europe 1997

Air pollution related problems – climate change, acidification, eutrophication, urban air quality and low level ozone – are recognised as some of the most important and costly problems facing Europe. The report *Air Pollution in Europe 1997* summarises the latest information on state and trends of these problems. The European Topic Centres on Air Emissions and Air Quality have collected most of the data and information presented in this report as part of their work for the EEA.



The main focus of the report is on pressures, state and impacts, but information is also provided on the main driving forces that influence the state of the environment.

The report covers the Member States of the European Union and for several problems also most other European countries. The report is timed to support major policy initiatives on air pollution abatement from the European Union, Member States and several international conventions.

The main conclusions of the report are:

- only a relatively small number of pollutants released by human activities in the five economic sectors targeted in the EU's Fifth Environmental Action Programme (5EAP) contribute to five of the main environmental problems currently facing Europe;
- some improvements have emerged in recent years, particularly in those environmental problems which have been recognised for some time, where remedial measures are readily available, and where abatement measures and policy can be very specifically targeted, such as urban lead concentrations from leaded petrol, or acidification caused partly by sulphur emissions from large point sources, such as power plants;
- other problems such as climate change, urban air quality and tropospheric ozone, are more difficult to tackle, either due to increased economic activity or due to the large and increasing number of diffuse emission sources based on fossil fuels, for example vehicles.

However, since the same pollutant in many cases is relevant for several of the environmental problems, reductions of emissions to improve one problem will also benefit others. For example, reductions of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to address climate change will also reduce SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and CO emissions and hence improve acidification, tropospheric ozone and urban air quality. This is, what is called the multipollutant/multi-effect approach (see Figure 4 below).

### 2.1.3 Air and Health

Air quality is an issue of critical importance for both health and the environment. In 1997, EEA, together with WHO, published *Air and Health*, an overview of the main air pollutants, their sources, their main effects on health and the global environment, and what can be done to reduce them.

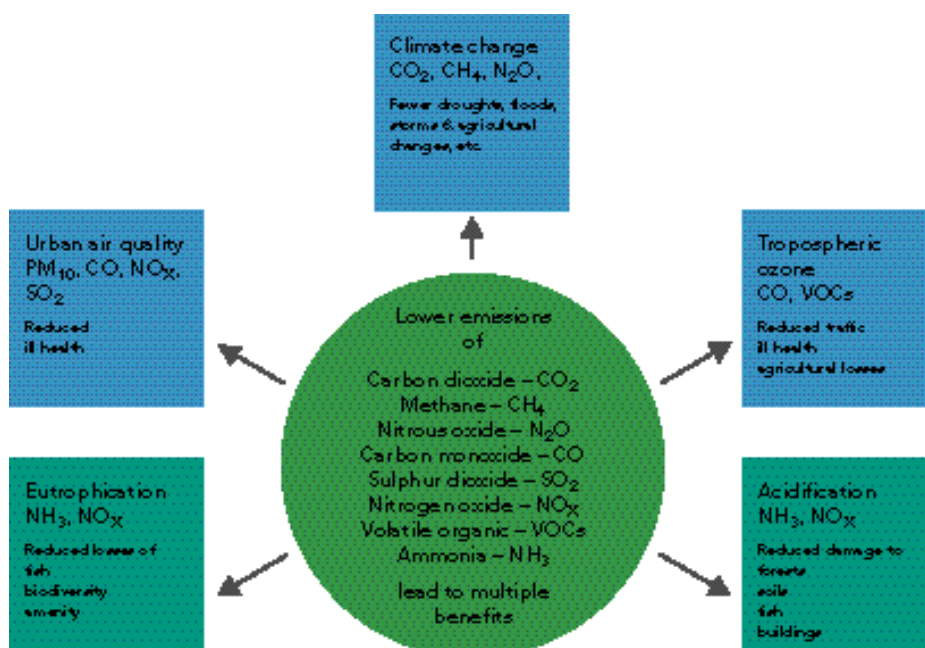
Collaboration between the two institutions on this subject was natural. The pamphlet on air and health is aimed to help promote better understanding of air quality and its impact on human health. It provides a simple, yet comprehensive introduction to the illnesses induced mainly by air pollutants and briefly describes their sources.

This pamphlet is written for the many professionals in local authorities in a wide range of disciplines, who help make our cities, schools and working places safer and more pleasant to be in. The pamphlet is one of a series of Environmental health briefing pamphlets published by WHO, especially for local authorities.



(The multi-pollutant/multi-effect approach, taken from Air Pollution in Europe 1997, page 10)

Figure 4

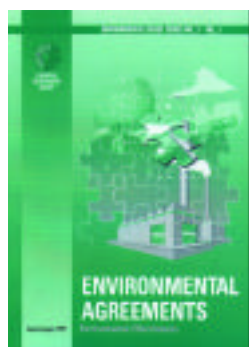




#### **2.1.4 Sustainable Development for Local Authorities**

The guidebook *Sustainable Development for Local Authorities* was available on the EEA web site in November and released in paper version on 15 December 1997. It is the fifth product in the Environmental Issues Series, published by the EEA.

The book is intended as a guide to the newly evolving paradigm of sustainable development in the context of the European Union. It seeks to provide a background to both local and global debates on sustainability, especially for those who are new to this subject area. It is primarily addressed to local authorities and officials who do not necessarily work in environmental departments but want to learn about sustainable development and its relevance to their actual work, and for local authority social partners and interested community groups.



#### **2.1.5 Voluntary Environmental Agreements**

The report *Environmental Agreements, Environmental Effectiveness*, published at the end of June 1997, was first released at a meeting of the European Parliament's Committee on Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection on 21 May. The full report comprises two volumes, with an Executive Summary in English, French and German.

The report focuses on the assessment of the environmental effectiveness of a selec-

tion of environmental agreements, and includes a review of the use of environmental agreements in Europe as well as an overview of the ongoing debate on the subject. One of the main conclusions is the fact that, since the late 1980s, there has been an increased use of Environmental Agreements as policy tools in EU Member States, especially in industry and waste management. This approach to environmental management mirrors current trends of consensus-building and participatory processes in public policy and complements the traditional command-and-control approach. In fact, Environmental Agreements reflect both the development of shared responsibilities and the integration of environmental considerations into company management structures.

Compared to other policy instruments, e.g. taxes, few evaluations of Environmental Agreements have been made, and there is little literature available on their use. The report aims to fill this gap by trying to assess the environmental effectiveness of six different Environmental Agreements.

Generally, it says, Environmental Agreements seem to be of most use as a complement to other policy measures, such as regulations and fiscal instruments, where they can make a valuable contribution, especially in terms of their ability to raise awareness, create consensus and to provide a forum for information-sharing among different parties.

### **2.1.6 Expert's Corner Report on Public Access to Environmental Information**

In order to provide possible inputs to the developing work programme of the EEA and to stimulate debate on issues that may contribute to the identification, framing and evaluation of environmental policy measures, the EEA, from time to time, asks independent experts to summarise their views on topical or up-coming issues, so that the Agency can consider publishing them as an 'Expert's Corner' report.

*Public Access to Environmental Information* is such a report, published in May 1997. The report, written by Ralph Hallo (Stichting Natuur en Milieu, The Netherlands), an expert in the field, with a foreword by Ken Collins, MEP, Chairman of the European Parliament Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection, describes the issues at stake in the current debate about improved access to environmental information & public participation in environmental decision-making in both the EU and the UN ECE-framework.

The report offers an overview of the principal instruments for providing the public with access to environmental information. It covers the 15 EU Member States, as well as the situation in countries of the European Economic Area and Central and Eastern Europe.

### **2.1.7 Derived products from The Dobris Assessment**

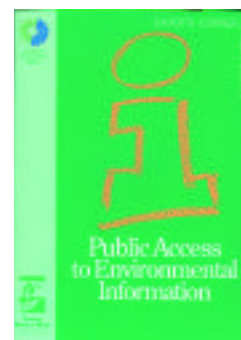
During 1997, three derived products have been prepared from The Dobris Assessment, i.e. a translation of the full report into Spanish, a CD-ROM and an educational package (jointly with WWF).

Geography, English (language), mathematics, science, IT-knowledge, design and technology are some of the many details which, all together, make a brand new educational package, *Exploring Europe's Environment*. The product is targeted at students in secondary level between the ages of 11 and 16. The 130-page book and the included software specially designed for Windows95 were developed in a joint venture between the World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF) and the EEA (printed and published by Earthscan, London).

*Europe's Environment, The Dobris Assessment*, published in 1995, was the inspiration and main information source of this new educational tool.

*Exploring Europe's Environment* is not merely a tool to give students information about some specific items. It is also a collection of up-to-date data and real case studies drawn from the EEA, WWF and European schools involved in environmental projects. Users can view, select and export items into word processing, desktop publishing and spreadsheet packages. Material can be used in a variety of ways: for example, in student workbooks and course work investigations, or by teachers developing their own classroom materials, student resource sheets and overhead projections.

*Exploring Europe's Environment* was an experimental project, but the experiment has been a success. The Agency has received wide acclaim for having developed this educational tool with WWF, inspired by *Europe's Environment, The Dobris Assessment*, and the question is therefore warranted: where to go from here?





## 2.2 Topic Reports

The Agency also published in 1997 a number of reports prepared by ETCs.

These reports cover legal requirements for monitoring and provision of data on the environment; current monitoring in EEA member countries; proposals to improve monitoring; as well as summaries on the state of Europe's environment on selected topics. The following list provides examples of reports on these different aspects:

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### Legal requirements

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- Requirements for Water Monitoring (Topic Report 1/1996; ETC/IW)
- Requirements for European Air Quality Monitoring (Topic Report 17/1996; ETC/AQ)

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### Current monitoring

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- Surface Water Quality Monitoring (Topic Report 2/1996; ETC/IW)
- Air Pollution Monitoring in Europe (Topic Report 26/1996; ETC/AQ)
- Review of Corinair 90 – Proposals for Air Emissions 94 (Topic Report 6/1996; ETC/AE)
- Databases on Species, Habitats and Sites (Topic Report 23/1996; ETC/NC)
- The UN Convention on Biological Diversity (Topic Report 9/1997; ETC/NC)

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### Proposals for monitoring

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- Design of a Freshwater Monitoring Network (Topic Report 10/1996; ETC/IW)

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### State and pressures reports

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- Water Quality of Large Rivers (Topic Report 4/1996; ETC/IW)
- Air Quality in Europe 1993 (Topic Report 25/1996; ETC/AQ)
- CORINAIR 90: Summary Report no.1 (Topic Report 7/1996; ETC/AE)
- Air Pollution by Ozone in the European Union (1995/96) (Topic Report 29/1996; ETC/AQ)

In addition, six of the ETCs – Inland Waters, Marine and Coastal, Air Quality, Nature Conservation, Land Cover and Air Emissions – prepared Annual Summary Reports on their work in 1996, which were published by EEA as Topic Reports in 1997. Annual Summary Reports for 1997 will be published in mid 1998.



## 3. Reference Centre

The Agency shall provide the Community and the Member States with objective, reliable and comparable information (Art.1.2), of direct use (Art.3.2), and its dissemination (Art.2.vi) and public access (Art.6) shall be assured.

The idea at the Agency is to become the European Reference Centre for quality/excellence, and the 'one stop shop' for environmental data and information (*'to know better'*).

The Commission proposal for the review of Regulation 1210/90 reinforces the role of the Agency as a reference centre for information on the environment. The Commission shall use this information in its task of ensuring the implementation of Community legislation on the environment. The amendment also introduces a new task: *'to ensure the broad dissemination of information on the state of the environment to the general public and, to this end, to promote the use of new telematics technology'*. Another new task foreseen for the Agency is to assist the Commission in the diffusion of information on results of relevant environmental research.

### 3.1 EEA's Web Site: from Home Page to Reference Centre

On 15 May 1997, the EEA launched an improved, redesigned web site.

Almost two years after the Agency's first appearance on the World Wide Web, this site has been completely reconstructed and restyled. Due to the growing number of documents which the EEA produces, a new structure for the web site was required to improve the navigation possibilities (a process which will continue during 1998). Its structure now allows for a range of uses, from keeping up-to-date on environmental news and events or finding out more about the role of EEA, to examining a specific report in detail or simply as a convenient link to other environment-related sites.

The number of users and 'hits' (requested or viewed a specific page) grew during 1997. The EEA site has now around 15,000 visitors every month; the number of 'hits' has grown from 140,000 per month in 1996 to around 300,000 at the end of 1997.

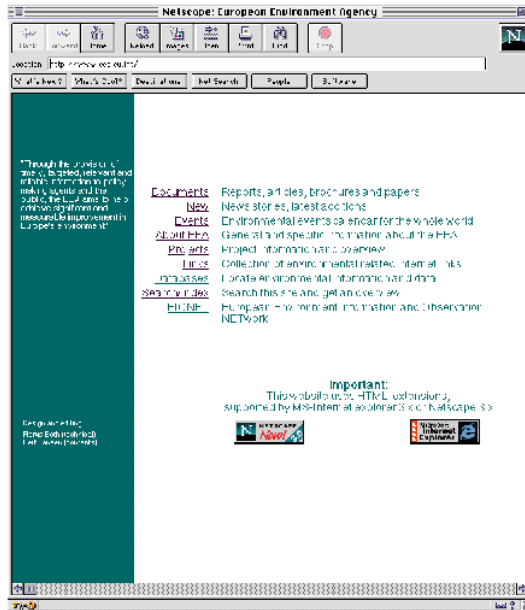
A special section has been created to give access to documents in different European languages, some of which do not exist in printed form.

In mid-1997, the General European Multilingual Environmental Thesaurus (GEMET) was finalised in an English version and in six other languages. The thesaurus provides a classification and description of information, but overall it will be a major tool in the multilingual search for specialised environmental information.

The thesaurus – and other tools developed by the CDS Topic Centre – serve as the building blocks to support the further development of the European Environmental Reference Centre. The objectives of this Centre are to:

- facilitate access to objective, reliable and comparable information on the state and trends of the European environment, including all data and information supplied to or emanating from EIONET; and
- provide a gateway to other sources of environmental information.

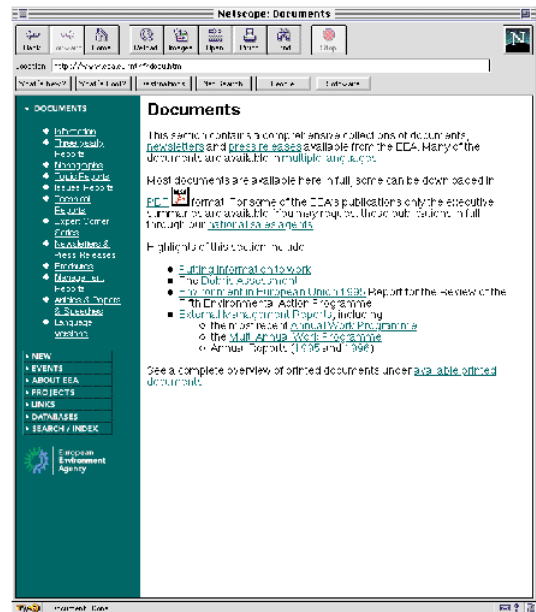
The EEA home page can be found at:  
<http://www.eea.eu.int>



### 3.2 A Global Library of Environmental Information

As described above, the second main objective of the Reference Centre is to ensure, using new telematics technology, the access to relevant environmental information developed by national and international sources outside EIONET. This is quite a challenge: anyone who has been searching the Web actively for specific information knows the frustration when the search results in a sea of largely unstructured and unusable information.

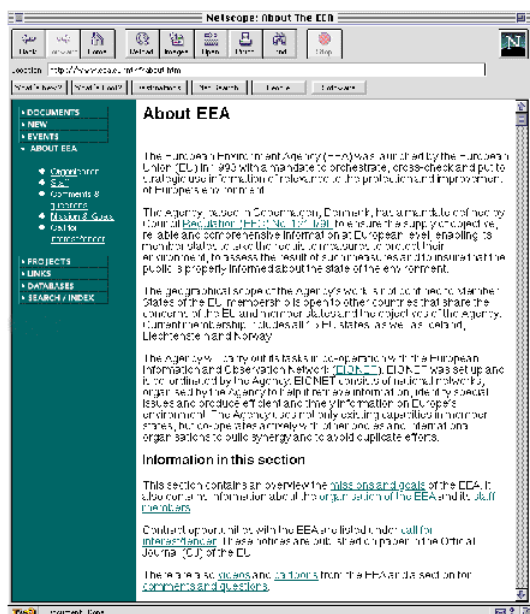
The G7 ENRM (Environment and Natural Resources Management) project was launched to tackle the problem of information overload in general and specifically to ease the location of environmental information. This is one of the pilot projects of the Global Information Society initiative, which was convened in 1995 at the suggestion of US Vice President Al Gore and is organised by the G7 countries (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom, United States) and the European Commission.



On behalf of the Commission, EEA and the Centre of Earth Observation (CEO) took a joint lead within the project to develop a Global Environmental Information Locator Service (GELOS) standard. In an ENRM meeting convened at EEA in April 1997, the ground was laid for interoperable search and retrieval systems by many of the world's main providers of environmental information.

One of the ENRM participants is the Information Office of the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). EEA has initiated co-operation with EPA under the auspices of the New Transatlantic Agenda (NTA), signed on 3 December 1995, in Madrid, between President Bill Clinton (USA) and Felipe Gonzalez (Acting President of the European Union at the time). The main goal of the EEA-EPA co-operation is to develop a common approach in the field of environmental information. In September 1997, the partners initiated a series of regular meetings to share experiences and knowledge on issues relevant to the recovery, protection and maintenance of environmental quality within the European Union and the United States.





### 3.3 Publishing, distribution and communications' ventures

1997 was also the year in which a large number of publishing projects from the initial years of EEA activity came to fruition. This prompted the Agency to foster partnerships and networking in the area of publications, distribution and communications.

Specifically, mechanisms for building on existing capacities of Member States have been fostered through a Publications and Translations Task Force, the Office for Official Publications and bilateral contacts.

Three example areas where partnership and the optimisation of existing capacities were sought and established:

- use of 680 EU Documentation Centres and Deposit Libraries for making EEA reports accessible;
- joint publishing with national partners, with EEA providing translations, while national partners are responsible for publishing and distribution;
- use of an existing EU wide environmental communications network – the Green Spider Network.

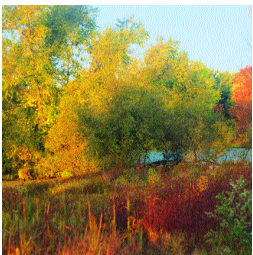
## 4. Support to Policy Action

EEA staff and ETC experts provided support to the European Commission and the Member States in the framing and development of EU policy and legislation, including:

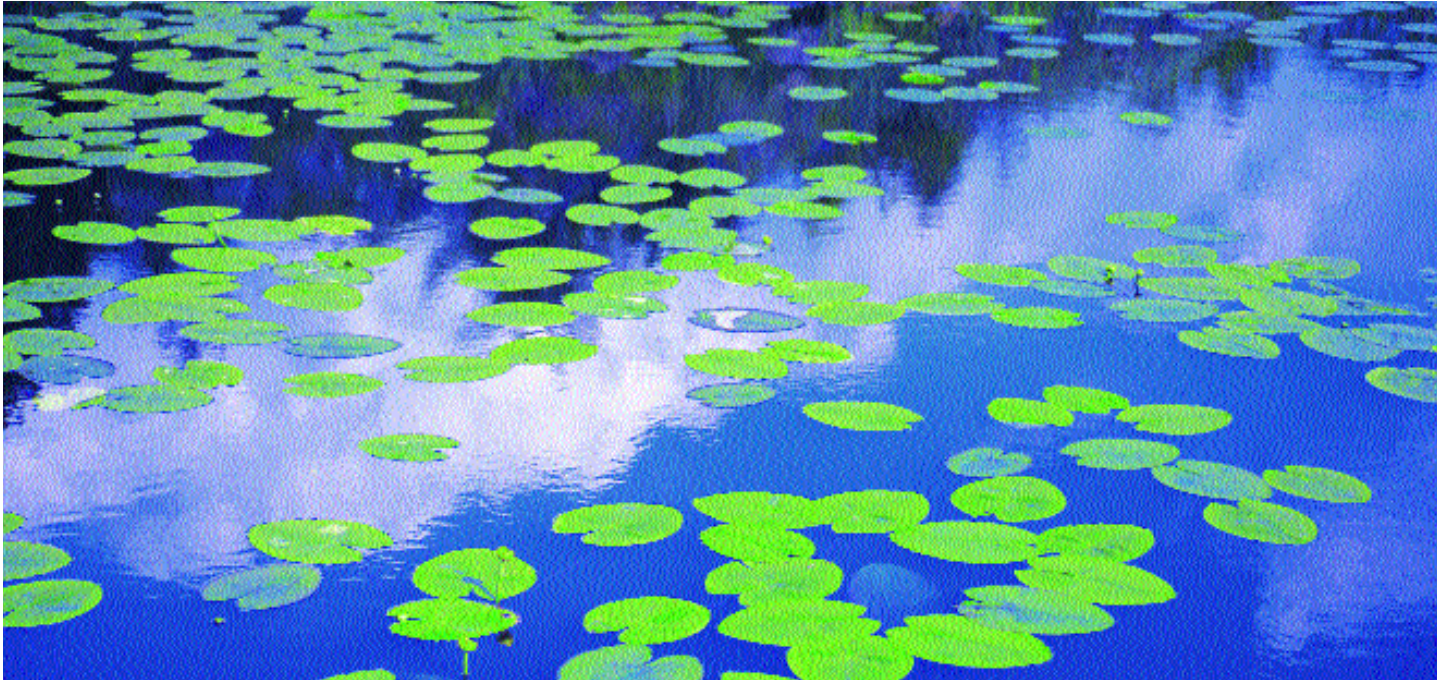
- Water Policy Framework Directive
- Air Quality Framework Directive & daughter Directives
- Auto-Oil II Programme
- CO<sub>2</sub> Monitoring Mechanism
- UNFCCC Second Conference of the Parties, Kyoto
- UN Convention to Combat Desertification, First Conference of the Parties, Rome
- Habitats Directive – Natura 2000
- Waste Directives
- Strategic Environmental Assessment of Transport Trans-European Networks
- IPPC Directive – Polluting Emissions Register
- Standard Reporting Directive

In addition, the second meeting of the Inter-regional Forum was organised by the ETC on Marine and Coastal Environment, in Rome, in November. This Forum brings together the secretariats from Europe's regional sea conventions (OSPAR, HELCOM, MAP and Black Sea) as well as experts from ICES, DGXI and JRC (Ispra) to consider requirements for improving the quality, consistency and regular reporting of information on Europe's regional seas. The second meeting considered assessment tools and research needs to improve monitoring. A paper, which was forwarded by EEA to DGXII (Research), on research priorities which might be funded under the EU's Fifth Framework Research Programme, was prepared.

Ongoing, throughout 1997, was the preparatory work by EEA staff on the EU98 State of the Environment report, which is due to be published at the beginning of 1999.



## 5. Main Events in 1997



### 5.1 MAWP2 Consultation

On 26 November 1997, EEA organised a highly successful roundtable consultation with representatives from various Commission Directorates-General, European environmental NGOs, European businesses and trade-unions, regional and local authorities' organisations as well as members of the EEA Management Board, concerning the priorities to be defined in EEA's second Multiannual Work Programme (MAWP2). The meeting was chaired by Derek Osborn, Chairman of EEA's Management Board. From the meeting emanated the idea to organise an annual consultation meeting with representatives from European environmental NGOs, modeled according to the format of the regular DGXI-NGO consultation meetings.

### 5.2 The Princes' Award 1997

The Princes' Award event was organised for the second time on June 5, 1997 (World Environment Day) in the Town Hall of the City of Copenhagen.

Launched in 1996 under the auspices of its patrons, HRH Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark and HRH Crown Prince Felipe of Spain, the awards aim to raise awareness about environmental problems and to encourage public involvement in improving the environment and furthering the move towards sustainability. The Princes' Award Foundation was set up by the EEA with the support of the City of Copenhagen, R98 (a waste management company) and SAS – Scandinavian Airlines System.

The 1997 Award winners were: in the Category Factual and Documentary – 'Valley of Tears' (Producer Annemiek van der Zanden with Director Joost Seelen, Zuidewind Productions and VARA Television, the Netherlands): a 42-minute documentary about a protester against road building, his father, their personal and political



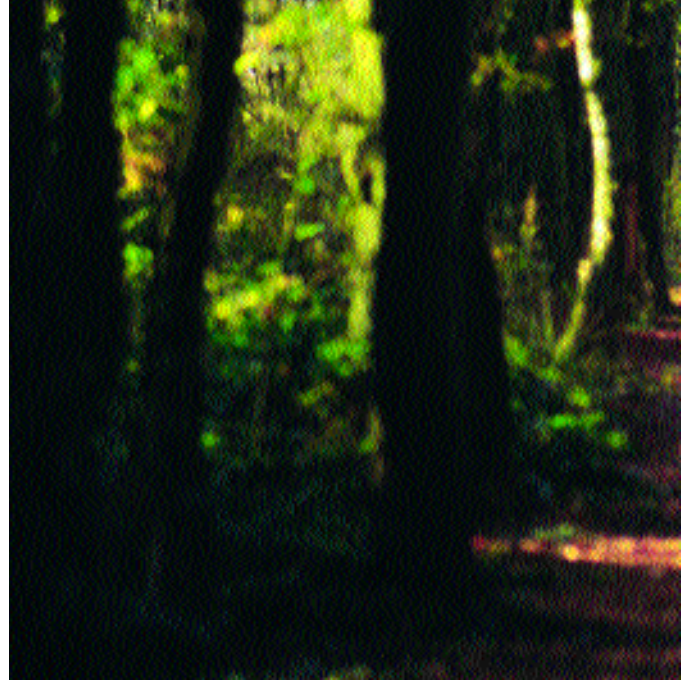
dilemmas, and the high price the protester had to pay. In the Category Fiction and Drama – ‘Nature’s Warrior’ (Stefan Jarl, Sweden): a 96-minute action-packed children’s fantasy feature film about a 12-year-old boy, Kim, who leaves his normal life to become an outlaw and fight for the wilderness he loves. In the Category Multi-Media – ‘Naturenet’ by Matthew Chatfield, UK: a web site produced by two enthusiastic volunteers living in the UK countryside. The web site will enable the public to participate in environmental protection and conservation activities in the UK.

About 100 entries were received for the 1997 Princes’ Award environmental multimedia competition. This represents a significant increase of the number of entries received in 1996 and reflects a growing recognition of The Princes’ Award and its role.

### 5.3 EEA’s Fourth Anniversary

EEA’s Fourth Anniversary, on 30 October 1997, was more than just the official launch of the new European Topic Centre on Waste (see above). The Agency took the opportunity to open its doors to the public.

Together with Ecolink Copenhagen (an environmentally conscious organisation dealing with environmental information), Esrum Mill, Frederiksborg County’s Centre for Nature and Environment, in co-operation with the National Forest Administration and key EEA staff, interested citizens were invited to drop into the Agency courtyard in the heart of Copenhagen and see presentations describing the work of the EEA. They could also obtain information about environmentally conscious companies in the Copenhagen area and have a look at the facilities in the first rolling laboratory and classroom in Denmark. As a bonus, they could taste simple,



healthy and savoury dishes made from ecological ingredients and served free of charge, by arrangement with the ecological café that normally serves students at Esrum Mill.

‘It was a good experience to be able to approach the public in this way,’ said Domingo Jiménez-Beltrán, EEA’s Executive Director. ‘Many students and teachers from universities in the Copenhagen area accepted the invitation and showed up, together with many other people, so we achieved our goal and spread knowledge about our many different activities.’

NGO representatives from many parts of Europe were invited by the EEA for consultations on 31 October 1997, in connection with EEA’s Fourth Anniversary. It was the first time a meeting of this kind took place at the Agency. The purpose of the meeting was to create a closer relationship between EEA and those NGOs which had no previous close contacts with the Agency, to inform these organisations about the Agency’s mandate, structure, work-



gramme, products and services, and to open a dialogue in order to see what the NGO expectations from the Agency are in the field of monitoring, data collection & provision, reporting, assessments and public access to information. On this occasion, the NGOs present were also informed about the Dobris+3 reporting process and some of the most important preliminary conclusions of that report. The meeting was chaired by Derek Osborn, Chairman of EEA's Management Board.

The Green Spider Network (GSN) is the European environmental communication network, consisting of Communications' Officers working in the central administrations of the EU Member States. GSN receives a financial contribution from the European Commission (DGXI). Both DGXI and the EEA are observers in GSN. A strong partnership between NFPs, GSN and the Agency is seen as essential for successful future launches of key Agency products and services at national level throughout the Union.

#### 5.4 EEA – Green Spider Network co-operation

On 10 December 1997, the Core Group of the Green Spider Network (GSN) visited the EEA in Copenhagen to familiarise itself with the Agency, its products and services, and to get acquainted with the process of compiling 'Europe's Environment: The Second Assessment' and with its draft conclusions, and to discuss a draft programme for an EEA/GSN workshop at the Agency, in the Spring of 1998, to prepare for a successful launch of the report at the national level, throughout the EU.

## 6. The Revision of EEA's establishing Regulation 1210/90

In 1997, the European Commission presented a proposal to the Council and the European Parliament for the review of EEA's founding Regulation 1210/90, especially concerning the issues listed in article 20 thereof.

### Article 20

No later than two years after the entry into force of this Regulation, and after having consulted the European Parliament, the Council shall, on the same basis as this Regulation and on the basis of a report from the Commission with appropriate proposals, decide on further tasks for the Agency in particular in the following areas:

- associating in the monitoring of the implementation of Community environmental legislation, in co-operation with the Commission and existing competent bodies in the Member States,
- preparing environmental labels and criteria for the award of such labels to environmentally friendly products, technologies, goods, services and programmes which do not waste natural resources,
- promoting environmentally friendly technologies and processes and their use and transfer within the Community and in Third Countries,
- establishing criteria for assessing the impact on the environment with a view to application and possible revision of Directive 85/337/EEC<sup>1)</sup> as provided for in Article 11 thereof.

<sup>1)</sup> OJ No L 175, 5.7.1985, p.40

The review of the Regulation recognises the significant progress made by the Agency in the years since its foundation, on 30 October 1993, when the Regulation came into force with the decision to locate the Agency in Copenhagen, Denmark. But the review also acknowledges that EEA and EIONET are indeed only at the beginning of the work of mobilising the national networks in order to be able to furnish information on the various environmental areas. Major new messages and new tasks in the Commission's proposal directly influencing the Agency's work programme are:

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### Networking

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- to strengthen participation of member countries and the EIONET
- to recognise directly co-operation with institutions in third countries necessary for the Agency's work

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### Monitoring to reporting

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- to give EEA a role in exchange of information and development of Environmental Impact Assessment
- to give EEA a role in the monitoring of environmental measures
- that EEA should publish an annual environmental indicator report
- that the frequency of the major reports on state and trends in Europe's environment will be once every 5 years, instead of once every 3 years

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### Reference Centre

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- that EEA's role as European Centre for environmental information is recognised directly – to establish a repository of information on the environment
- that EEA is given a role in diffusion of information on environmental research
- that the use of new telematics technology be used and promoted in the broad dissemination of Agency products and services.

A final decision by the EU Institutions on a revised EEA Regulation is expected during 1998.

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# Annex 1 · EEA Staff list

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## Annex 2 · Finances

### 1. Resources

The budget for 1997, as approved by the Management Board, was 16,907,000 ECU, consisting of 16,500,000 ECU (EU contribution), 297,000 ECU (contribution from the EFTA countries – Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein), and 110,000 ECU other income.

### 2. EEA outturn 1996, budget 1997, budget 1998 in KECU

		1996 Outturn	1997 Budget	1998 Budget
<b>Title 1</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>4,924</b>	<b>5,396</b>	<b>6,470</b>
<b>Title 2</b>	<b>Administrative expenditure</b>	<b>2,334</b>	<b>2,715</b>	<b>2,830</b>
<b>Title 3</b>	<b>Operational expenditure</b>	<b>6,954</b>	<b>8,796</b>	<b>7,511</b>
Article 300	Dissemination and pooling of information and know how	255	212	100
Article 301	Reports on the state of the environment	738	598	1,030
Article 302	Guidelines for reports, assessments, data processing of special interest at European level	265	349	100
Article 303	Media oriented monitoring; assessment of the state and trends of the environment	2,330	2,744	2,460
Article 304	Source oriented monitoring	400	840	950
Article 305	Integrated environmental assessment – problems, areas and sectors	65	226	170
Article 306	Scenarios for environmental improvement	285	654	100
Article 307	New instruments and challenges for environment policy – development and implementation	21	82	100
Article 308	Capacity building in the functions of EEA and EIONET	1,764	2,138	1,540
Article 309	Exchange and dissemination of information – Publications, seminars, conferences and education	831	953	961
	<b>Grand total</b>	<b>14,212</b>	<b>16,907</b>	<b>16,811</b>

## Annex 3 · The EEA Work Programmes

### Overview by Programmes and Projects – Projects in the Multi-Annual Work Programme 1994-1999 and their status in the 1997 Annual Work Programme

The Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAWP) consists of 10 Programme Areas – implemented in the three Programme Groups in the EEA, each responsible for two-six programme areas, with project activities often involving other Programme Groups:

- Analysis and Integrated Assessment:  
Programme areas 1-2-3-6-7-8.
- Monitoring and Databases.  
Programme areas 4-5
- Operational base and Infrastructure,  
Publications and Information.  
Programme areas 9-10.

The AWP 1997 was adopted by the Management Board 14 December 1996 following receipt of the opinions of the Scientific Committee and the European Commission. The AWP 1997 presented a total of 60 projects in the 10 programme areas.

The majority of the projects were ongoing from 1995 and 1996.

- 52 of the 57 1996 projects were continuing in 1997
- 4 of the 57 were finalised in 1996; projects (2)PR1, (3)G1, (5)SS1 and SWS1. (5)SW2 - was not started in 1996 and was not active in 1997, awaiting results from (2)SW1
- 7 projects were introduced in 1997: projects (1)D3, (5)SWS2, (6)IAP2, IAS1, (8) IC5, (10)ED2, ED3.

### Total list of projects in the Multiannual Work Programme and overview of projects active in the 1997 Annual Work programme, and in former years

		1994 -1995	1996	1997
<b>1.</b>	<b>Dissemination and pooling of existing information and know-how</b>			
D1	Strategy for dissemination and pooling of information and know-how	■	■	■
D2	Handbooks on existing experiences	■	■	■
D3*	Pool of information on sustainable development	□	□	■
D4	Pool of experiences on environmental management tools	■	■	■
D5	Information dissemination on environment-employment	■	■	■
<b>2.</b>	<b>Periodical reports on the state of the environment</b>			
PR1	Publication of Dobris – Europe's Environment	■	■	□
PR2	Development of products of Europe's Environment	■	■	■
PR3	Development of monographs on Europe's Environment	■	■	■
PR4	Triennial report on the state of the environment	■	■	■
PR5	Reports in agreement with other institutions	■	■	■
<b>3.</b>	<b>Guidelines for reports/ assessments/data processing of special interest at european level</b>			
G1	Analysis of comparability and reliability, needs for guidelines and standards	■	■	■
G2	Guidelines for reports on the state of the environment	■	■	■
G3	Guidelines for drafting sustainable development reports	■	■	■
G4	Guidelines for evaluating costs of environmental damage and policy responses	■	■	■
G5*	Guidelines for developing indicators	□	■	■
G6*	Guidelines for evaluating socio-economic impacts of environmental/resource degradation	□	□	□
G7*	Guidelines for developing programmes and projects for environmental infrastructure – technical and financial aspects (EIB)	□	□	□

■ Active project

■ Active, but merged with other project(s) in 1996



<b>4. Media oriented monitoring. assessment of the state and trends of the environment. Water – Air – Nature – Soil</b>		<b>1994 -1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>
MW1	Water resources – general approach to assessment	■	□	□
MW2	Inventory of water resources monitoring networks	■	□	□
MW3	Design of a freshwater water monitoring network	■	■	■
MW4	European freshwater monitoring network and databases	□	■	■
MW5	Water resources evaluation	□	■	■
MW6	Information on coastal and marine water quality	■	■	■
MW7	Coastal pressure and state indicators (former IAR2)	■	■	■
MA1	Air Quality – general approach to assessment	■	□	□
MA2	European air quality monitoring network and databases – establishment and maintenance	■	■	■
MA3	Harmonisation in the use of models for ambient air quality and pollution dispersion/transport	■	■	■
MA4	Ambient noise levels and exposure	■	■	■
MN1	Nature protection – general approach to assessment	■	□	□
MN2	State and trends of biodiversity in Europe	■	■	■
MN3	Support to NATURA 2000 network	■	■	■
MN4	Land cover – ecological monitoring	■	■	■
MN5	Forest conditions – monitoring network and databases	■	■	■
MS1	Soil quality and degradation – general approach	■	□	□
MS2	Soil characteristics, monitoring and mapping	□	■	■
MS3	Methodologies for inventories of contaminated sites	■	■	■
<b>5. Source oriented monitoring. Assessment of pressures</b>				
SG1	Common tools for emissions and waste integrated inventories	■	■	■
SA1	Air emissions – general approach and assessment	■	□	□
SA2	Air emissions inventories '90 and '94	■	■	■
SW1	Emissions to water – general approach and assessment	■	■	■
SW2	Inventories on emissions to water	□	■	□
SS1	Emissions to land and soil – general approach and assessment	■	■	□
SS2	Inventories on emissions to land and soil	□	□	□
SWS1	Waste generation and flows – general approach and assessment	■	■	□
SWS2	Waste – pilot projects for further assessments of inventories and analysis of main flows	□	□	■
SWS3	Inventories and analysis on waste movements and transfers	□	□	□
<b>6. Integrated environmental assessment – Problems, Areas and Sectors</b>				
IAG1*	The European environmental agenda: Highlights – basis for identification and ranking of priorities	■	■	■
IAG2	Strategy for integrated environmental assessment (merged with IAG1 in 1996)	■	■	■
IAP1	Identification of need and feasibility of complementary analyses for specific problems	□	■	■
IAP2	Chemical pathways – references & pilot analysis	□	□	■
IAP3	Natural cycles perturbances – references & pilot analysis	□	□	□
IAP4	Threats to human health (merged with PR3 in 1996)	■	■	■
IAR1	Integrated assessment – urban areas (merged with PR3 in 1996)	■	■	■
IAR2	Integrated assessment – coastal areas (in 1996AWP as MW7)	■	■	□
IAR3	Integrated assessment – rural and mountain areas (merged with PR3 in 1996)	□	■	□
IAS1	Integrated assessment – economic sectors (previously merged with IAP1)	■	■	■

<b>7. Scenarios and prospective analyses for environmental improvement</b>				
SC1	Development of environmental scenarios & tools for prediction & analysis of trends	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SC2	Analyses of cases – air emission reduction scenarios	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SC3	Analyses of cases – life cycle evaluations of specific products and production processes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>8. Instruments and challenges for environmental policy development and implementation</b>		<b>1994 -1995</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>
IC1	Policy instruments – analysis of applications and trends	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
IC2*	The precautionary principle – application	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IC3*	Environmental liability – state and prospects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IC4*	'No regret strategies' – state and prospects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IC5*	International conventions – state and prospects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
IC6*	Sustainable development in main economic sectors – state and trends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IC7*	Application of economic instruments – state and prospects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IC8*	Environment and health – facts and questions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IC9*	Technology prospects – technology and environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IC10*	Environmentally best available technologies – state and prospects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C11*	Environment and employment – state and prospects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IC12*	Environmental research and development – state and prospects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IC13*	Environment and trade	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>9. Capacity building</b>				
CB1	EEA information technology infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB2	EEA wide area network	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB3	Data and information interchange	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB4	Consistency of terminology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB5	Development of multilingual thesaurus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB6	Catalogues of data sources – EEA and EIONET	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB7	Development of data models	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB8	Development of software for EEA-CDS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB9	Interconnecting CDSs of EEA and EIONET (merged with CB8)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB10	Development of library and reference data bases	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB11	Support to EU Reporting Directive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB12	Acquisition of basic data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB13	Work-share agreements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB14	Pre-press and publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB15	Programming and quality control of the EEA products	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB16	Reports and research for the Scientific Committee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CB17	Reports and projects not foreseen – requested by EU Institutions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>10. Exchange and dissemination of information</b>				
ED1	Publications, bulletins, catalogues, CD-ROMs (Datasets, multimedia), report series, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ED2	Seminars, conferences and public information	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ED3	Fellowships at the EEA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ED4	Information exchange system with M.S./ EU / NGOs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ED5	Promotion of external participation – marketing of the EEA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**NOTE :** \* not adopted in the MAWP by Management Board on 26-27 July 1994 (to be considered in next review).  
A very few has been taken on board by the Management Board on an individual basis, to fulfil specific needs.

# Annex 4 · EEA Management Board

Member as per 12 May 1998	Alternate
<b>Austria</b>	
<p>Heinz Schreiber (Vice-Chairman)            Director General            Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Jugend und Familie            Stubenbastei 5            A-1010 Wien            Tel.: +43 1 515 220 &amp; 1 51 522 1000            Fax: +43 1 515 221 003            E-mail: heinz.schreiber@bmu.gv.at</p>	
<b>Belgium</b>	
<p>Karel De Brabander            Vlaamse Milieumaatschappij (VMM)            Directeur Internationale Relaties            A van de Maelestraat 96            B-9320 Erembodegem            Tel.: + 32 53 72 65 70            Fax: + 32 53 72 66 79            E-mail: k.debrabander@vmm.be</p>	<p>Theo De Ryck            Inspector General            Ministère de la Santé Publique et de l'Environnement            Service Affaires Environnementales            Cité Administrative de l'Etat-Quartier Vésale            Boulevard Pachéco 19, bte 7, bureau n° V434            B-1010 Brussels            Tel.: +32 2 210 42 00            Fax: +32 2 210 48 52</p>
<b>Denmark</b>	
<p>Erik Lindegaard            Director General            Danish Environment Protection Agency            Strandgade 29            DK- 1401 Copenhagen K            Tel.: +45 32 66 01 06            Fax: +45 32 66 01 55            E-mail: eli@mst.dk</p>	<p>Birgit Munck-Kampmann            Danish Environment Protection Agency            Strandgade 29            DK- 1401 Copenhagen K            Tel.: +45 32 66 01 00            Fax: +45 32 66 04 79 &amp; +45 32 96 05 90</p>
<b>Finland</b>	
<p>Markku Nurmi (Vice-Chairman)            Director General            Ministry of the Environment            Ratakatu 3            PO Box 399            FIN-00121 Helsinki            Tel.: +358 9 1991 9440            Fax: +358 9 1991 9399            E-mail: Markku.Nurmi@vyh.fi</p>	<p>Heikki Sisula            Counsellor of the Environment            Ministry of the Environment            Ratakatu 3            PO Box 399            FIN-00121 Helsinki            Tel.: +358 9 1991 9490            Fax: +358 9 1991 9717            E-mail: Heikki.Sisula@vyh.fi</p>
<b>France</b>	
<p>Jean-Luc Laurent            Directeur Général de l'Administration et du Développement            Ministère de l'Aménagement du Territoire et de l'Environnement            20, avenue de Ségur            F-75302 Paris 07 SP            Tel.: +33 1 42 19 16 11            Fax: +33 1 42 19 18 32</p>	<p>Denis Vène            Chef du service des Affaires internationales            Ministère de l'Aménagement du Territoire et de l'Environnement            20, avenue de Ségur            F-75302 Paris 07 SP            Tel.: +33 1 42 19 17 20            Fax: +33 1 42 19 17 72            E-mail: denis.vene@environnement.gouv.fr</p>

Member as per 12 May 1998	Alternate
<b>Germany</b>	
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<b>Greece</b>	
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Member as per 12 May 1998	Alternate
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<b>Norway</b>	
<p>Harald Rensvik            Secretary General            Ministry of Environment            Myntgata 2            PO Box 8013 Dep            N-0030 Oslo            Tel.: +47 22 24 57 08            Fax: +47 22 24 95 60            E-mail: HAR@md.dep.no</p>	<p>Berit Kvæven            Head of Division            Norwegian Pollution Control Authority (SFT)            Environmental Monitoring and Data Division            PO Box 8100 Dep            N-0032 Oslo            Tel.: +47 22 57 34 00            Fax: +47 22 67 67 06            E-mail: berit.kvaven@sftospost.md.dep.telemax.no</p>
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Member as per 12 May 1998	Alternate
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<b>Sweden</b>	<b>Sweden</b>
<p>Jon Kahn            Director and Head of the Division for Instruments and Analysis            Tegelbacken 2            S-10333 Stockholm            Tel.: +46 8 405 2128            Fax: +46 8 140 987            E-mail: jon.kahn@environment.ministry.se</p>	<p>Eva Thörnölöf            Director and Head of the Division for Environmental Analysis,            Environmental Protection Agency            S-106 48 Stockholm            Tel.: +46 8 698 12 80            Fax: +46 8 698 15 84/85            E-mail: eva.thornelof@environ.se</p>
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<b>Designated by the European Parliament</b>	
<p><b>representatives:</b>            Michael Scoullos            Professor            University of Athens            Elliniki Etairia            28 Tripodon Street            GR-10558 Plaka, Athens            Greece            Tel.: +30 1 322 5245 &amp; 322 6693            Fax: +30 1 322 5240            E-mail: mio-ee-env@ath.forthnet.gr</p>	<p><b>alternate representatives:</b>            Pier Paolo Binazzi*            Geoplan Studio Associato            Via E Fermi 100            I-51100 Pistoia            Italia            Tel.: +39 573 53 25 03            Fax: +39 573 53 25 04</p>
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Member as per 12 May 1998	Alternate
<b>EEA Scientific Committee (Chairman)</b>	
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\* Alternate to the MB members designated by the EP

# Annex 5 · EEA Scientific Committee

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## List of Members as per 31 December 1997

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### 1997 Resignations

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March 1997: Prof. Dr. Georges Fülgraff,  
Prof. Louise Fresco

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### Designations

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Prof. Knut Halvor Alfsen, senior alternate  
member, was nominated as member by  
the Management Board on 6 June 1997

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### Nomination

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Prof. Bernd Bilitewski was nominated as  
an alternate member by the Management  
Board on 6 June 1997

\* Alternate

## Annex 6 · EIONET – European Topic Centres

The leading organisation (in bold) and the partner organisations of the nine European Topic Centres (ETCs) are as follows:

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### European Topic Centre on AIR EMISSIONS (ETC/AEM)

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<b>UBA</b>	<b>Umweltbundesamt – Berlin,</b> Dietmar Koch, Umweltbundesamt, P.O.Box 330022, Bismarckplatz 1, D-14191 Berlin. Tel.: +49 30 89 03 2392. Fax: +49 30 89 03 2178. E-mail: dietmar.koch@ uba.d	<b>Germany</b>
UBA	Umweltbundesamt – Vienna,	Austria
CITEPA	Centre Interprofessionel Technique de la Pollution Atmosphérique – Paris,	France
PIC	Poseidon S.A. Industrial Consultants – Thessaloniki	Greece
ENERO	European Network of Environmental Research Organisations including: RISØ National Laboratory – Roskilde, ENEA – Rome, TNO – Apeldoorn, AEA Technology plc – Culham,	Denmark Italy The Netherlands United Kingdom

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### European Topic Centre on AIR QUALITY (ETC/AQ)

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<b>RIVM</b>	<b>Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieuhygiene – Bilthoven</b> Roel van Aalst, RIVM, P.O.Box 1, NL-3720 BA Bilthoven. Tel.: +31 30 274 2025. Fax: +31 30 228 7531. E-mail: roel.van.aalst@rivm.nl	<b>The Netherlands</b>
NOA	National Observatory of Athens – Athens,	Greece
DNMI	Norwegian Meteorological Institute – Oslo,	Norway
NILU	Norwegian Institute for Air Research – Kjeller,	Norway

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### European Topic Centre on Catalogue of Data Sources (ETC/CDS)

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<b>NUM</b>	<b>Niedersächsisches Umweltministerium, Hannover,</b> Stefan Jensen, Niedersächsisches Umweltministerium, Archivstrasse 2, D-30 169 Hannover. Tel.: +49 511 120 3452. Fax: +49 511 120 3697. E-mail: etc/cds@mu.niedersachsen.de	<b>Germany</b>
ISEP (Co-leader)	International Society for Environmental Protection – Vienna	Austria
MUVIS	MUVIS Umweltsysteme – Vienna,	Austria
UDK-DC	Development Centre of UmweltDatenKatalog – Hannover,	Germany
UBA	Umweltbundesamt – Berlin,	Germany
LIPPKE& WAGNER	Dr. Lippke und Dr. Wagner GmbH – Berlin,	Germany
CNR	Centre Nationale de Recherche – Rome	Italy
SABINI	Sabini Library Automation – Madrid,	Spain
TNO	TNO Beleidstudies en Advies – JA Delft	The Netherlands

In addition an Advisory Committee comprised of members from Austria, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland is established.

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### European Topic Centre on INLAND WATERS (ETC/IW)

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<b>WRc plc</b>	<b>Water Research Centre, Medmenham,</b> Tim Lack, WRc plc, Henley Road, Medmenham, UK-SL7 2HD Bucks. Tel.: +44 1491 571531. Fax: +44 1491 579094. E-mail: iw@wrcplc.co.uk	<b>United Kingdom</b>
AWW	Austrian Working Group on Water c/o Umweltbundesamt, Vienna,	Austria
VMM	Vlaamse Milieumaatschappij, Erembodegem,	Belgium
NERI	National Environmental Research Institute, Silkeborg,	Denmark
IOWater	International Office for Water, Paris,	France
NIVA	Norwegian Institute for Water Research, Oslo,	Norway
INAG	Instituto da Agua, Lisbon,	Portugal
CEDEX	Centro de Estudios y Experimentación de Obras Públicas, Madrid,	Spain

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**European Topic Centre on LAND COVER (ETC/LC)**


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<b>MDC</b>	<b>Environmental Satellite Data Centre – Kiruna,</b> Rolf Bergström, MDC Environmental Satellite Data Centre, P.O.Box 806, S-981 28 Kiruna. Tel.: +46 980 671 74. Fax: +46 980 671 80. E-mail: rlb@ mdc.kiruna.se	<b>Sweden</b>
GEOSPACE	Geospace Beckel Satellitenbilddaten – Salzburg,	Austria
GIM	Geographic Information Management – Heverle,	Belgium
DIPS	Danish Institute of Plant and Soil Science – Tjele,	Denmark
FEI	Finnish Environment Institute – Helsinki,	Finland
IFEN	Institut Francais de l'Environnement – Orleans,	France
StBA	Statistisches Bundesamt – Wiesbaden,	Germany
HEMCO	Hellenic Mapping & Cadastral Organisation – Athens,	Greece
NRDC	Natural Resources Development Centre – Dublin,	Ireland
CI	Centro Interregionale – Rome,	Italy
G2ERE	G2ERE c/o Centre de Recherche Publique Henri Tudor – Steinsel,	Luxembourg
CNIG (co-leader)	Centro Nacional de Informação Geográfica – Lisbon,	Portugal
IGN	Instituto Geográfico Nacional – Madrid,	Spain
SC-DLO	Winand Staring Centre for Integrated Land, Soil & Water Research-Wageningen	The Netherlands
ITE	Institute for Terrestrial Ecology – Monks Wood,	United Kingdom
JRC/SAI	European Commission's Joint Research Centre, Space Applications Institute – Ispra,	Italy

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**European Topic Centre on MARINE AND COASTAL ENVIRONMENT (ETC/MC)**


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<b>ENEA CRAM</b>	<b>Centro Ricerche Ambiente Marino, La Spezia,</b> Marcello Peronaci, Marine Environmental Research Centre (CRAM), P.O.Box 316, I-19100 La Spezia. Tel.: +39 187 536 246. Fax: +39 187 536 273. E-mail: peronaci@ casacia.enea.it	<b>Italy</b>
IFREMER	Institut Français pour l'Exploitation de la Mer – Plouzane,	France
NCMR	National Centre for Marine Research – Athens,	Greece
NIVA	Norwegian Institute for Water Research – Oslo,	Norway
LNEC	Laboratorio Nacional de Engenharia Civil – Lisbon,	Portugal
RIKZ	Rijkswaterstaat – Rijksinstituut voor Kust en Zee – Den Haag,	The Netherlands

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**European Topic Centre on NATURE CONSERVATION (ETC/NC)**


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<b>MNHN</b>	<b>Musée National D'Histoire Naturelle, Paris,</b> Juan Manuel de Benito, National Museum of Natural History, 57, rue Cuvier, F-75231 Paris Cedex 05. Tel.: +33 1 4079 3870. Fax: +33 1 4079 3867. E-mail: cteinf@mnhn.fr	<b>France</b>
NERI	National Environmental Research Institute – Rønde,	Denmark
FEI	Finnish Environment Institute – Helsinki,	Finland
BfN	Bundesamt für Naturschutz – Bonn,	Germany
EKBY	Greek Biotope Wetland Centre – Thermi,	Greece
ANPA	Agenzia Nazionale per l'Ambiente – Rome,	Italy
NINA	Norwegian Institute for Nature Research – Trondheim,	Norway
ISEGI	Higher Institute for Statistics and Information Management – Lisbon	Portugal
ICN	Instituto de Conservacao de Natureza – Lisbon,	Portugal
MNCN	Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales – Madrid,	Spain
DG-CONA	Direccion General de Conservacion de la Naturaleza – Madrid,	Spain
SEPA	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency – Stockholm,	Sweden
ITE	Institute of Terrestrial Ecology – Monks Wood,	United Kingdom
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough,	United Kingdom
ECNC	European Centre for Nature Conservation* – Tilburg,	The Netherlands

\* with affiliations to a.o WCMC, Cambridge, United Kingdom



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**European Topic Centre on SOIL (ETC/S)**


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<b>CIDE (CISC)</b>	<b>Centro de Investigaciones Sobre Desertification, Valencia</b> Diego de la Rosa, Head, Land Evaluation Unit, Instituto de Recursos Naturales y Agrobiología, CSIC, Avda. Reina Mercedes, 10, P.O.Box 1052, E-41080 Seville. Tel.: +34 5 462 4711. Fax: +34 5 462 4002. E-mail: diego@irnase.csic.es	<b>Spain</b>
<b>UBA</b>	<b>Umweltbundesamt – Vienna,</b>	<b>Austria</b>
<b>GEUS</b>	<b>Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland – Copenhagen</b>	<b>Denmark</b>
<b>INRA</b>	<b>Institute National de la Recherche Agronomique – Olivet</b>	<b>France</b>
<b>BGR</b>	<b>Bundesanstalt für Geowissenschaften and Rohstoffe – Hannover</b>	<b>Germany</b>
<b>ISM</b>	<b>Institute of Soil Mapping and Classification, National Agricultural Research Foundation – Athens</b>	<b>Greece</b>
<b>TEAGASC</b>	<b>Agriculture and Food Development Authority, Johnstown Castle Research Centre – Wexford</b>	<b>Ireland</b>
<b>SSLRC</b>	<b>Soil Survey and Land Research Centre, Cranfield University – Bedford</b>	<b>United Kingdom</b>
<b>JRC/EI</b>	<b>European Commission's Joint Research Centre, Environment Institute</b>	<b>Italy</b>

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**European Topic Centre on Waste (ETC/W)**


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**Denmark**

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**European Environment Information and Observation Network (EIONET)**


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Distribution of EIONET-Elements per country (15 October 1996)

<b>Country</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>NFPs</b>	of which act also as NRC	<b>MCEs</b>	of which are NRC	of which are NRC ETC-Partners	<b>ETC Partners</b>	<b>ETCs</b>
Austria	19	1		12	4	2	6	
Belgium	38	1	x	35	3		2	
Denmark	77	1		71	8		5	
Finland	18	1	x	15	7	2	2	
France	45	1		38	9	1	5	1
Germany	36	1		27	6	1		2
Greece	28	1		21	4	3	6	
Iceland	12	1		11	6			
Ireland	44	1		41	9		2	
Italy	95	1		89	10		4	1
Liechtenstein	3	1	x	2	2			
Luxembourg	19	1		17	4		1	
Norway	23	1		17	9	2	5	
Portugal	21	1		15	4	4	5	
Spain	39	1		32	7	2	5	1
Sweden	22	1	x	19	4	1	1	1
The Netherlands	25	1		18	8	2	5	1
United Kingdom	39	1		32	5	2	5	1
					109	22		
<b>EIONET total:</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>18</b>		<b>512</b>	<b>NRCs:</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>8</b>

remarks: (1) some NRCs cover more than 1 topic, some topics are covered by more than 1 NRC  
(2) ETC/LC and ETC/S have also JRC as ETC partner

# Annex 7 · EIONET – National Focal Points

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# Annex 8 · EEA Products & Services in 1997

## Reports:

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### Environmental Issues-series

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*Environmental Agreements: Environmental Effectiveness*  
**Environmental Issues Series No. 3, volume 1**  
 Published by the European Environment Agency,  
 Copenhagen, 1997  
 ISBN: 92-9167-052-9  
 Catalogue Number: GH-04-97-662-EN-C  
 Price: ECU 15  
 (Summary available free of charge in English, French and German)  
 This publication is also available at the EEA web site  
 (address: <http://www.eea.eu.int>)

*Environmental Agreements: Environmental Effectiveness*  
 – Case Studies  
**Environmental Issues Series No. 3, volume 2**  
 Published by the European Environment Agency,  
 Copenhagen, 1997  
 ISBN: 92-9167-005-3  
 Catalogue Number: GH-05-97-204-EN-C

*Towards Sustainable Development for Local Authorities*  
 – Approaches, Experiences and Sources  
**Environmental Issues Series No. 5**  
 Published by the European Environment Agency,  
 Copenhagen, 1997  
 ISBN: 92-9167-073-1  
 Catalogue Number: GH-07-97-191-EN-C  
 Price: ECU 20

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### Environmental Monographs-series

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*Air Pollution In Europe 1997*  
**EEA Environmental Monograph No. 4**  
 Editors: André Jol and Gabriel Kielland (EEA)  
 Prepared by the European Topic Centre on Air Quality  
 and the European Topic Centre on Air Emissions.  
 Published by the European Environment Agency,  
 Copenhagen, 1997  
 ISBN: 92-9167-059-6  
 Catalogue Number: GH-05-97-979-EN-C  
 Price: ECU 20  
 (Summary available free of charge in all official EU languages,  
 Norwegian and Icelandic)  
 This publication is also available at the EEA web site  
 (address: <http://www.eea.eu.int>)

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### New Year Message-series

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*Water Stress in Europe – can the challenge be met?*  
**New Year Message 1997**  
 Prepared jointly by the European Environment Agency (EEA)  
 and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)  
 Published by EEA and UNEP, 1997  
 ISBN 92-9167-025-1  
 This publication is also available at the EEA web site  
 (address: <http://www.eea.eu.int>)

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### Topic Reports Series

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*Requirements for water monitoring*  
**Topic report no.1/1996 (IW)**  
 ISBN: 92-9167-003-4  
 Catalogue Number: GH-98-96-695-EN-C

*Surface water quality monitoring*  
**Topic report no. 2/1996 (IW)**  
 ISBN: 92-9167-001-4  
 Catalogue Number: GH-98-96-379-EN-C

*Water quality of large rivers*  
**(Topic report no. 4/1996 (IW))**  
 ISBN: 92-9167-004-9  
 Catalogue Number: GH-98-96-704-EN-C

*Review of CORINAIR90 and proposals for Air Emissions 1994*  
**Topic report no. 6/1996 (AE)**  
 ISBN: 92-9167-022-7  
 Catalogue Number: GH-02-96-399-EN-C

*CORINAIR 1990 Summary Report 1*  
**Topic Report no. 7/1996 (AE)**  
 ISBN: 92-9167-031-6  
 Catalogue Number: GH-02-96-505-EN-C

*European Freshwater Monitoring Network Design*  
**Topic Report no. 10/1996 (IW)**  
 ISBN: 92-9167-023-5  
 Catalogue Number: GH-01-96-769-EN-C

*Requirements on European Air Quality Monitoring Information*  
**Topic Report no. 17/1996 (AQ)**  
 ISBN: 92-9167-050-2  
 Catalogue Number: GH-02-96-876-EN-C

*Databases on Species, Habitats and Sites : Survey and Analysis*  
 1995-96  
**Topic report no. 23/1996 (NC)**  
 ISBN: 92-9167-034-0  
 Catalogue Number: GH-03-97-361-EN-C

*Air Quality in Europe, 1993 – A Pilot Report*  
**Topic Report no. 25/1996 (AQ)**  
 ISBN: 92-9167-057-X  
 Catalogue Number: GH-03-97-749-EN-C

*Air Pollution Monitoring in Europe – Problems and Trends*  
**Topic Report no. 26/1996 (AQ)**  
 ISBN: 92-9167-058-8  
 Catalogue Number: GH-03-97-757-EN-C

*The UN Convention on Biological Diversity, Follow-up in Activities in*  
*EEA Member Countries*  
**Topic report no. 9/1997 (NC)**  
 ISBN: 92-9167-062-6  
 Catalogue Number: GH-07-97-305-EN-C

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**Annual Reports**

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*EEA Annual Report 1996*

Published by the European Environment Agency,

Copenhagen, 1997

ISBN: 92-9167-041-3

Catalogue Number: GH-03-97-806-EN-C

This publication is also available at the EEA web site

(address: <http://www.eea.eu.int>)

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**Expert's Corner-series**

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*Public Access to Environmental Information*

Expert's Corner; number 1997/1.

Prepared by Stichting Natuur en Milieu, The Netherlands

Published by the European Environment Agency,

Copenhagen, 1997

ISBN: 92-9167-020-0

Catalogue Number: GH-01-96-422-EN-C

This publication is also available at the EEA website

(address: <http://www.eea.eu.int>)

Information is also available at Internet at

<http://www.eea.eu.int>

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**Work Programmes:**

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*EEA Annual Work Programme 1997*

European Environment Agency

Copenhagen, January 1997

EEA/082/96

This publication is available at the EEA web site

(address: <http://www.eea.eu.int>)

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