

# **Web-based European Knowledge Network on Water (WEKNOW)**

## **REPORT**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> workshop of the Expert Working Group on Chemical quality of drinking water**

**13-14 January 2005; SZU (Natl. Institute of Public Health), Prague**

Present: 29 participants from 16 European countries (see Annex 1)

Apologies: Peter Jackson (UK); Brigita Jamnik (SN)

#### Program (key points)

- Chairman election: Malcom Morgan (UK)
- Summary review of WEKNOW progress
- Workshop objectives
- Discussion: four topics were chosen for discussion (see below)
- Topics to be addressed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> WEKNOW conference in Bratislava (2005)
- Evaluation

#### Participation

Participation was representative regarding both geographical and stakeholder diversity coverage (research and regulatory institutes, water producers, laboratories, universities, private consultancy). The organizer funded the participation (travel costs) of the representatives from Spain, Portugal, and Cyprus.

#### Discussion

The topics chosen for discussion:

- A. Control of water quality for toxic/undesirable substances
- B. Controlling the risks from cyanobacteria and cyanotoxins in drinking water
- C. Disinfection and disinfection by-products
- D. Health risks from drinking demineralised and low mineral water

Each topic was introduced by several presentations:

Topic A:

- Assessment of organic micro-pollutants from the point of view of water suppliers (F. Sacher, DVGW – TZW, Karlsruhe)
- Drinking water production in a semi-arid environment: comments on current problems and future challenges (J.M.Alonso, AGBAR, Barcelona)
- Use of passive sampling screening tools for assessment of priority chemicals and toxicity testing (T. Ocelka, Institute of Public Health, Ostrava)
- Emerging substances in drinking water sources (L.Puijker, Kiwa Water Research, Nieuwegein)
- Implementation of the Water Safety Plans in Austria (M.Frenzl, Labor Frenzl, Tulln)

Topic B:

- Risk based approach in German waterworks: raw water quality – water treatment – early warning (W.Schmidt, DVGW – Technologie Zentrum Wasser, Dresden)

- Monitoring methods (B. Marsalek, Institute of Botany, Czech Academy of Science, Brno)
- Management options (P. Dolejs, W&ET Team, Ceske Budejovice)

#### Topic C:

- Disinfection by-product formation: controlling parameters and minimisation strategies (J.Menaia, LNEC, Lisbon)
- Photochemical water quality changes and by-products from UV-irradiation (H.Liltved, NIVA, Grimstad)

#### Topic D:

- Health risks from drinking demineralised and low mineral water (F.Kozisek, Natl. Institute of Public Health, Prague)

#### Topics to be addressed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> WEKNOW conference in Bratislava (2005)

J.Slobodnik (EI) informed the group about the forthcoming WEKNOW conference in Bratislava (13-15 June 2005). The EWG recommended suitable topics for breakout group sessions.

#### Outcomes

Based on the discussion it was decided to produce three reports:

- Control of water quality for toxic/undesirable substances
- Disinfection and Disinfection By-products in Europe
- Controlling the risks from cyanobacteria and cyanotoxins in drinking water

The report drafts were prepared by the organizer and presenters and sent for comments and completing to the workshop participants and other EWG members. Presentation of the reports is expected at the 2<sup>nd</sup> WEKNOW conference in Bratislava.

#### Evaluation of the workshop

The participants assessed the workshop in a positive way (for score see Annex 2). In addition to complimentary remarks, the following critical and recommending comments appeared:

- I hope the cooperation (after WEKNOW finish) will be going on within other framework programme or in bilateral ways.
- Session A very good except last presentation (Austria). Session B (day 1) on DBF poor except presentation from Norway, session C (day 2) very good presentations on cyanobacteria; Not very well organized and focused on the layout Bratislava.
- Stronger chair would be nice to keep the audience on outcome and less push own (UK) opinion especially on DBP. Very well organized, speakers quality varied and chair did not steer discussion.
- Some topics were on very theoretical base. The presentations could be closer to practise.
- Would be nice to see more presentations on drinking water treatment technology as well as discussions.

Comments from organizers: Issue of water treatment technologies is not sufficiently covered by the current WEKNOW expert working groups – the idea to extent the scope of WEKNOW has been already proposed and discussed at the previous meeting. Exchange of knowledge on practical issues is very important, but there is another goal of the EWG to be achieved – to identify the research needs. Although the quality of presentations varied, all speakers were highly qualified and knowledgeable in the topic presented and very most participants appreciated all presentation.

Frantisek Kozisek; 28 April 2005

**ANNEXE 1: List of participants - EWG on chemical quality (3<sup>rd</sup> workhop)**

Name	Institution, Country
Borsányi Mátyás	National Centre for Public Health, National Institute of Environmental Health, Hungary
Čeřovská Lenka	National Institute of Public Health, Czech Republic
Dolejš Petr	1) Water & Environmental Technology Team 2) Brno University of Technology, Faculty of Chemistry, Dept. of Environmental Chemistry and Technology, Czech Republic
Frenzl Manfred	Labor Frenzl, Austria
Gibert Michel	Veolia Environnement -Anjou Recherche, France
Hall Tom	WRc plc, UK
Hulsmann Adriana	Kiwa Water Research, The Netherlands
Hušková Radka	The Prague Water Supply and Sewerage System Cororation (PVK), Czech Republic
Ioannou Kyriaki	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources, Environment, Water Development Department, Cyprus
Kádár Mihály	National Centre for Public Health, National Institute of Environmental Health, Hungary
Kliment Viktor	National Institute of Public Health, Czech Republic
Komulainen Hannu	National Public Health Institute, Department of Environmental Health, Laboratory of Toxicology, Finland
Kožišek František	National Institute of Public Health, Czech Republic
Kupková Olga	National Institute of Public Health, Czech Republic
Liltved Helge	Norwegian Institute for Water Research – NIVA, Norway
Maršálek Blahoslav	Centre for Cyanobacteria and their Toxins, Institute of Botany of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic
Martín-Alonso Jordi	Sociedad General de Aguas de Barcelona, S.A. (Barcelona's Water Company), Spain
Menaia José	National Civil Engineering Laboratory – LNEC, Portugal
Morgan Malcolm	Drinking Water Inspectorate, UK
Munter Rein	Tallinn Technical University, Estonia
Nuttall John	European Copper Institute, UK
Ocelka Tomas	Institute of Public Health in Ostrava, Czech Republic
Pilidis George	1) Municipal Enterprise for Water Supply and Sewage Ioannina (DEYAI); 2) University of Ioannina Department of Chemistry, Greece
Puijker Leo	Kiwa Water Research, The Netherlands
Pumann Petr	National Institute of Public Health, Czech Republic
Sacher Frank	DVGW-Technologiezentrum Wasser, Germany
Slobodník Jaroslav	Environmental Institute, Slovakia
Schmidt Wido	DVGW Technologiezentrum Wasser (TZW), Germany
Witczak Stanislaw	AGH University of Science and Technology; Department of Hydrogeology and Water Protection, Poland

