

Creation of a Company Advisory Council at EBA

According to Art. 8 (2) of the EBA statutes, Committees for advisory purposes can be created if it is necessary. On 12 January, 2011 at 14:00–16:00 **in Nuremberg EBA will launch the Company Advisory Council meeting**, which will be held alongside the annual conference of the German Biogas Association. Invited are all company members and interested companies that work on an international basis.

The main purpose of the meeting is to **discuss** the opportunities and limits of EBA to represent the **interests of the biogas industry at the European level**.

Company Advisory Council meeting

12th January, 2011

14:00-16:00

Nuremberg

Registration: info@european-biogas.eu

EBA's 2nd General Assembly

11 January 2011 18:00-20:00, Nuremberg, Germany

More information will be announced shortly.

AEBIOM

General Assembly and Steering Committee meeting took place on 9 November in Brussels. The new AEBIOM Board team is the following:

Gustav Melin from SVEBIO takes over the AEBIOM Presidency

Marcos Martin (AVEBIOM) becomes Vice-President

Tom Bruton (IrBEA), Christian Rakos (EPC) and Arthur Wellinger (EBA) are elected as Directors

Other Directors: Pekka-Juhani Kuitto (FINBIO), Olivier Bertrand (FBE), Remigijus Lapinskas (LITBIOMA), Thomas Siegmund (BBE)
Observer : Kent Nyström (WBA)

Heinz Kopetz and Kent Nyström become honorary members for their great support to bioenergy.

Next General Assembly and Steering Committee: 4 May 2011, Cologne, Germany.

On 5 May 2011 AEBIOM organises an international pellets conference in parallel to the world largest international exhibition for professionals on feed and bioenergy technologies (VICTAM). More information: <http://www.aebiom.org/?p=1155#more-1155>

AEBIOM European Bioenergy Conference and REECO exhibition, Brussels, 29-30 June 2010. More information: <http://www.aebiom.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/REN-EU11-Imagemappe.pdf>

The new AEBIOM project Cross Border Bioenergy will be particularly helpful to companies to explore market opportunities.

National Renewable Energy Actions Plans (NREAPs) 2010



By June 2010 the EU member countries were asked to formulate action plans how they want to fulfill the goals for renewable energy formulated in the directive 2009/28/EC. Today in total 23 NREAPs are available thereof 15 translated into English.

See NREAPs on:

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/transparency_platform/action_plan_en.htm

EBA has analyzed the 21 NREAPs that were available by September 2010 from the biogas perspective and prepared a data base and a corresponding presentation. The **detailed information can be ordered at the EBA secretariat** under info@european-biogas.eu. **It is free of charge for EBA members.** Non-members have the opportunity to order the data base and the presentation for 50 €.

The survey provides information on the development of the biogas production in the EU Member States and includes detailed information on biogas' share in electricity, heating and transport. It also includes feed backs of the national member associations on the NREAPs of their own countries.

EBA's Website

Recently EBA's website has been improved (<http://www.european-biogas.eu/eba/index.php>). In the coming weeks EBA members will receive further information on the member login function which is in the process to be created.

EBA's participation in conferences

Workshop - Biogas and Biomethane in Europe: experiences and development potentials, The BIOGASMAX Project, 27 September, 2010, Milan, Italy

Biogas Europe Conference, 29 September, 2010, Lyon, France

High Level Conference: 10th Anniversary of EREC, 29 September, Brussels, Belgium

Stakeholder Conference on the future of energy policy, 30 September, 2010, Brussels, Belgium

10th International Conference "Construction and Operation of Biogas Stations", 7 - 8 October 2010, Trebon, Czech Republic

19th Annual IBBK/GERBIO Convention and Biogas Expo & Congress Offenburg, 20 October, 2010, Offenburg, Germany

5th International Bioenergy Fair: Expoenergía 2010, 27 October 2010, Valladolid, Spain

Conference on Digestate, 30 October, BOKU, University of Natural Resources, Tulln, Austria

AEBIOM General Assembly, 9-10 November, Brussels, Belgium

Biogas Expo 2010, 19 November, Milan, Italy

Policy issues

- **Future Transport Fuels** - EBA has substantially contributed to highlight the advantages of biomethane as vehicle fuel in increasing mixtures with natural gas in a report initiated and edited by DG MOVE. Actually the second draft is under evaluation. The final report is expected by May 2011.
- **End of Waste Criteria** – EBA has been invited to nominate an expert for the Task Working Group on end-of-waste criteria for Biodegradable Waste (according to Art.6 of Directive 2008/98 EC). The Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC entitles the European Commission to set criteria under which certain specified waste shall cease to be waste. This mechanism was introduced to further encourage recycling in the EU by creating legal certainty and a level playing field as well as removing unnecessary administrative burdens. The Joint Research Centre of the Commission will conduct a study on the material prepared by experts to compile technical proposals for the end of waste criteria. This work will be

accompanied by a technical working group with experts from Member States, relevant industry and other stakeholders.

- **EBA's contribution to the BiogasIN project** - Franz Kirchmeyr, EBA's Vice-President, participated in the Project Meeting (21-22 October, 2010, Sofia, Bulgaria). Arthur Wellinger, EBA's President, was leading the meeting in Munich (17 November, 2010). BiogasIN aims to create a sustainable biogas market in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE): Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Greece, Latvia, Romania and Slovenia. The breakthrough will be achieved by targeting the strongest framework barrier in CEE: high administrative barriers both in permitting and financing phases. This bottleneck was emphasised in many former European projects, but never addressed in such depth as planned in BiogasIN. BiogasIN builds capacity among the public sector (national, regional and local governments and administrations responsible for permitting process of agricultural biogas plants), financing providers as well as farmers/biogas investors. The project's programme is extensive: 73 workshops will be held within the next 2,5 years. 8 Roadmaps will be developed as an outcome of the project (7 Country Roadmaps and 1 General Roadmap).
- **NER 300 Call for Proposals** - On 9 November the European Commission has launched a call for projects (NER300 call for proposals). This is a great opportunity to fund bioenergy demonstration projects. The deadline to submit the proposals is very short. **The projects have to be submitted to the Member States (not to the European Commission!) by 9 February 2011.**

http://ec.europa.eu/clima/funding/ner300/index_en.htm#part_1

For more information see **attachment 3**

Training possibilities

EBA's Member Renewable Energy Association (REA) UK together with IBBK Fachgruppe Biogas GmbH are pleased to announce a **5-day Biogas Operators & Planners course**. The course will be delivered by speakers with many years of practical experience in the German biogas industry and UK experts who will bring this knowledge into the context of the UK situation.

The course starts on January 24 and ends on January 28, 2011.

For further information and registration: <http://www.biogas-training.co.uk>

UK injects Biomethane in to the gas grid

After Austria, France, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland, the UK became the seventh country in Europe injecting biomethane into the national gas grid. Biomethane gas from Didcot sewage works in Oxfordshire will produce enough renewable gas to supply up to 200 homes. The landmark project at Didcot - a joint venture between Thames Water, British Gas and Scotia Gas

Networks - marks an important milestone in the UK's efforts to decarbonise the gas grid and move towards a low-carbon economy.

More information: <http://www.thameswater.co.uk/cps/rde/xchg/corp/hs.xsl/10982.htm>

The European Parliament wants a biowaste directive

The EU countries produced more than 100 million tonnes of garden and kitchen waste last year and most of it went to landfill or was incinerated. On 6 July the MEPs once more called for EU-wide rules (with 55 against 3 votes) as some countries are lagging behind in recycling efforts.

Parliament's resolution follows a European Commission Green Paper on the management of bio-waste in the EU. MEPs argue that a specific directive for bio-waste would offer greater clarity, better monitoring and legal certainty.

What the EP wants

- Separate collections for bio-waste unless impossible for economic or environmental reasons
- More recycling of bio-waste
- Classification of the different types of compost available from bio-waste

Together with the other members of the Waste Alliance, EBA has long been promoting a biowaste directive.