

EBSA News—Letter from Europe

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So what's been happening in and around biosafety in Europe? The European Biosafety Association is at the heart of biosafety on the diverse continent of Europe—not just the Union. We are now gearing up for our 12th Annual Conference in Stockholm this June. An excellent program is prepared and the pre-conference courses are almost full. We hope to see some of you; I know Bob Ellis will be there representing ABSA.

EBSA continues to work with major agencies to inform and influence the rulemakers in Europe to have proportional risk- and evidence-based legislation. Currently, much activity in various agencies is addressing capacity building, emergency preparedness, and bioterrorism in Europe.

Recent activities have included EBSA representatives participating in meetings on CBRN (acronym for chemical, biological, radioactive, nuclear) at the European Centre for Disease Control (ECDC), and amendments to the ADR, or European Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, 2009, on living micro-organisms. EBSA has also launched a sponsorship initiative to attract new European states to have representation in EBSA. Please see details on our web site.

The biosafety community in the countries of Europe is very active with too many conferences and symposia to mention here. Bookmark our web site www.ebsaweb.eu and look to see if there is something there for you.

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