

# REPORTS FROM THE COMMISSIONS

## Educational Activities Commission (EAC)



**Cees van Rhee**  
Chair

As part of the new Strategy, the Board of CEDA is committed to strengthen CEDA's role in the creation, dissemination and exchange, of high-quality, unbiased, relevant and timely knowledge and best-practice experience. This work will be carried out under the remit of the newly established Educational Activities Commission (EAC) and I am honored to be its first

chair. We had our first meeting in November 2014 and it was an inspiring brainstorming session. First we deliberated on which initiatives and activities would bring the most value to CEDA members and to the wider dredging community. We then discussed issues that we could realistically work to improve, and the role that CEDA should, or could, play in them, given its resources and remit. We looked at how best we could:

- increase the pool of well-trained dredging specialists across the CEDA region of Europe, Africa, and Middle East;
- increase the number of indexed publications that were available on a broad range of dredging related subjects;
- facilitate scientific research and make it easier for the public to access and engage in the results.



*The first meeting of the Educational Activities Commission, hosted by TU Delft, resulted in some excellent ideas (l to r): Arjan de Heer (Young CEDA rep, Royal HaskoningDHV - Netherlands), Johan Pennekamp (Deltares - Netherlands), Michael Costaras (HR Wallingford - UK), Cees van Rhee, Chair (TU Delft - Netherlands), Anders Jensen (DHI - Denmark), Dingeman van Woerden (TID - Netherlands), Yvonne Duivenman (CEDA - Netherlands).*

We also discussed how to extend and/or modify our existing content platforms, and tap into the collective knowledge of participants, in order to more widely share the learning opportunities that they provide.

Cees van Rhee  
Chair Educational Activities Commission

## Environment Commission (CEC)



**Polite Laboyrie**  
Chair

In 2014 CEDA's Environment Commission met its goals to encourage a more sustainable approach to how developments in the dredging field interact with the environment; to share industry experiences; and to provide useful information on the possibilities for dealing with those issues. We had two inspiring meetings during the year. The first in the spring

in Deventer, the Netherlands, hosted by Witteveen+Bos Consulting Engineers, and the second in the autumn in Hamburg, hosted by the Hamburg Port Authority. Both meetings were well attended.



*The CEDA Environment Commission in Hamburg, visiting the pilot project Kreesand (l to r): Ida Brøker (DHI - Denmark), Manfred Meine (HPA - Germany), Joel l'Her (Cerema - France), Andy Birchenough (Cefas - UK), Erik van der Blom (Royal IHC - Netherlands), Pieter de Boer (Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment - Netherlands), Rita Ramos (Port of Lisbon - Portugal), Frederik Roose (Ministry of Flemish Community, Maritime Access - Belgium), Katherine Harris (HR Wallingford - UK), Jos Smits (IMDC - Belgium), Mark Bollen (IMDC - Belgium), Teresa Teresa Sá Pereira (Port of Lisbon - Portugal), Astrid Kramer (Boskalis - Netherlands), Polite Laboyrie (Witteveen+Bos - Netherlands), Helmut Meyer (Water and Shipping Directorate Northwest - Germany), Henrich Roeper (HPA - Germany).*

## CEDA representatives at international forums



**Andy Birchenough**  
Cefas, UK

- ◆ LONDON CONVENTION
- ◆ OSPAR



**Pieter de Boer**  
Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment, Netherlands

- ◆ EU WASTE DIRECTIVE



**Vera Breitung**  
German Federal Institute of Hydrology, Germany

- ◆ INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE RIVER DANUBE



**Polite Laboyrie**  
Witteveen+Bos, Netherlands

- ◆ LONDON CONVENTION



**Noemi von Meijenfeldt**  
Witteveen+Bos, Netherlands

- ◆ EU MARINE STRATEGY DIRECTIVE SCG
- ◆ EU MARINE STRATEGY DIRECTIVE NAVI (UNTIL 1 NOVEMBER 2014)



**Marie Pendle**  
HR Wallingford, UK

- ◆ OSPAR INTERSESSSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE GROUP MARINE STRATEGY DIRECTIVE



**Henrich Roeper**  
Hamburg Port Authority, Germany

- ◆ EU WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE NAVI
- ◆ EU MARINE STRATEGY DIRECTIVE NAVI



**Frank Thomsen**  
DHI, Denmark

- ◆ EU MARINE STRATEGY DIRECTIVE, TECHNICAL SUBGROUP UNDERWATER SOUND
- ◆ OSPAR INTERSESSSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE GROUP NOISE



**Thomas Vanagt**  
eCoast, Belgium

- ◆ OSPAR

## A diverse and supportive membership

The CEC is fortunate to have members from Belgium, United Kingdom, Denmark, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Italy, Russia and Bulgaria. New is our member of Portugal from the Port of Lisbon. The membership represent governments, port authorities, consultants, contractors, dredging constructors and research institutes. The members themselves are also diverse, working as civil engineers, ecologists, mechanical engineers, and doctors in science. This variety helps to ensure there is sufficient knowledge, and experience, within the Commission to cover all the different subjects it deals with.

The CEDA members are very supportive of the CEC working groups. The working groups

are installed once the CEC has selected a subject, and formulated the Terms of Reference and an invitation. In 2014 we had working groups on: environmentally sound dredging through adaptive management; environmental monitoring procedures; and a WODA working group on underwater sound. Preparations have started on working groups on beneficial use and governance of dredging projects.



*There is a lot to cover in one-and half days.*

## Working in partnership

CEDA likes partnering and on 17<sup>th</sup> October CEDA Belgium and PIANC Belgium organized a seminar: Sustainable and Resilient Design and Management of Waterborne Transport Infrastructure. The CEDA and PIANC Environment Commissions presented their activities.

On 19<sup>th</sup> September members of the CEC attended the conceptual conference "Environmentally Friendly Port" in St. Petersburg, Russia. The event was organised by the Russian State Hydrometeorological University, followed by a PIANC EnviCom seminar where the PIANC report on Greenports - which was finished in 2014 and to which CEC contributed – was also presented.

The CEC also works closely with EUDA. A joint EUDA-CEDA session at the 2<sup>nd</sup> European Climate Change Adaptation Conference (ECCA) 2015, in Copenhagen, is currently in preparation. It is a joint initiative with a number of major European research projects and other stakeholders. The conference will cover a broad range of issues, related to climate change adaptation, and will place a greater emphasis on understanding and assessing adaptation in action under the theme: Integrating climate adaptation actions in science, policy, practitioners and business. The title of the EUDA-CEDA joint session will be: Sustainable Dredging Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation. A major contribution will come from our information papers on climate change adaptation and new 'adaptable' approaches such as adaptive management and monitoring.

Also with EUDA the CEC is preparing a workshop on how legislation affects dredging projects. This started as a follow up on a CEDA-EUDA-ESPO workshop on the implications of the EU Waste Directive on dredged material management. It was concluded that, instead of a workshop on existing legislation, it would be more useful to organise a workshop on how to develop better, simpler rules.

The CEC continues to play a proactive role in the London Convention, the Oslo and Paris Convention, and in EU-policy advising groups. We use our experience and knowledge to help ensure that policy and legislation is based on the best available knowledge and that any early mistakes are not repeated. These advisory bodies focus on relevant items including: new assessment guidelines for the handling of dredged material; and dealing with underwater sound and seafloor integrity. We are also involved in discussions on what constitutes a good environmental status. Members of the CEC join in these discussions and their contributions are very much appreciated.



Andy Birchenough (Cefas - UK) gave a presentation entitled "WODA's experiences with coastal resilience" during the Science Day of the London Convention Scientific Group meeting. Here he runs through the presentation for the CEC.

In the London Convention Scientific Group meeting held in May 2014, in New Orleans, USA, presentations on technical guidance on underwater sound; and information papers on ecosystem services, and the WODA principles of sustainable dredging were given. The presentations were well received. Underwater sound was noted by delegates to be an emerging issue worthy of additional work. A good discussion on the principles of sustainable dredging followed the presentation. A few years ago CEDA was commissioned by the London Convention to develop the Low-tech Waste Assessment Guidelines. Now the London Convention has agreed to establish an Intercessional Correspondence Group on the Development of Guidance on Low-technology Field Monitoring. CEDA (WODA) will have a role in this Group.





Until 2014 Cor Schipper, from Deltares, was representing CEDA on the Environmental Impacts of Human Activities Committee (EIHA) meeting of OSPAR. The CEC has been lucky to find Thomas Vanagt, from eCoast Belgium, to replace him. During the year the EIHA adopted the revised Dredged Material Guidelines and our remarks and comments were taken into account.

The EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) provides the legislative basis and sequence of steps for EU Member States to establish national marine strategies to achieve or maintain Good Environmental Status (GES). CEDA, represented by Noemi von Meijenfeldt from Witteveen+Bos, chaired the NAVI group. The NAVI group is a stakeholder group which can give input to the EU on this legislative process. In 2012 Member States submitted their initial assessment of their marine environment, to the European Commission, to provide the baseline for the state of the environment and for determining what is considered to be “good environmental status”. This assessment also identified what is required in terms of environmental targets to guide progress from the present state to GES. As part of this implementation process all Member States are obliged to submit a report on their Programmes of Measures to the European Commission by the end of 2015.

### A more environmental approach

These days there is a new attitude towards the environment. It is no longer the case that a civil structure is designed and the effects are calculated and mitigated afterwards. Nowadays the environment and society are expected to be an integral part of the design process. Design principles such as building with nature, working with nature, and even engineering with nature are becoming the norm worldwide. Even in new legislation and guidelines these principles have become accepted and, what is more, are used. As a result of this change in attitudes the CEC, together with IADC, started to develop a new book as a successor to the book “Environmental Aspects of Dredging” which will be based on these new design principles. An Editorial Advisory Board was set up to guide the process, and in October a workshop with experts from CEDA and IADC was organized in Hamburg to give direction and input to the book.

Polite Laboyrie  
Chair Environment Commission

### Thank you!

We would like to extend our thanks to Noemi von Meijenfeldt, who stepped down as Chair of the Marine Strategy Navigation Group at the end of 2014. She was also the CEDA representative on the EU Marine Strategy Co-ordination Group and its Working Group Good Environmental Status since 2011. In that capacity Noemi has attended several meetings of the CEDA Environment Commission and took part in its work.

CEC greatly appreciated Noemi's dedication and professionalism and the regular updates, in particular those to the CEDA membership on the MSFD implementation process and issues relevant to the dredging community. We also greatly valued her efforts in soliciting, collating and bringing CEDA knowledge and experience into the MSFD implementation process.



This work has put a considerable demand on Noemi's time, and the Board of CEDA is also very grateful to Noemi's employer, Witteveen+Bos, the Netherlands for making this possible.

