INFORSE-Europe Sets Directions for 2005 & Elects Board

At the INFORSE-Europe Annual Meeting 2004, held on June 5 in Bonn, the Work Program for 2005 was agreed on and, for the first time, an acting board was elected.

It was decided that the activities will continue with work on EU energy and climate policies, visions for sustainable energy, and Distance Internet Education, as well as with school and education activities. New activities compared in 2004 include more success stories on sustainable energy and involvement in the European ECO-forum for east-west cooperation in Europe.

The coordinators Emil Bedi (FAE, Slovakia) and Gunnar Boye Olesen (OVE, Denmark) were re-elected. The acting board elected consists of:
- Pete West, West Wales EcoCentre, UK
- Ion Zamfir, Earth Friends, Romania
- Ilona Jerzok, Polish Ecological Club
- Ursel Beckmann, Wohnhof Bramwish, Hamburg, Germany
- Vincent Buhagiar, MEERA, Malta.

INFORSE-European Policy Seminars Nov. 2004

INFORSE-Europe is organizing two seminars for NGOs on EU policy for sustainable energy with focus on current policy issues and long-term targets.

INFORSE-Europe Seminar Brussels, November 9-10
The first one will be in Brussels, November 9-10, 2004, in cooperation with EUFores and EREF. Among the planned topics are:
- EU support for renewable energy and energy efficiency (ALTENER, SAVE, research programs, etc.);
- effects of energy market regulations, in particular the electricity directive and the directive on renewable energy for electricity;
- implementation of the directive on renewable energy in transport;
- the need for an EU directive/initiative for renewable energy for heat;
- eco-design and energy efficiency directives under negotiations;

INFORSE-Europe Seminar Budmerice, November 25-27
The other seminar will be held November 25-27, 2004 at the Budmerice castle near Bratislava, Slovakia, in cooperation with AGREENET, and Energy Club in Hungary. A number of EU policy issues will be discussed at the seminar. Emphasis will be placed on structural funds as well as on other EU programs and policies with direct impact on the new EU countries. Of particular interest will be opportunities and barriers to using the funds to support sustainable energy rather than unsustainable development.

Both seminars are expected to reinforce INFORSE-Europe policies on sustainable energy, in cooperation with the other seminar partners.

Participation in the seminars is free for INFORSE-Europe members.

For the seminar in Budmerice, there will be limited travel support.

Please contact INFORSE-Europe for further information, e-mail: ove@inforse.org or see the website at www.inforse.org/europe.