



European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences
Europäische Vereinigung für Chemische und Molekulare Wissenschaften
Association Européenne pour les Sciences Chimiques et Moléculaires
Европейская Ассоциация Химических и Молекулярных Наук

NEWS RELEASE

EuCheMS debates sustainable energy solutions

EuCheMS held a one-day seminar on 'Europe's Energy Policy - the role of Chemistry' in Brussels in April.

Speaking at the seminar, Pia Locatelli MEP, member of the European Parliament's Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE), welcomed the contribution of EuCheMS to the debate on sustainable energy solutions and agreed that chemistry has an important role to play.

José Fluxa Garcia from DG TREN in the European Commission opened the morning seminar session with a description of the EU energy policy with particular reference to the European Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan).

Professor Vincenzo Balzani, University of Bologna, gave an excellent presentation on the opportunities and challenges for Europe in leading the world in finding sustainable solutions, saying that 'finding a breakthrough for solving the energy crisis is indeed the *grand challenge* of chemistry'.

The significant contributions that chemistry will make to developments in conversion (generation), storage and efficient use of energy, were illustrated by Professor Wolfram Koch, Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker, who explained that 'new technologies to address the energy challenge almost always require significant innovations from chemistry'. There were also interesting reports on the 'Smart Energy Home' and biorefineries projects being led by SusChem (the European Technology Platform for Sustainable Chemistry).

In the afternoon workshop Richard Pike, Royal Society of Chemistry, chaired a brainstorming session on how the chemical sciences will provide clean, affordable and secure energy in the medium and longer terms in reducing the European carbon emissions from power generation, industry, domestic living and transportation. The workshop output includes a priority action list to determine how research and innovation in chemical sciences will help Europe to meet its energy policy targets.

Note: Copies of the presentations and briefing notes are available on the EuCheMS web site www.euchems.org/Divisions/ChemistryEnergy/Events.asp

Note: *EuCheMS – the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences is a non-profit making association. Its object is to promote cooperation in Europe between those non-profit-making scientific and technical societies and professional institutions in the field of chemical sciences whose membership consists largely of individual qualified chemists/chemical scientists and whose interests include the science and/or practice of chemistry/chemical sciences. It was founded in 1970 and currently has 50 member societies in 36 countries.*

President Professor Giovanni Natile, Italian Chemical Society

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