

EWA awards honorary membership

The European Water Association gives honorary membership to Prof. Pertti Seuna, Finland

Hennef, 26.03 2019

The World Water Day is in Finland celebrated each year with a seminar at the prestigious Haus of the Estates in the center of Helsinki. This year, on the 22.03 2019, Johannes Lohaus, the Secretary General of the European Water Association (EWA), was in Helsinki to present Prof. Pertti Seuna with the award of honorary membership of the EWA. Johannes Lohaus lauded the awardee: *“Prof. Pertti Seuna has worked diligently for the EWA committees, and 2011-13 he was the elected president of the European Water Association. In total he has contributed to the results of EWA for fourteen years. He receives the honorary membership award for his long, outstanding and visionary work for the European Water Association and for the water sector in general”.*

Prof. Pertti Seuna received the award of the honorary membership and expressed his gratitude: *“I am deeply honoured for the honorary membership of the European Water Association, it is highly appreciated. My warmest thanks to Johannes Lohaus and the EWA, one of the most important non-governmental European associations dealing broadly with water affairs and related sciences. I had the privilege to work in EWA with fine colleagues from over 20 countries for more than 10 years. My warmest thanks for this opportunity”.* And Prof. Pertti Seuna continued with his vision for the future: *“Lack of clean water and CO2-free energy are critical factors for the well-being of people and the globe. An interesting vision for these problems could be a huge farm of solar panels in Africa, Sahara, producing electricity for Africa and Europe. The abundance of electricity would make it possible to produce fresh water from seawater, with many favourable consequences. This would mean prosperity for Africa, less climate refugees from the increasing population and massive decrease for CO2 emissions globally, and renewable energy for Europe.”*

Mr. Johannes Lohaus then went on to congratulate Prof. Riku Vahala, the president of Water Association Finland (WAF), with the 50th anniversary of WAF, he thanked him for the Finnish association’s contribution to the work of EWA and the efforts to achieve clean water in Europe. Mr. Kimmo Tiilikainen, the Finnish minister of Environment, who was also present at the event, supported the congratulation and thanked Prof. Riku Vahala and WAF for their contribution to the Finnish water environment.

EWA awards the honorary membership to individuals who have done a remarkable job in the European water sector. Next time EWA will be giving an award, will be at the EWA Conference in Brussels 4.-5. November, 2019, where the prestigious Dunbar Medal will be awarded.

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