## PRESS RELEASE



## **EWA announces Raymond Erpelding as New President**

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Hennef, 4 May 2021: At the annual EWA Council Meeting held online during the 40 years Anniversary Celebration of the Association, the aspiring EWA President, Raymond Erpelding received the baton of the EWA Presidency for the period 2021-2023 from his predecessor Bjørn Kaare Jensen from the Danish Water Forum (2019-2021). Wendy Francken from VLARIO, was elected new Vice President.



Raymond Erpelding has been a member of the EWA Council since 2007. Raymond Erpelding is currently the Managing Director of S.I.A.C.H. (Syndicat Intercommunal pour l'Assainissement du bassin de la Chiers) in Pétange, Luxembourg and currently still a member of the Management Board of ALUSEAU (Association Luxembourgeoise des Services d'Eau) after being President of ALUSEAU from 2007 to 2018.

Mr. Erpelding has been a member of the EWA Management Committee since 2015, took over the Vice-Presidency in 2019. He is very much involved in the activities of the European Water Association, especially as a member in the European Policy Committee, which follows the work of the European Commission and arranges regular meetings with officials in the Commission, responsible for activities of relevance to water management. The committee gives comments and advice to official European institutions on behalf of its members.

Due to the consequences of COVID-19, the annual EWA Council Meeting, which was originally to take place in Luxembourg, had to be organised online this year. Raymond Erpelding honoured the Past President, Bjørn Kaare Jensen, at the annual EWA Council Meeting, which was held virtually on May 4th. Mr. Jensen was thanked for his relentless efforts for the EWA by increasing the Association's visibility and reputation in the European water community, for building new and improving existing relations with the European Commission and other water-related bodies in Brussels and worldwide.

In lieu of holding the presidency for the next two years, the Luxemburg association ALUSEAU will be co-hosting the 40<sup>th</sup> EWA Anniversary Water Web-Seminar on Micropollutants on 22<sup>nd</sup> June. For more information on the content and the speakers, read <u>here</u>.

The newly elected EWA Vice President is Wendy Francken, Managing Director of VLARIO, Belgium. VLARIO is an independent non-governmental and non-profit organization in Flanders (Belgium). VLARIO is the consulting platform, and the information and knowledge centre for Flemish sewerage professionals. Mrs. Francken has been a member of the EWA Management Committee since 2012 and is currently the Chairwoman of the European Policy Committee within the EWA.

The EWA welcomes the new EWA President and EWA Vice President and would like to thank the Past President for his accomplishments for the Association during the years.

## **EWA**

The European Water Association (EWA) is an independent non-governmental and non-profit making organisation promoting the sustainable and improved management of the total water cycle and hence the environment as a whole.

It is one of the major professional associations in Europe that covers the whole water cycle, as well as wastewater and drinking water, water and wastewater treatment related wastes. With member associations from many European countries, EWA includes most of the current European Union Member States as well as Norway and Switzerland. Today, EWA consists of 25 European leading professional organisations in their respective countries, each representing professionals and technicians for wastewater and water utilities, academics, technology providers, consultants and contractors, local authorities and regulators. The Association also has a growing number of corporate members: firms and enterprises, institutes or associations. EWA thus represents about 50,000 professional individuals and specialists working in the broad field of water and environmental management.

This press information is also available under: www.EWA-online.eu