

## **OPENING STATEMENT**

**by Andrzej Jagusiewicz, EFCA President**

It's my privilege and great pleasure to open the 7<sup>th</sup> Symposium on Ultrafine Particles, which is focused this time on their impact on both air quality and climate change. My pleasure is still greater as I see so many participants representing different sectors and particularly state-of-the-art scientific evidence on the matter. Therefore on behalf of the organizers, KIT (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology), GUS (Gesellschaft für Umweltsimulation) and CEEES (the Confederation of European Environmental Engineering Societies) and of course EFCA I welcome you all very warmly at the event and rely on your valuable contribution to its final result.

To me 7 is a lucky number and I do hope that it will lead us to make a next step in the development of a fraction-by-fraction approach on standardising particulate matter. Shortly, we need not only a new mass-based metric PM<sub>1</sub>, but also we need to better know its chemical composition and last but not least to extend it on a number of particles contained in the given mass. Because the number matters!

During the past symposia we have almost evidenced that UFPs express at best the impact of human activities on air quality and climate, including Non CO<sub>2</sub> Greenhouse gases (NCGG) and we can still improve this evidence during the Symposium. But time is pressing as we witness increasing applications of man-made nanomaterials, which add more and more to the problem. If we don't know yet all aspects then don't forget that the precautionary principle is still valid.

Having our Symposium again in Brussels we are knocking to the door of the European Commission. However, we do hope that this time we will be listened by European policy-makers like we were listened when Black Carbon Particles was introduced as additional metric in the Air Quality Directive.

But there are more occasions for us to be listened. Incoming revision of the Gothenburg Protocol under the Air Convention of the UNECE in Geneva, once it enters into force and a special event on the occasion of 40th anniversary of that multilateral environmental agreement as part of the 39th session of the Executive Body (9-13 December 2019) to discuss cooperation on clean air globally may also open the door for our initiative.

Let's be all the UFP Ambassadors at all levels from local to global.

To sum up, I wish you had a fruitful time during our event and that you all would contribute actively to our policy initiative regarding complete metric on UFP. I expect that we will prepare a well substantiated proposal and wrap it up as a ready-dish for policy makers.

To end, may I address our warm thanks to the State representation of Baden-Wurttemberg in Brussels for hosting us and providing for the participants this excellent meeting facility.