



# **The Consortium of European Building Control**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2019**

Dear CEBC members,

2019 marked thirty years of the CEBC which continues to grow and facilitate collaboration between building control bodies across the European Union.

The European context has for 2019 continues with a certain amount of uncertainty:

- A trade war between USA and China (and the EU) over the effects of globalization and imposition of tariffs.
- Problems with the Brexit process leading to a last-minute compromise agreement between the EU and UK in December 2019 with many issues still to be addressed.
- Continuing issues with the EU response to Climate Change.

These points have led the EU toward the development of a 'Green Deal' to attempt the start of the move towards carbon neutrality and a more circular economic approach to business, topics which have featured in presentations and technical visits during 2019.

CEBC remains convinced that sharing information and best practices is the best way to both inform members of upcoming trends that will impact on building control and provide it with guidance on future projects it will undertake with the help of members. The combination of these will enhance the CEBC ability to inform, guide and hopefully influence the EU, European Commission and Member States.

It is in this spirit that over the last year, the CEBC has continued its missions and, I wish to highlight in particular the following points:

- Annual business meetings (2019: Copenhagen and Brussels) with more than 40 participants on average who benefit and contribute through sharing news and latest developments from each host country. My thanks to colleagues, DABYFO in Copenhagen and SECO in Brussels for hosting our meetings so well.

Kevin Dawson has continued his sterling work on collating the member update at each business meeting, which provides an overview of the country issues represented at the CEBC (27 countries and 40 members).

- Projects that are now finalised to better disseminate and promote the CEBC include 'the value of building control' and 'building control competences'.



- Our healthy financial situation that will allow us to continue to support our business meeting hosts and facilitate the production of studies on various topics including the European Union Sustainable Energy Week and the start of our digitalization project.

Our strategic actions continue to be:

- Our representation at the level of the European authorities to contribute to facilitate the understanding of the various systems but also to approach a more flexible and effective approach of construction control systems and we were very pleased to see Mr Tapani Mikkeli, Head of Sector, DG Grow, European Commission at our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting in Brussels.

As such, as mentioned in the previous report we have more involved in the important topics of digitization (Smart building, BIM, augmented reality, etc.) as well as sustainable development and the emergence of new models of circular economy (reuse of materials, the carbon footprint of construction products, etc.).

I am confident that the CEBC can continue to meet these challenges through the engagement of all members and future members.



**COPENHAGEN**

The Copenhagen Business Meeting was hosted by DABYFO at the Tivoli hotel with technical visits to the re-development of the former Carlsberg brewery district; the Amager Bakke waste-to-energy plant billed as one of the cleanest waste-to-energy plants in the world, thanks to technology that filters its emissions which has an artificial ski slope on the roof; the Nordhavn development of the harbour area as a new residential zone.



Year	Month	Town	Country	Attendees
2019	MAY	Copenhagen	Denmark	41
Who is DABYFO? (A short introduction to the association of the Danish Building Control) by chairman Hans Eghøj				
Building Control in Denmark: After the new executive order on Building Regulations, presented by the Ministry of Transport, Building and Housing. Anne-Sofie Bang Lassen				
Introduction to the Danish National Architecture Policy, made by the Ministry of Culture. Presented by Jesper Dahl				
How the national architecture policy is transformed to a local architecture policy – and used within the building control by head of department in the municipality of Rudersdal. Presented by Birgitte Kortegaard				



Risk Management in larger road and building projects. Presented by Project and Risk Manager in the Danish road Directorate, Trine Veicherts.
Update from Slovenija following implementation of the new Construction Act - Saša Galonja, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning
New CJEU judgement regarding the transportation of Construction Product Regulation in Germany and Finland - Michael Halstenberg, HFK Rechtsanwalt
Update on Hackitt Implementation Plan consultation – Paul Everall, LABC Chief Executive
International Fire Safety Standards (IFSS) Update – Craig Ross, Associate Director of the Built Environment, RICS
Attendee associations Bureau Technique pour la Construction (SECO), Belgium ; Ministry of the Interior, Cyprus; DABYFO, Denmark; Chartered Institute of Building, England and Wales; National House-Building Council (NHBC), England and Wales; RICS Building Control Professional Group, United Kingdom; Local Authority Building Control, England and Wales; RICS Building Control Professional Group, United Kingdom; Rahandusministeerium, Estonia; Ymparistoministerio, Finland ; Rakennustarkastusyhdistys RTY r.y., Finland; VHV Insurance AG, Germany; Mannvirkjastofnun, Iceland; Irish Building Control Institute, Ireland; State Building Control Bureau, Latvia; State Territorial Planning and Construction Directorate, Lithuania; de Vereniging Bouw-en Woningtoezicht, Netherlands; ; Bouw Q, Netherlands; Direktoratet for byggkvalitet, Norway; NKF, Norway; General Office of Building Control, Poland; Scottish Government, Scotland; Ministrstvo za okolje in prostor, Slovenia; Consejo General de la Arquitectura Tecnica de España - CGATE Spain ; Development and Croatia Bank for Reconstruction, Croatia; Local Authority Building Control, England & Wales



**BRUSSELS – CEBC 30 Year anniversary**

For the 30<sup>th</sup> year anniversary, the CEBC returned to Brussels, Belgium, hosted by SECO who had arranged a whole series of events for delegates including a visit to the new development of the Thurn en Taxis former industrial site in Brussels, Belgium.

The site is composed of large warehouses and offices surrounding a former freight station and its spacious central hall, known as the Royal Depot (Entrepôt Royal). The buildings on the site are made of brick, glass and wrought iron, examples of the quality of 19th-century architecture.



Year	Month	Town	Country	Attendees
2019	October	Brussels	Belgium	45
Building Control regulation in Belgium and role of SECO. By Bernard De Bruyckere, Sales Director SECO Belgium				
What is Circular Construction (not)? By Wim Debacker, Senior researcher in Circular Built Environment – VITO (Flemish Institute for Technological Research)				
From outdated to pioneer: the WTC towers go circular. By Almut Fuhr, Consultant Sustainable Constructions – Het Facilitair Bedrijf (Flemish Government).				
Fit for reuse - Early findings on quality issues when building with reclaimed products. By Lionel Billiet, Partner/Researcher - Rotor / Rotor DC				



Circular Construction – Quality assessment and technical validation. By Sye Nam Heirbaut, Project Engineer/Researcher – SECO & ULB/VUB

Concrete Collapse problems in the Netherlands by Jan Meester

Attendee associations

Local Authority Building Control; England & Wales; Österreichisches Institut für Bautechnik (OIB), Austria; Bureau Technique pour la Construction (SECO), Belgium ; Ministry of the Interior, Cyprus; DABYFO, Denmark; Chartered Institute of Building, England and Wales; National House-Building Council (NHBC), England and Wales; RICS Building Control Professional Group, United Kingdom; Rahandusministeerium, Estonia; Ymparistoministerio, Finland; Rakennustarkastusyhdistys RTY r.y., Finland; VHV Insurance AG, Germany; Mannvirkjastofnun, Iceland; Irish Building Control Institute, Ireland; State Building Control Bureau, Latvia; State Territorial Planning and Construction Directorate, Lithuania; de Vereniging Bouw-en Woningtoezicht, Netherlands; Bouw Q, Netherlands; Direktoratet for byggkvalitet, Norway; NKF, Norway; General Office of Building Control, Poland; Scottish Government, Scotland; Ministrstvo za okolje in prostor, Slovenia; Consejo General de la Arquitectura Tecnica de España - CGATE Spain; DG Grow European Commission; Development and Croatia Bank for Reconstruction, Croatia; Business Regulation, World Bank Group