

Working with the trade

We are working to gain co-operation from the trade in accepting our member audits as the standard for their individual supplier audits. This will save time and money for all parties and the trade will also benefit from our bottled water-specific expertise in ensuring that the product they carry in-store is of international quality.

National rather than just Natural

The inclusion of categories other than natural bottled water necessitated our next move – changing our name from South African Natural Bottled Water Association to South African National Bottled Water Association. Serendipitously, the acronym SANBWA and our logo remain the same.

Thanks!

Thank you to all our supporters and partners. Without you, we could not have come this far.

Charlotte Metcalf

European Federation For Bottled Water (EFBW)

Our membership of the EFBW allows us to work alongside international experts to sustain, improve and grow the world-wide bottled water industry.

History

Originally founded as Unesem (European Union of Natural Mineral Waters), then UNSEN (European Union of Natural Waters) to include spring waters, the current association was founded in 2003 to promote all bottled waters. It is a not for profit association incorporated under Belgian law.

Members

Their current members are national associations promoting bottled water in the following countries: Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, UK, South Africa, and Turkey. EBWA, the European Water Coolers Association is also a member.

Structure

- Board: Currently 14 members. Access to the board is open; each national association may propose a representative for election to the board of directors.
- Executive Committee: In charge of the implementation of the board's decisions. Composed of 9 members – a president, 4 permanent representatives for Germany, Italy, France and Spain, 4 other representatives rotating every two years.

Associations

EFBW is the biggest member of International Council of Bottled Water Associations (ICBWA), with the highest number (over 580) of bottlers represented.

EFBW is also a member of CIAA, the European Food and Drinks industry.

EFBW main objectives

- Monitor legislative initiatives at national, EU or International (Codex) level that may have an effect on the bottled water industry and ensure that the industry's interests and point of view are taken into account by decision makers.
- Identify problems encountered by the industry and propose solutions by consensus and promote them before the relevant authorities.
- Provide assistance to national associations and industry members.
- Represent EFBW members before other regional and international associations or institutions (Codex Alimentarius, ICBWA).

Current issues include

Validation of certain specific treatments for the separation of some constituents of natural mineral water (in relation to concentration limits), interpretation of the notion of original purity for natural mineral waters (parameters), labelling/denomination of 'flavoured waters/drinks', attacks by tap water against bottled water, and future limits for radioactivity.

(CONTINUES ON P 18)