

This Newsletter comes at the end of a second long and very difficult year for everybody.

I hope that it finds you, your families, friends and colleagues, all in reasonable health and spirits.

Also, that you are able to look to the New Year with some reserves of both energy and resilience and optimism for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.



UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE UK 2021

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

We have all had to continue to mitigate and adapt to, not only changes to the climate, but those, too, imposed by the coronavirus on the everyday lives of us all.

Some of these may outlast the end of the pandemic stage of the coronavirus in ways yet fully to be predicted or considered.

It is timely to reflect on what a number of us have managed to achieve over the last twelve months and to consider a few ideas of what more we may achieve by collaboration over the coming year.



In the absence of any physical meetings, the CCEWP managed two webinars: on 27 April 2021 and on 28 July 2021.

The first of these, staged in conjunction with the AIDA-US Chapter and the FDCC, was chaired by Rich Traub, to whom grateful thanks are owed. Taking the theme: "**Climate Change & Insurance Implications in 2021: A Time for Universal Co-ordinated Action?**", Adam Krauss delivered a detailed look at insurance implications from a US legal and industry perspective and Stefan Perner considered recent developments in climate change litigation from a European perspective.

The second, for which I took the chair, was on the subject of, **"Climate Change, Insurers and Fossil Fuel Companies - a case *for* investment and collaboration?"**. It took the form of a detailed exposition by Dr Lars Schernikau, considering from his perspective: attributed causes of climate change and their impact; energy and security issues; and carbon policy choices for the insurance market and others. Thanks were due to Dr Schernikau and to CCEWP member, Claudia Challand, who paved the way for the presentation, for generating no little discussion about some of the contentious issues which came increasingly to the fore as the COP 26 Summit approached in Glasgow in November.

Hopes to stage further webinars before the end of the year were not realised, with activity of various kinds either side of the COP 26 summit making this difficult. Issues aired there provide opportunities for 2022 again to be an active year for the CCEWP in whatever form activities are to be conducted.

On 1 October 2021 AIDA Russia staged a Russian Eco-Workshop in which I was delighted to be able to participate remotely with a presentation on the topic of "**Pollution Insurance: an international perspective. Who cleans up? Who pays the price?**".

On 5 October 2021 I was honoured to be asked to deliver remotely the keynote speech on the subject of "**The role and challenges for insurance in a time of climate change**" to the XIII International Istanbul Insurance Conference staged by the STD, the Turkish Insurers' Practitioners Association, which took as its theme, **Climate Change, Natural Disasters - A New Risk Approach in the Insurance & Reinsurance World**.

Earlier in the year, on 30 June 2021 AIDA's UK Chapter, BILA, in conjunction with the Centre for Commercial Legal Studies (CCLS), part of Queen Mary University London, staged a joint online event on the subject of "**Insuring the Uninsurable**".

This included consideration of large-scale risk exposures triggered by climate change and the impact upon existing insurance risk carriers, governments and an array of others, including financial institutions and other new players in the risk management arena.

Other AIDA Chapters are likely to have considered topics over the past year relating to the impact of climate change upon insurance, environmental issues and especially in the context of Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) reporting and fossil fuel divestment and related litigation and regulatory and corporate responses.

It would be very helpful if anyone receiving this Newsletter would kindly volunteer links to, or details of any particularly interesting sessions materials in these areas to be shared.

Please alert me and I would be happy to share these and post them on our AIDA CCEWP website pages where permission to do so is given.



AIDA CCEWP website pages and accumulated materials



Some time ago I arranged for our website pages to be configured to accommodate the loading of materials and other links likely to be of wider interest.

At https://aidainsurance.org/working-parties/international-working-parties/climate-and-catastrophic-events you will see two fields in particular meriting comment now. The text carried in the first of these, "History, Purpose and Issues" identifies a few topics by way of "Issues" still generating discussion and/or renewed interest. I think it would be helpful if a number of you considered some of those identified here and would revert with suggestions of additions or materials or future activity on our part which might be especially worthwhile in the course of the coming year.

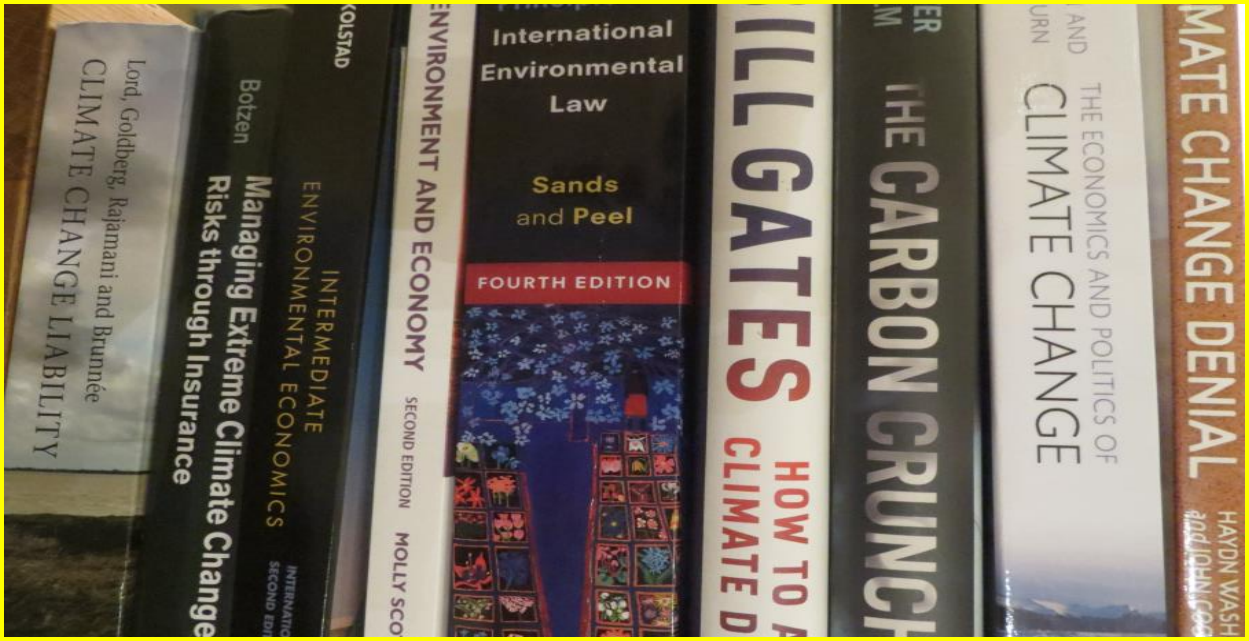
Secondly, the field, "Links" already affords links to two databases and five websites created by particularly prominent organisations in this context. The websites include that of the Geneva Association, which has continued in the course of this year, to report and to host online sessions of interest. Again, if anyone has any links to recommend to additional databases or websites, or to podcasts or the like to suggest, then do please make contact with me to widen our spread of easy access to pertinent information, content and comment of various kinds.

AIDA CCEWP resource tool: Since 2011 from the combined enterprise of over 500 or more who have participated in all the CCEWP sessions held, as well as in other related events and activities reported upon, and source materials cross-referenced, a significant amount of material, much of lasting value, has been generated. A project which has already been scoped in outline and which may represent a worthwhile venture to be advanced in 2022 is that of permitting by the use of keywords the creation of a better resource tool for those involved in the CCEWP and for wider benefit. This may require some resources and other assistance, in some cases voluntary help or student support. Again, if anyone has interest in exploring this further I should be happy to establish a small task force of a few individuals to consider and report upon what may feasibly be proposed, approved and put into action with appropriate funding and support as required.

Ancillary to the task of more easily accessing material generated by members of the CCEWP is that of identifying written and electronically-accessed published materials in the form of books, monographs, reports and other publications or presentations, again perhaps linked or categorised by reference to more specific subject sub-groups or keywords.

Again, I am open to suggestions or ideas, alternatively information about what form of comprehensive bibliography or index already exists of some such kind at national or other levels, upon which we might wish to build or alternatively provide access for all concerned with CCEWP issues and activities.

Publications in 2021 and 2022 - and other newsworthy developments



I am aware that a number of people involved with the CCEWP are actively engaged in the preparation of books and other materials likely to be of great interest to most receiving this Newsletter.

Late in 2020 a paper written by Professor Manfred Wandt, "**Liability for environmental damage and insurance coverage under German law"**, was published online in Zeitschrift für die gesamte Versicherungswissenschaft and was helpfully made available to all by being posted on the AIDA website.

It would be of great benefit if other materials - or at least notice of them - may be shared with other CCEWP members and posted whenever this is permitted.

Professor Dorota Masniak (Gdansk University) and Professor Katarzyna Malinowska (Kozminksi University), each of AIDA Poland, are editing the latest book in the AIDA Europe Research Series on Insurance Law & Regulation published by Springer to which a number of us are contributing. Entitled "**Environmental Risk & Insurance"**, it is presently being prepared for publication and will be based, inter alia, upon contributions first delivered at the successful AIDA Poland Conference held in Warsaw in late 2019 and in response to Calls for Papers announced in October 2020 and earlier.

Please kindly alert me to any other materials which may be included in any CCEWP reference repository we may help to assemble, as well as notice of future planned publications or materials. We already have some items not yet loaded on the CCEWP page to which additions for 2021 and 2022 could be helpfully added.



Neither the already once postponed CILA Congress in Costa Rica, nor the twice-postponed 9th AIDA Europe Conference in Zurich, will now take place at least until the second half of 2022. Revised dates in August and over 6-7 October 2022 have respectively been announced.

Nor will the XVI AIDA World Congress in Melbourne now proceed before the second half of 2023.

Accordingly we must again prepare, at least for another first six months of 2022, expecting to collaborate by way of remote, at best hybrid, sessions and activities.

In the course of the coming month I am hoping to discuss plans with those on the CCEWP co-ordinating committee, those who have already proffered suggested topics or presenters and any of you with ideas or proposals both for content and for logistical support in terms of staging and delivering such activities.

It proved helpful this year to benefit both from individual AIDA National Chapters or other organisations or institutions being involved with bringing issues to wider audiences across most jurisdictions. This was either by way of one simultaneous session or, as some AIDA Working Parties have successfully managed, successive sessions, suited to serve all time zones more comfortably. We have also taken the initiative of having administrative and promotional support to help deliver and record for posterity materials to be available to wider numbers.

In conjunction with the exercise of planning and promoting a series of further CCEWP webinars in 2022 it may prove beneficial if representatives from most countries previously expressing interest in CCEWP activities might also complete a very short questionnaire which can be prepared for circulation to help us capture activities of interest already planned for 2022 at national or regional level as well as notable developments in litigation, legislation, regulation or other practical developments or initiatives which may lend themselves to presentation, publication, consideration or discussion.

If anyone receiving this Newsletter wishes to contact me ahead of any further email notice being circulated please do so. This will greatly help any fruitful advancement of any activities of interest in the coming year.

This leaves me only to wish everyone a very Happy New Year, which we can only hope will prove easier for most of us. There is no question that constructive international collaboration has never been more greatly needed to tackle what lies before us.

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