



# IV. Member Cities in Action

## EURO ENVIRONMENT IN AALBORG



### **Top managers from European industry exchange experience on sustainable development in Aalborg, Denmark**

The international EURO ENVIRONMENT conference takes place at the Aalborg Congress and Culture Centre on September 23-25, 1998. The conference is expected to attract close to 600 participants from all over world. The organizers have invited keynote speakers for the five main themes of the conference, which are environmental management; environmentally sound product development; self regulation versus public regulation; cleaner technology and prevention; and stakeholder management.

“Business is on the right track. We are now into a new phase where business and those who seek social and environmental progress are starting to talk the same language. Change is taking place, but we need to continually keep the lines of communication open, to both share our experience, and allow others to see how far we have come, and where we are going,” says Executive Director Björn Stigson, the Chairman of the conference. He is also the Executive Director of the Swiss-based World Business Council for Sustainable Development, which is a coalition of over 120 international companies committed the environment, economic growth and sustainable de-

velopment.

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## SURFING COPENHAGEN

**Since the beginning of the 1980s, the City of Copenhagen has worked to develop an information technology system, which can be accessed directly by the citizens themselves. Since the early 1996 the Copenhageners have been able to get information about the city on the Internet through the Copenhagen I.T. System. This service which is open day and night is not only an advantage for the citizens, but also beneficial for the city because of the possibilities of saving human resources normally used for information service during the day.**

Today, the Copenhagen I.T. System contains more than 900 pages. Furthermore, links have been made to a number of other co-operation partners with their own web-pages. The system is one of the largest in the world de-

veloped to give citizens local government information on the Internet. Its structure and accessibility are widely recognized.

The next step in the development will be to give the citizens direct access through the Internet to communicate with the city on more specific matters and to search for individual economic and social assistance and services - surfing Copenhagen day and night.

The homepage is also available in English at [www.kbhbase.CopenhagenCity.dk](http://www.kbhbase.CopenhagenCity.dk)

#### **The Internet**

The city has outlined a general strategy for the use of the Internet in its various departments. The strategy aims at securing public access to information regarding the City of Copenhagen through the use of the Internet. Fur-

thermore, the strategy aims at providing the exchange of electronic mail and data to the city's employees and the members of the City Council. The strategy also provides guidelines regarding standards in relation to Internet-names.

#### **The I.T.-strategy**

The purpose of the I.T.-strategy is to further develop the City of Copenhagen as a leading city in relation to the use of advanced IT. This includes the effective use of the new information technologies in order to ensure that citizens, private firms and industries are able to communicate effectively with the City of Copenhagen, 24 hours a day.

#### **Communication with the members of the City Council**

Another goal is that the members of the City Council have been supplied each with their own "e-mail". It enables them to communicate with the municipal departments through the