SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION:

The participants of the discussion group stated that although environmental libraries are aquatic libraries, they also have many common environmental interests, like aims, collections, network information sources and the field of activities. It was decided to establish an environmental interest group. The group would be connected by an e-mail list which would be a forum of common interests. The group decided that Ruth Gustafson (University of California, Bodega Bay) and Elisa Paavilainen (Finnish Environment Institute, Helsinki) will send an email to EURASLIC and IAMSLIC discussion lists and ask who would be interested in joining the environmental libraries discussion list. Ruth Gustafson offered to take care of establishing the list.

About five years ago EELNET-network (European Environment Library Network) was founded. That NICE-Europe (Network of Information Centres on the Environment in Europe) is a network of contact persons from selected European environmental libraries and information centres. The contact person of EELNET is Lilian Mex-Jorgensen from National Environmental Research Institute in Silkeborg. The group decided that Elisa Paavilainen will get in contact with her to clarify the situation of EELNET. Perhaps it would be reasonable to connect the focal points of EELNET to the discussion list, too.

In the beginning the discussion list of environmental libraries would be a trial. The group will gather experience of the usability of that forum.