

# Committee on Engineering Capacity Building

## WORLD FEDERATION OF ENGINEERING ORGANISATIONS

#### CHRISTOPHER CAMPBELL Pr.Eng.

Private Bag X691, Bruma, Johannesburg, South Africa, 2026
Phone: +27 (0) 11-607-9500 Mobile: +27 (0) 83-276-3852 FAX: +27 (0) 622-9295
E-mail: christopher.campbell@infraset.com

28 February 2013

To: Executive Board

World Federation of Engineering Organizations

Subject: Report of the Committee on Engineering Capacity Building

#### 1. Introduction

The following report is hereby submitted in compliance with the need for quarterly reporting from all STC's following a resolution taken during the September 2012 Council Meeting in Slovenia. The report will follow the recommended outline and will attempt to address all issues raised as best as possible according to decisions and undertaking at the Committee Meeting held on 17 September 2012.

### 2. Strategic Action Plan

The Committee Strategic Action Plan for 2013 is attached and updated as **Annexure 1**. The Year Plan 2013 for scheduled meetings is attached and updated as **Annexure 2**.

Progress to date on Action Plans is as follows:

- Chinese translation of the Guidebook has been done and is available on the CECB website:
- 2. Commitment has been obtained from various persons who attended the CECB Meeting in Slovenia for further translations into Arabic, French and Portuguese. Follow up of this has been done and the best estimate for completion is as reflected on the programme. The French version is currently in progress, however, we seem to have lost the co-operation of volunteers for the Arabic and Portuguese versions. We would recommend that the Executive Board assist in getting volunteers for translation into various languages in the manner that the Chinese version (which is an Executive Summary) has been done.
- 3. The Capacity Building Compendium Website structure was demonstrated at the meeting in Slovenia. It is in the process of being finalized and once done, will be linked to the WFEO CECB Website. We are testing the system within the local Committee and will be expanding the test to a broader Committee after the Executive Board demonstration has been done. We anticipate populating and debugging the system to go live at the General Assembly in September 2013.
- 4. Discussions at the Slovenia meeting highlighted the need to establish Regional Capacity Building Sub-Committees with a Regional Chair who would give feedback to the main Committee. This would create opportunity for broadening the Committee as well as for making provision for communication amongst interested organisations without the difficulty of working across too many time zones. We have attempted to communicate through the various Committee Members without much success. We suspect that Regional Bodies such as UPADI and FEANI do not have the same

Committees as WFEO so it may be difficult to identify and allocate a Regional Chair. We anticipate that with the new AFEO structure which tries to resemble that of WFEO as best as possible, it would be easier to identify and communicate with the Regional Chair responsible for Capacity Building. It may be worth investigating if there would not be a possibility of trying to standardise Committee structures to facilitate this interaction if possible.

Additional actions proposed to fulfill the requirements as agreed in the Council Meeting are as follows:

- 1. Participation of members of the WIE as well as the YE/YL Committee will be further encouraged and whilst in-person participation may be a challenge, names will be added to our list of corresponding members;
- 2. We have recently been invited to make Presentations at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology on Capacity Building and have requested assistance from the Energy Committee, the YE/FL Committee as well as an Exco Member (Peter Greenwood) who is involved in the Engineers Mobility Forum. We have been favoured by timely responses from both Mr Greenwood as well as the Chair and members of the Energy Committee, to whom we are most grateful, at the time of preparing to submit this report.
- 3. Linkages with UNESCO are ongoing and Mr Dawie Botha, a member of the CECB, has been seconded to UNESCO to work on their Engineering Initiative Projects. He will be working with them over the next six months and as these develop we will be involved and give feedback. This provides an excellent opportunity to strengthen the Committee linkages with UNESCO; Feedback on interaction with other international organisations will be provided as and when these occur.
- 4. We intend using the Compendium as a facility to enhance co-operation and eliminate any duplication which may occur between STC's especially where Capacity Building issues are concerned. An example of this would be to make the Compendium facility available for posting of articles such as the one on Capacity Building from the Committee of Women in Engineering currently posted on their Committee publications; Furthermore the structure of the Compendium will facilitate linkages between WFEO and other international bodies such as FIDIC and IEEE, who are also involved in their own Capacity Building programmes. In addition, we may be able to use this to create linkages with the World Bank who are currently funding a programme for Capacity Building in the Oil and Gas Industry in Ghana, incorporating technical skills development.

# 3. Detailed budget, sources of funds and requests of WFEO allocation

The budget for 2013 has been attached as **Annexure 3**.

The Engineering Council of South Africa has earmarked specific funds to be available to support the above activities. However, further support is being sought through the South African Department of Science and Technology which has worked closely with UNESCO in the past and continues to do so. The Committee is in the process of developing the Capacity Building Compendium and had originally not made any budget provision for these costs. The Kuwait Society of Engineers had originally offered to either do this work or provide funding, neither of which had been forthcoming to date and in order to make progress we received an advance from the Engineering Council of South Africa, pending the securing of additional funds. The Compendium will become the intellectual property of WFEO once completed. The unbudgeted expense for which we are requesting support from WFEO is 6500 Euro for the payment of the web developer. The interim running costs of the Compendium will be self-funded until the Committee Chair term expires in 2015.