Joining the world’s engineering body as an Associate

Introduction to WFEO

We are the global body for the engineering profession. Founded in 1968, we have national members from about 90 countries representing more than 30 million engineers. We work to influence international institutions, to promote globally agreed good practice and to address the challenges of sustainable development around the world. Through these activities, we regularly engage with governments, policy-makers and United Nations leaders to present the engineering perspective. We are an NGO with official status at the United Nations Social and Economic Council, and we co-lead the UN Scientific and Technological Major Group. We are an official partner of UNESCO (associate status) and our Secretariat is based at their headquarters in Paris.

Our work is designed and delivered by our eleven Standing Technical Committees and Policy Advisory Committees – PICs (with current host members):

- Committee on Engineering and the Environment (CEE, UK)
- Committee on Education in Engineering (CEIE, Myanmar)
- Committee on Information and Communication (CIC, India)
- Committee on Disaster Risk Management (CDRM, Peru)
- Committee on Energy (CE, France)
- Committee on Engineering for Innovative Technologies (CEIT, China)
- Committee on Water (CW, Spain and Portugal)
- Young Engineers / Future Leaders (YE/FL, Lebanon) - PIC
- Women in Engineering (WiE, Nigeria) - PIC
- Committee on Engineering Capacity Building (CECB, Zimbabwe) - PIC
- Committee on Anti-Corruption (CAC, Rwanda) - PIC

In addition, we have a WFEO United Nations Relations Committee (hosted by the USA), and a working group on Global Infrastructure Report Card (hosted by the Federation of African Engineering Organizations).

WFEO works closely with UNESCO and is involved in several UN bodies such as UNFCCC (Climate Change), UNIDO (Industry), UNEP (Environment), the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Meteorological Organization. We have co-operation agreements with other international organizations such as the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC), the International Federation of Engineering Education Societies (IFIPES) and the Global Engineering Deans’ Council (Gedc), the International Center for Engineering Education (ICEE), Engineers Without Borders (EWB) and the International Engineering Alliance (IEA).

Recent examples of our work (url enclosed)

- Proclamation by UNESCO of the first ever World Engineering Day (WED), based on the WFEO’s proposal and advocacy. The first WED was celebrated on 4 March 2020, and on 4 March of each year since then.
- Second UNESCO Engineering Report, co-led and authored by WFEO officers and staff, launched on World Engineering Day on 4 March 2021, at UNESCO.
- Model Code of Practice of Climate Change Adaptation for Engineers.
- 50th Anniversary celebration held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris in March 2018, with a joint Declaration issued by UNESCO and WFEO on progressing the Sustainable Development Goals through engineering.
- A Climate Emergency Declaration issued in 2019 signed by many engineering organizations.
- WFEO consultation on draft international standard ISO 37000 – Governance of organizations
- Consultations and webinars on the update of the IEA’s Graduate Attributes and Professional Competencies, which was approved in June 2021.
- Launch (2022) of the WFEO Academy training portal, providing free online courses for graduates, practitioners and engineering educators.
What is an Associate?

An Associate shall be an engineering organization, other professional organization or corporate body that registers as such for the purpose of supporting the Federation, and receiving regular information on its activities. As such, the Associate does not participate in WFEO's governing bodies and General Assembly, except as observer. Its members may take part in WFEO's conferences and WFEO's work through its STCs, on request and by approval of the Board. The yearly membership fee is to be decided at every biennial General Assembly and for 2021-2023 is EUR 2,000 for non-for-profit or educational organizations, and EUR 5,000 for corporate bodies.

You can learn more on our structure and operations by reading our Governing and Strategic Documents.

Some benefits of Membership

Participation:

• Your work can be featured in our e-newsletter
• Presentation of your work at and/or participation in all our events and in front of the UN agencies meetings
• Participation in any WFEO projects that are relevant to your area of interest (such as on mobility of engineers)
• Facilitation of regular contact with colleagues working in your area of interest across every continent, including with regional organizations (10 continental/regional organizations are WFEO international members)
• Participate to the World Engineering Day on March 4th of each year: main event, various events worldwide
• possibility to have your own initiative placed under the patronage of a UNESCO Official International Day

Influence:

• Reach all our members to inform them in relation to your work
• Opportunities to engage with national governments through our members where appropriate
• Opportunities to influence international institutions and initiatives (not usually possible from a national level)
• Contribute to the policies and actions of WFEO in improving the engineering profession around the globe

Representation:

• Promote your organization, its work and its agenda at the global level and in the UN System
• Be acknowledged as an Associate on our website and in our Biennial Reports
• Extend your support and enhance your visibility by granting sponsorship for UNESCO World Engineering Day or a particular WFEO project or activity, conference organization, social event, or a new WFEO Award in an area of particular interest to you.

Those benefits apply to all your staff or representatives.

Contact us:
Maison de l’UNESCO – 1, rue Miollis, 75015 Paris, France
Jacques de Méreuil, Executive Director
Tél: +33 (0)1 45 68 48 46
secretariat@wfeo.org / www.wfeo.org