

RESOLUTIONS FROM 2023 FAEO CONFERENCE HELD ON FRIDAY 27th JANUARY 2023 KIGALI - RWANDA

The theme of the Conference:

UNLEASHING ENGINEERING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE AfCFTA IMPLEMENTATION;

WHEREAS, the 2023 FAEO Conference, was held in **Kigali, Rwanda at the Convention Centre** on 27th of January 2023 and successfully attracted delegates composed of engineering institutions' leaders from Ghana, Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Angola, DRC, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Burundi, USA and the host Rwanda.

WHEREAS, we recall the Africa Engineering Week and Conference, hosted by the FAEO and Ethiopian Association of Civil Engineers (EACE), partnering with WFEO & UNESCO held in **Addis Ababa, Ethiopia** from the 8th to 22nd November 2022, under the theme “**Accelerating Sustainable Infrastructure Development in Africa Together**”,

WHEREAS, we further recall the WFEO-CECB Capacity Building in Engineering Education International Forum, Africa Asia Pacific Accord, and Zimbabwe Institution of Engineering (ZIE) Biennial Conference held in **Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe** from the 15th to the 19th of August 2022, under the theme: “**Engineering the Future through Capacity Building, Partnerships, Innovative Infrastructure and Quality Engineering Education,**”

NOTING THAT, these seminary conferences discussed diverse and cross cutting topics, that inform policies, strategies and harmonized implementation frameworks for Africa and the rest of the World; delegates at the 2023 FAEO Conference resolved to closely lobby to work with the AU, AfCFTA and our Governments;

REALISING THAT, without proper partnership models with the AfCFTA, robust frameworks for engineering education and practice informed by accurate data of engineering capabilities, quality and quantity of human capital needs required to achieve the SDGs, AU Agenda 2063 and other developmental aspirations, economic development will be impossible in developing countries especially Africa,

OBSERVING THAT;

- Engineering for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) sees a world where engineers contribute to ensuring that all people have access to the services and resources necessary to live healthy, fulfilling lives in dignity and at peace, while working to preserve the global environment. Meeting the SDGs by 2030 and any development goals beyond that date is impossible without the mobilization and full input of the engineering profession at all levels.
- Establishing and strengthening linkages and partnerships for research and training in the Africa and the rest of the World requires collaboration between, our governments, professional engineering institutions, engineering technical and higher education organisations with CPD providers.
- The Creation of the **Africa, Asia, and the Pacific (AAP) Accord** by the Federation of African Engineering Organisations (FAEO) and the Federation of Engineering Institutions of Asia and Pacific (FEIAP) was a landmark occasion as it ensured the professional engineering organisations in these regions will build up their ability to meet or exceed the requirements of the International Engineering Alliance (IEA) by group mentoring, training, benchmarking, and capacity building. The AAP Accord is the framework for the establishment of an International Standard of Engineering Education and Practices that

empower each member jurisdiction or economy of FEIAP and FAEO to establish a section of the Register for Engineering of among others Graduate Engineers, Engineering Technologist and Engineering technicians.

- The need for **Engineering Education and Practices Transformation** to meet development aspirations and goals through **Capacity Building**. This requires a united, coordinated, and harmonized approach, hence the call for the formation of a Frameworks with objectives to align, lead and report collectively to create an African Engineering Accord that promotes mobility.
- To create a home for engineering profession's educators, mentors, coach and activists for capacity development and retention of engineering professionals in Africa.

THEREFORE, the delegates DECLARE as follows:

1. Institutional reforms:

Reforms will be carried out to promote timely and effective decision-making, strengthen and formalize the authority of FAEO and will cover but not limited to the following.

- 1.1. Alignment of FAEO Governance documents to its vision and strategy for impactful outcomes;
- 1.2. Establish a liaison office in Addis Ababa to be chaired by the Ethiopian Association of Civil Engineers (EACE) because of their proximity to the African Union Headquarters;
- 1.3. Assist some African countries without Professional Engineering Institutions to have them and help to operationalize them;
- 1.4. Develop and operationalise engineering ethics and best professional practices through FAEO members;
- 1.5. Adopt and operationalise Projects Anti-Corruption Standards (PACS) in procurement, engineering, construction and maintenance of infrastructure in Africa;
- 1.6. Develop and operationalise engineering accreditation policy and procedures manual for Africa's industrialisation;
- 1.7. All Standing Technical Committees (STCs) and Industry Working Groups to identify and develop potential areas for FAEO interventions and propose specific actions and Implementation Plans to include preparing project proposals for potential funding by the development partners.

2. Enhancing Partnerships:

FAEO aims to strengthen existing strategic partnerships and create new ones with like-minded organizations and other potential collaborators in order to expand its resource base to effectively support its mandate. More emphasis will be put in advocating for independent feedback loop at the African Union (AU) and its organs to achieve Africa's desired transformation with engineering community's substantial contributions. New potential partnerships will be sought in the following strategic categories:

- 2.1. Operationalization of all resolutions of the Africa Engineering Week and Conference, hosted by the FAEO and Ethiopian Association of Civil Engineers (EACE);
- 2.2. Operationalization of all resolutions of the WFEO-CECB Capacity Building in Engineering Education International Forum, Africa Asia Pacific Accord, and Zimbabwe Institution of Engineering (ZIE) Biennial Conference;
- 2.3. The support of Rwanda Government and other African Governments, FAEO is desirous of engagements to uniquely contribute in AfCFTA framework responding to aligning

- engineering services delivery, harmonisation of standards and skills development to local needs of sustainable engineering ecosystem;
- 2.4. Accelerating the implementation of Africa Union's Agenda 2063 through AfCFTA strategy;
 - 2.5. Full engagements and collaboration with the African Development Bank (AfDB), African Circular Economy Alliance (ACEA), World Bank plus any other Development Partners;
 - 2.6. Operationalization of the AAP Accord in establishments of centers of excellences at least one in each FAEO region to ensure appropriate contents and delivery of homegrown training solutions;
 - 2.7. Operationalise the International Partner Agreement with American Concrete Institute (ACI) for the benefit of all FAEO members and partners;
 - 2.8. Operationalise the MoU with International Humanitarian Infrastructure Platform (IHIP) for the benefits of all FAEO members and Partners;
 - 2.9. Operationalise the MoU with FIDIC Africa in infrastructure contracts management competencies to FAEO members through PEIs;
 - 2.10. Operationalise MoU with the World Council of Civil Engineering (WCCE) for the benefits of FAEO members;
 - 2.11. Operationalise MoU with Institution of Engineers India through their Engineering Staff College in delivery of specialised training programs for FAEO members and partners;
 - 2.12. Advocacy for governments to groom and grow indigenous engineering consultancy firms and contractors and engage the private sector for sustainability of infrastructure development in Africa.

3. Digitalization as a game changer:

FAEO shall digitize engineering practitioners' database in order to build reliable and trusted source of engineering services data through professional engineering institutions in Africa. This will not only help to cut costs but also make doing business possible by promoting market access of goods and services plus mobility of engineering personnel and easily accessible by all the stakeholders. Focus will be put on the following:

1.1. WEBSITE

- 1.1.1. A standard multilingual Website Architecture will be offered to all member under FAEO with ability to manage and self-publish directly;
- 1.1.2. All Website will allow an online registration process according to every institution member, and possibly be harmonized across FAEO;
- 1.1.3. A GIS features allowing geodata statistics;
- 1.1.4. Responsive design for phones, tablets, and desktops alike;
- 1.1.5. Technical Webinars, Virtual Conferencing Scheduling;
- 1.1.6. Lesson Learn feedback and sharing across the profession
- 1.1.7. Training delivery.

1.2. MARKET PLACE

- 1.2.1. A commercial website to convey engineering products and services to be advertised.
- 1.2.2. Possibility for user to contact the suppliers;
- 1.2.3. E commerce platform for services, engineering related goods with a particular focus of connecting AfCFTA members;

1.2.4. Tender advertisement platform or digitally assisted procurement;

1.2.5. Project peer review platform.

1.3. MEMBERSHIP DATABASE

1.3.1. Membership Database of contact, professional qualifications, fees, etc;

1.3.2. Services access system and mobility pass with secured login for registered engineers, of whom the valid certificate will be verified against the National Institutions databases through digital interrogation;

1.3.3. Indigenous Engineering firms registration and access to market for tenders and jobs;

1.3.4. Payments and accounting system included.

1.4. STANDARD CHECK

1.4.1. Mobile inspection for standards compliance for specific jobs, or material with a digital certification.

1.5. ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR)

1.5.1. Digital registration of infrastructure related disputes allowing a workflow monitoring;

1.5.2. Digital registration of ADR experts with engineering background.

4. Enhancing Equality Diversity and inclusion:

FAEO will intensify existing initiatives and engagements for Youth, Women and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). Engineers to become more relevant in providing sustainable and reliable solutions to the community and Africa at large:

4.1. Develop and adopt the standard equality, diversity and inclusion manual for all engineering institutions in Africa;

4.2. Develop specific programs and projects for women in engineering, youths and people with disability;

4.3. Develop advocacy programs to encourage young girls to join engineering and technical education;

4.4. Advocacy for harmonisation standards in new and existing infrastructures across Africa to include considerations for PWDs.

Signed for Immediate Implementation by stakeholders.



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