

## Report to the Executive Council on progress with WFEO-IEA agreement

### Background

WFEO and the International engineering Alliance (IEA) signed a cooperation agreement in December 2015.

Receiving the agreement for signature in Kyoto, the Executive Council asked the committee formed to develop the Agreement from the existing Memorandum of Understanding to recommend a revised committee to operate the agreement.

The work has been done and is the subject of a separate paper to the Executive Council, proposing the establishment of an Operating Committee. It seems as if IEA has not progressed to this stage yet but we will start regular exchanges as soon as their committee is finalised.

It is important to note that the whole of this process has been about reaching agreement and adding structure in an environment in which two organisations wanted to cooperate and already had plans and projects, ironically, which we both largely agree on.

Three sections from the committee proposal are worth repeating here. The purpose and operation of the Agreement have been used as the purpose of the committee

### Purpose

1. WFEO and IEA seek to collaborate and promote accreditation and competence assessment and to build the capacity of national bodies around the world to the point where they can join the Accords and the Agreements.
2. WFEO and the IEA agree that the purpose of this agreement is to raise the competence of engineers around the world to ensure the ethical practice of engineering by:
  - a. raising awareness of the importance of accreditation of engineering qualifications and competence assessment to global standards;
  - b. building political and financial commitment for the development of national engineering accreditation and competence assessment bodies;
  - c. building the capacity of national accreditation and competence assessment agencies and underlying facilities, so that those agencies can be mentored to achieve best global practice by the IEA/WFEO and their members;

- d. building the capacity of national accreditation and competence assessment bodies to the point where they can join the Accords and Agreements as provisional and eventually full members; and
- e. seeking partners and resources that will enable the achievement of these aims globally.

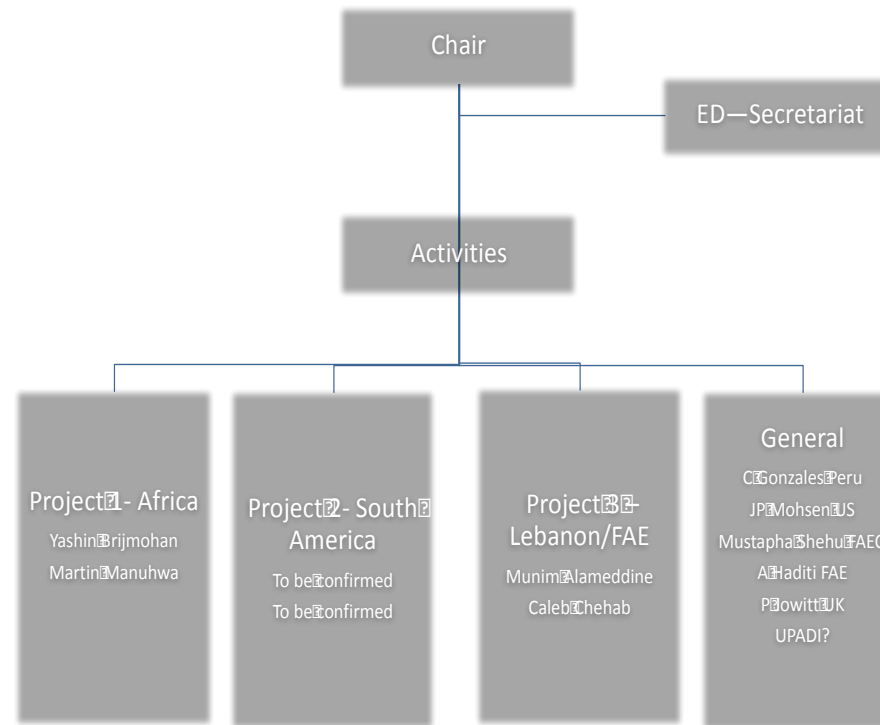
### Operation

1. Each organization will contribute members to liaise on managing the general business of the agreement. IEA and WFEO operating committees will maintain contact at least once a year by appropriate means.
2. The operating committees will:
  - a. exchange annual reports for circulation within the two organisations. Project reports will be submitted to the operating committees for attention and transmission to the WFEO Executive Council and its IEA counterpart. The appointed leaders of specific projects will prepare the Project reports;
  - b. formulate changes to the activities or the agreement from time to time;
  - c. formulate a joint information and advocacy campaign – mainly through WFEO communications, volunteers and events;
  - d. undertake joint fundraising activities for capacity building costs such as for travel, stipends, workshops and meetings;
  - e. launch joint projects on capacity building on behalf of major funding providers.

### Projects

1. Specific projects will be pursued from time to time as the need arises. Any agreement to undertake a project will be made by the WFEO Executive Council and its counterpart in IEA.
2. Indicative work which might be the subject of specific projects includes, but is not limited to:
  - a. advice in the form of briefs or manuals on accreditation and certification processes, requirements for participation and membership of the various accords and forums;
  - b. generic material on jurisdictional accreditation and regulatory institutions;
  - c. generic material on capacity building and education material for the different stages of an engineer's career life cycle; and
  - d. actual capacity building through a project funded by a third party provider.

## Committee structure



## Committee membership

The proposed structure combines the members of the drafting committee that produced the agreed document in a general section to consider high-level matters. The other three sections provide liaison with the managers of the three individual projects that pre-dated the agreement. The structure will be amended as required to accommodate new projects.

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|--|---|
| P Greenwood chair  | Y Brijmohan from CECB — Project 1 liaison   |
| UPADI to be confirmed  | Martin Manuhwa from CAC — Project 1 liaison |
| A Hadithi taking the lead for the Federation of Arab Engineers (FAE)   |   |
| M Shehu for the Federation of African Engineering Organizations (FAEO) | To be confirmed — Project 2 liaison         |
| JP Mohsen from CEIE  | To be confirmed — Project 2 liaison         |
| C Gonzales from CIP Peru   |   |
| Paul Jowitt UK, contact with Academy                                   | Caleb Chehab — Project 3 liaison            |
| Executive Director — Secretariat                                       | Munim Alameddine — Project 3 liaison        |

### Project progress

While the operating arrangements were being ironed out, the projects continued to develop. Attached to this report are brief reports on each project.

### Motion

The Executive Council is asked to receive this report.

Jorge Spitalnik, President WFEO.

### Attachments

#### Project 1. Africa

The project in Africa was initiated initially by the FAEO with advice from the Mobility working Group of WFEO CEIE and the WFEO Secretariat. It was later taken-up again by FAEO and WFEO CCB and WFEO CAC. There has been much activity to establish the project, which is now coming together.

The project leaders have made contact with the African Union and the African Development Bank, receiving encouragement and support. The urgent need now is to scope the initial activities and identify engineering organisations from countries that want to participate actively.

WFEO also approached the UK Government about the possibility of funding. After some deliberations funds have been offered with the proviso that the activity be overseen by the UK Royal Academy of Engineers (RAEng). WFEO is pleased with this outcome because of RAEng's involvement in similar activities. WFEO will continue to be associated with project at the leadership level, but Project 1 leaders will be directly involvement.

The Project 1. leaders along with project leaders from the other projects will be members of the WFEO/IEA Operating Committee, providing the information channel between the projects, WFEO governance and the IEA.

Unfortunately, another organisation is causing some confusion by offering an alternative to the some parts of the Africa project. This will need to be resolved as soon as possible.

### **Project 2 South America**

The project started with the Brazilian government wishing to facilitate Brazilian engineers working overseas and foreign engineers working in Brazil. After discussions within WFEO FEBRAE (Brazil's learned society) approached Engineers Australia to discuss moving towards membership of the Washington Accord. Some progress has been made to compare Brazilian and Australian approaches to assessing the standing or their respective degree programs. FEBRAE has also come together with CONFEA in a joint approach, which will also include Brazilian universities.

Brazil has also reached agreement with Portugal to recognise each other's engineers.

Peru has separately sought membership of the Washington Accord. It was accepted as a provisional member in 2014 and hopes to gain full membership soon. Peru is also part of the WFEO-EA Agreement management group and will work with Brail to facilitate in activities and helping other South American countries to join international agreement as the opportunities arise.

### **Lebanon/FAE**

#### *Work in the Arab Countries*

(Provided by Abdul menhem Alameddine Cir CEIE(

The next meeting of the FAE-CET is in October 2016, and the issue of IEA will be raised with them and how to cooperate with IEA in the future. I am assigned few months ago as Lebanon representative in the committee and my main goal is to have them talking with IEA and getting close relations with them. This will enhance the system and make the FAE-CET commitment to excellence in engineering as part of the accreditation. Nowadays, the FAE-CET is making visits to some universities in the Middle East with their own procedures. This has to be changed I hope to cope with the other international systems like the IEA.

In Lebanon, there is a scheduled meeting from FAE-CET to 4 Universities to be visited in late September early October to see if the standards are meeting the criteria of the FAE-CET. That criteria was approved by the Gulf States in 2012 and are very close to the ABET requirements.  
Work of CEIE in Lebanon

There were more than 10 meetings within the past 2 years in Lebanon with the Deans of the Engineering schools, and we decided that, there will be a qualifying exam for anybody who likes to be a PE in Lebanon. All the meeting were made having in mind that WFEO-CEIE is represented by me, and actually, I am presiding over all the meetings.  
The system is under construction to be computerized without any human interface at all. The system will be multiple choice questions divided into 2 sections: Basic and Specialty. This system applies to all fields of engineering in Lebanon.

The President of the Federation is working on getting a decree from the government for the QE. The 2 Orders of Engineers in Lebanon approved in their general meetings the QE, and it should become a part of being a PE within the next 2 years.

The Universities are the main contributors to the system. It will be administered by a committee of 7 persons: the Presidents of the Order in Beirut and Tripoli and 5 Deans of Universities who have an engineering program more than 25 years.

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Notes:

- a) Accreditation activities in FAE via Lebanon is based on the Washington Accord process and provided by ABET (USA).
- b) The development is an activity of the FAE with help from the WFEO CEIE. WFEO Project 3 is intended to provide support and facilitation to the work of FAE as needed.