



Opening and Welcome Remarks by Chair, WFEO-WIE, Ing Dr. Enyonam Kpekpena

WFEO-WIE Open Forum Webinar , 28th May 2025

Our Honourable President of WFEO, Engr. Mustapha Shehu, All Presidents and Chairs of Women in Engineering groups within WFEO regions and PEIs, the Executive Director, WFEO, Mr. Jacques de Mereuil, WFEO-WIE theme leads, WFEO-WIE Members, Officers at WFEO Secretariat and the WIE Ghana Secretariat, fellow engineers, ladies and gentlemen, I deem it a great honour to welcome everyone to the 2nd Open Forum Webinar of the Committee on Women in Engineering of WFEO.

It is indeed a great privilege for the Committee to host this webinar for the second time since my appointment as chair of the committee on Women in Engineering and I specially want to use this opportunity to thank everyone for the support we have received so far and also thank you for honoring our invitation and making time to join us for this Webinar today.

As detailed in our program outline, the purpose of the 2nd Open Forum Webinar today is to officially provide members with a short report on the activities undertaken by the committee since our 1st Open Forum. receive the strategic plans from the members of the WFEO-WIE executive committee who are WFEO-WIE theme leads and also have a time of interaction and collaboration between members of the committee.

Over the past, WIE has been working on activities towards the achievement of its 4 strategic themes which include:

- **Theme 1:** Engineering Workforce Capacity building- to increase diversity and inclusivity in the future skills pipeline.
- **Theme 2:** Engineering Workforce Capacity building- to encourage female engineering retention and leadership
- **Theme 3:** Collection of Engineering Strategic Indicators
- **Theme 4:** Working in Partnership to address the Sustainable Development Goals, with a particular emphasis on Goal 5 and its relationship with the other Goals.

This year, we received 11 2024 country reports from WIE Members from Angola, Taiwan, United Kingdom, Nigeria, Liberia, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zambia and Namibia. Dear WFEO WIE members, I would like to request that we all align our activities with WIE strategic objectives and ensure that we are executing our activities nationally and internationally to achieve them.

Today, we are privileged to receive insight from each of the themes represented by very committed theme leads who will be providing us with information on each theme and the plan for this year. After hearing from our theme leaders, we will do an open session where we will take questions and suggestions from members to ensure that we collectively understand our vision, mission, strategic objectives and how we can individually contribute towards the achievement of our goals.

I gladly welcome everyone to the 2nd open forum webinar and ask for your full participation to make this event a success.

Thank you so much.