

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

(Nov. 2018 – March 2019)

EXECUTIVE BOARD & EXTENDED BOARD MEETINGS

LJUBLJANA, APRIL 20 & 24, 2018

1. Office

- With Executive assistant Théo Belaud and webmaster Ivan Juiz, we are a three full time staff at the Secretariat in Paris. Ms. Isabelle Cafaro is working for us on accounting and administrative matters based on one day a month.
- The cost of renting for our offices (34 m2) at UNESCO slightly increased for 2019 compared with 2018 (22,450€, + 1.8%). We have avoided until now to pay an IT fee of 350€ per computer in UNESCO domain.

2. WFEO and UNESCO

Natural Sciences Sector

Assistant Director Dr. Flavia Schlegel left on 1 February, and her last official participation was at the conference on capacity building in Africa on 31 January that WFEO organised. Dr. Shamila Nair Bedouelle, coming from UNEP, replaced her on 1 April, and she met with Marlene Kanga on 4 April.

We have developed excellent relations with the new Director of Science Policy and Capacity Building, Ms. Peggy Oti-Boateng, from Ghana, educated in Australia.

Communication Sector

Meeting on 30 January with Moise Chackchouk, ADG in charge of Artificial Intelligence, with Marlene Kanga and Gong Ke.

UNESCO events

- 6 November: conference on IT and SDG. J. de Méreuil briefly intervened on the World Engineering Day project
- 9 November: brainstorming at UNESCO on capacity building in education on climate change, with ISC, FIDIC... As a follow on, there was on 20 November a meeting on education to energy transition organized by the Shift Project and La Main à la Pâte.
- 19 November: UNESCO SIDS (Small Islands Developing States) Knowledge Symposium: J. de Méreuil was invited to do a presentation on engineering and SDGs.

- 29 November : GO-SPIN Conference: J. de Méreuil attended
- 17-19 December : NGO-UNESCO International Conference
- **30 January: Information meeting on Engineering in Africa**, hosted by the Africa Group of UNESCO. Marlene Kanga, Gong Ke and other WFEO delegates including J. de Méreuil made presentations
- **1 February: Information meeting on Engineering with Permanent Delegations** Marlene Kanga, Gong Ke and other WFEO delegates made presentations
- UNESCO organised in March 2019 a conference on artificial intelligence, where Gong Ke gave a keynote speech
- The secretariat was involved in the NGO-UNESCO hydrology project, ensuring the participation of four technicians from Senegal at a 3 weeks education program in 2IE School in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. The French Permanent Delegate sent a support letter to this initiative, which received a funding of USD12,000 from UNESCO.

2. Other organizations

The secretariat helped in ensuring WFEO involvements with various organizations, like

- OECD (meeting with Gong Ke in March 2019)
- UN office in Geneva + WMO (with Swiss member SIA-STV representatives)
- WFP/PAM in Paris, which gave support to EFS Africa Conference in Tunis
- UNIDO and IAEA in Vienna
- J. de Méreuil was member of the Review Organizing Committee of the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) to be published by UNDESA in sept. 2019, coordinating reviews by WFEO delegates.

3. Internal Affairs

- Participation in the Committee on member fees with Gong Ke, SC Tan and Marlene Kanga.
- Preparation and minutes for virtual Executive Board meetings
- ROP reviewing and updating.
- Finance: final execution of the 2018 budget, establishment of quarterly accounts and preparation of the 2019 new estimate

4. Projects

WFEO 50th Anniversary

- Support to M. Kanga for the WFEO History Book: gathering of archives, documents, quotation for the printing, editing

World Engineering Day project

- Preparation of documents, translations...

- Continuous exchanges with the Namibian Deputy Permanent Delegate
- Meetings with other Permanent Delegations: Nigeria, Mali, Gabon, Australia (with Marlene in November), France...also to prepare the January 30 meeting on Africa

5. Marketing & Prospective

- Meeting with IESF on future common actions in Francophone Africa: wish to exchange with the Agence Internationale de la Francophonie, and AFD (Agence Française de Développement) to develop our membership there.
- Two possible future national members contacted the secretariat: **Namibia** and **Haiti**.
- Contacts with possible future associates as **WGIC** (World Geospatial Industry Council)

6. Relations with members

- Visits to European members:
 - FEANI: attendance in Brussels of the second meeting of the Europe Engineers Advisory Committee in February 2019.
 - IESF: Journées Nationale de l'Ingénieur in March 2019
- Member representatives visited us: Morocco, Senegal, Tunisia, China... help to prepare EFS Africa conference to be held in June in Tunis, and found a sponsorship and participation from WFP/PAM
- Restore relations with our national member from South Korea;
- **A new national member, Oman, was accepted.** We relaunched Ethiopia and Somalia for payment.
- No resignations

7. Legal Affairs

- A court hearing on the dismissal of WFEO former Marketing Director was held on 25 October 2018; WFEO won on all aspects, but an appeal was filed (*since then the appeal was dismissed, so we definitely won the case*). .

8. Day to day activity

- Updating of administrative situation
- 2019 Fee campaign
- Provide information and develop contacts with potential new members or associates
- Provide information of interest to Board, Council, members and reply to queries
- Assist WURC members and other representatives to register and attend UN events (COP24 in particular)

Report of the WFEO Webmaster Ivan Juiz – Nov. 2018 / March 2019

I followed up on my London Executive Council report and work on the following tasks

Work on the website

- Updates on the different sections of the website: articles, pages.
- Search for images to illustrate articles (framing, resizing, ...)
- Search for logos and information on the internet when necessary

Flash-Infos and Social Networks

- Release of 3 Flash-Infos from October 2018 to March 2019
- Work on our presence in the Social networks accounts (Facebook, Twitter, Youtube)

Other

- Work on the WFEO Greetings card.
 - Work on the WFEO tri-fold brochure.
 - Work on the 50th Anniversary video
 - Work on the WFEO History book
 - Some administrative help when required (documents modification, ...)
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