

ECCE BRIEF ACTIVITY REPORT

NOVEMBER 2013 – MAY 2014

by Fernando Branco, ECCE President

&

Maria Karanasiou, ECCE General Secretary

Tbilisi, May 2014

58th ECCE General Meeting in Nicosia, Cyprus

October 24 – 26 2013

- 58th ECCE General Meeting in Nicosia, Cyprus hosted by the Cyprus Council of Civil Engineers (CCCE) was organized with great success. The ECCE – CCCE Conference “Water Management in Europe” took place on Friday 25th October.





AFTER NICOSIA

ECCE Website additional features

Conferences, Newsletter and events calendar

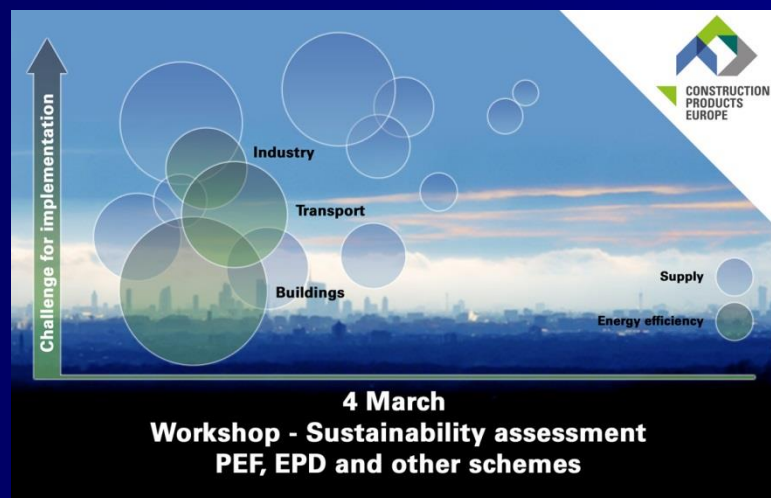
- New features added to ECCE website www.ecceengineers.eu
- Newsletter page where you can find all ECCE Newsletters
<http://www.ecceengineers.eu/newsletter/index.php?id=621>
- Conferences page where you can access information regarding the latest and forthcoming ECCE Conferences
<http://www.ecceengineers.eu/conferences/index.php?id=622>
- Events Calendar
<http://www.ecceengineers.eu/calendar/index.php>



Sustainability Assessment Workshop

4th March 2014, Brussels

- ECCE President, Prof. Fernando Branco, participated in the Sustainability Assessment Workshop promoted by the Construction Products Europe and European Construction Forum (ECF) as ECCE representative in ECF.
- The objective of the workshop was to make the construction sector aware of the EU intention to establish a methodology approach to benchmark the environmental performance of products during the life cycle (PEF – product environmental footprint).





Course on Building Rehabilitation 14th February 2014, Luanda, Angola

- ECCE President, Prof. Fernando Branco, participated in an advanced Course on Building Rehabilitation that was organized on 14th February 2014, in Luanda, Angola.
- Ways of collaboration between European Engineers and Angola authorities in the areas of Construction and Rehabilitation, with emphasis in technical education were discussed.
- ECCE President used this forum to promote ECCE, showing its activities, namely in the area of knowledge exchange, exemplifying with the current organization of conferences all over Europe.



Engineers Day Slovenia

14th November 2013, Maribor



- ECCE Immediate Past President, Gorazd Humar, participated at the Engineers Day that was organized by the Slovenian Chamber of Civil Engineers (IZS), on 14th November 2013, in Maribor, Slovenia.
- Contact with Mr. Vladimir Benko from Slovak Chamber of Engineers and Mr. Trpevski, President of the FYROM Chamber of Engineers.



ECEC Brussels' Offices Formal Opening 18th March 2014, Brussels

- ECCE was represented by Mr. Vassilis Economopoulos, ECCE Past President & Chairman of the SC on Associate Membership, on behalf of the ECCE President Prof. Fernando Branco.
- Mrs. Bernadette Vergnaud (French Member of the European Parliament, EP Rapporteur on the New Directive on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications adopted at the end of 2013 as the Directive 2013/55/EU) and Mrs. Tanja Fajon (Slovenian Member of the European Parliament) were the honorary invitees by ECEC President.



The European Professional Card

The provisions on European Professional Card (EPC) are included in the New Directive on Professional Qualifications 2013/55.

The European Professional Card (EPC) has the main following characteristics:

- Involvement of the home Member State
- Electronic Certificate - IMI (public interface)
- Standardisation of document requirements
- Voluntary (only for interested professions)
- Alternative (only for interested professionals)

The procedures of implementation have Public Consultations as follows:

- Assessment of the suitability/impact on the Member States
- Consultation of other stake-holders (such as competent Authorities)
- Data collection (mobility/regulation/cost)
- Focus Group

The European Professional Card

- Mrs. Bernadette Vergnaud, EP's main Rapporteur on this Directive recalled with emotion the history of the debates on the revision of 2005/36 EU: "Pragmatism, safety and mutual trust are the core of free mobility. The European Professional Card will help building a Real European Labour Market."
- On the subject of EPC / EngCard an event: More Mobility for Engineers - A Contribution to Innovation and Growth in Europe was organized by VDI – FEANI on 19th March.
- ECCE and ECCE President were represented at the above event by the ECCE Honorary Treasurer/Vice President Dr. Vincentas Stragys and Mr. Vassilis Economopoulos, ECCE Past President.



“2nd EUROPEAN ENGINEERS’ DAY”

- The Second European Engineering Day will be held on 20th November 2014, at the Sofitel Brussels Europe Hotel in Brussels, organized by ECCE, ECEC and FEANI in cooperation with other Engineering Organizations.



- ECCE President Prof. Fernando Branco, ECCE President Elect Mr. Włodzimierz Szymczak and Mr. Vassilis Economopoulos Past President with Mrs. Maria Karanasiou ECCE General Secretary follow up the preparatory works and the relevant organizational matters.
- ECCE Participated in the 3 meetings of the Organizing Committee (Athens 11/10/13, Brussels 18/3/14, Lecce 9/5/14).

1st Conference of the Mediterranean Engineers Cooperation – a great CNI initiative 8 – 10 May 2014, Castello Carlo V, Lecce, Italy

- Consiglio Nazionale Degli Ingegneri - CNI, the 1st Conference on the Mediterranean Engineers Cooperation was held in Lecce.
- The creator of the whole concept and the general coordinator of this important initiative, having also the follow up of it, is our distinguished Colleague Eng Nicola Monda (CNI Council Responsible on International Affairs).
- Representing our ECCE President Prof Fernando Branco at this event, Vassilis had a greeting speech in the ceremony of signing the EAMC Statement of Intent, participating in the Round Table on Engineering Profession and Mobility in Mediterranean Countries, presenting ECCE and our targets and priorities now at the General Meeting of the Presidents of the Regional Departments of CNI and also in the meeting of the Organising Committee for preparation of the 2nd European Engineers' Day.

1st Conference of the Mediterranean Engineers Cooperation – a great CNI initiative 8 – 10 May 2014, Castello Carlo V, Lecce, Italy

- The Engineering Associations of Mediterranean Countries (EAMC) - Chambers and Engineering Organisations invited by CNI signing the Intention Statement of Cooperation (you can see as attached) were from: Albania, Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Palestine, Portugal, Slovenia, Syria, Tunisia, Spain. The whole initiative is held under the auspices of WFEO (President Eng Marwan Abdelhamid) and in Cooperation with the Federation of Arab Engineers (President Prof Adil Ibrahim Al-Haditi).
- In the Round Table on Engineering Profession and Mobility in Mediterranean Countries, a Study-Research was presented as perfect background (it is ongoing procedure for filling and updating) by the President of the CNI Center for Studies Eng Luigi Ronsivalle.





1st Conference of the Mediterranean Engineers Cooperation – a great CNR initiative 8 – 10 May 2014, Castello Carlo V, Lecce, Italy

The indicative topics on which the EAMC Cooperation will be focus are:

- Facilitation of the Engineers' Mobility in Mediterranean Area
- Exchanging Information on national engineering education and professional systems, contributions to International surveys and reports including the UNESCO Global Engineering Assessment project
- Establishment of Technical Committees on thematic topics of interest to the Mediterranean Area in collaboration with FAE and WFEO
- Sharing and transferring innovative technologies in particular those related to safe water and sanitation, water-recycling systems, waste treatment and energy efficiency
- Safeguard of the cultural and social heritage, promotion, restoration and renovation of the built environment, Climate change adaptation of infrastructure

On the last important point concerning the cultural, historical, architectural and engineering heritage in Mediterranean Area a second Round Table took place with the coordination of our ECCE ExBo Member Prof Massimo Mariani Special expert on this topic.

ECCE Newsletter

December 2013

April 2014

- A new initiative of ECCE, the issuing of periodic Newsletters.
- The ECCE Newsletter is prepared every three – four months.
- The goal is to bring together periodically the European Civil Engineers and to be aware of their problems and their realizations, organizing a forum of ideas and of news.
- The Newsletter may also act as a mean to send ideas for discussion in Brussels.
- Next ECCE Newsletter will be in **JUNE 2014**

Get involved with ECCE Newsletter !



NEWS
FROM:

- Cyprus
- Estonia
- Georgia

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Know your EU: 2
Directorate –
General Enter-
prise & Indus-
try
- ECCE Stand- 4
ing Committee
on Education
& Training
- ECCE Task 7
Force Civil
Engineering
Heritage
- News from EU 8
& other Asso-
ciations
- News from 10
ECCE Mem-
bers
- Upcoming 17
ECCE Meet-
ings and Con-
ferences
- Conferences & 18
Events

Preannouncement:
The Second European Engi-
neering Day will be held on 20th
November 2014, at the Sofitel
Brussels Europe Hotel in Brus-
sels, organized by ECCE, ECEC
and FEANI in cooperation with
other Engineering Organizations.

European Council of Civil Engineers

NEWSLETTER 5

APRIL 2014

Construction 2020: European Commission publishes report from the High Level Forum on follow-up actions



Construction 2020 is aimed at identifying and implementing measures that help fostering sustainable competitiveness in the construction sector in the short as well as in the medium to long term. It intends to define sound conditions on a general level for investment, research, innovation, entrepreneurship, higher resource efficiency and work environment. It also encourages actions to reassure and ameliorate the functioning of the Internal Market and help remove barriers to trade and business at international level. The potential of the European construction sector can largely be developed through existing EU instruments and strategies. During 2013, the EC has facilitated the development of a governance structure comprising of a High Level Strategic Forum (HLF) and 5 Thematic Groups (TGs) to address the various actions presented in the Construction 2020 Action Plan. This bottom up approach has provided Member States and stakeholders representatives with the opportunity for expressing their views with regards to the implementation of the various actions.

On 27 February 2014, the European Commission published the report from the High Level Tripartite Strategic Forum on follow-up actions on the Communication and Action Plan Construction 2020. This report presents the outcome of the dis-

cussions of the High Level Strategic Forum (HLF) during 2013. This document reflects the state of play and does not prejudice possible adjustments of the strategy and of the vision of the HLF in 2014 depending on the effective implementation of its recommendations and new policy developments.

Main recommendations from the 5 thematic groups are:

- On Stimulating investment in building renovation, infrastructure and innovation: In order to stimulate the demand for energy efficiency and infrastructure upgrading the HLF recommends to better align the existing EU instruments for sustainable building renovation and infrastructure maintenance. Moreover, in order to capitalise on research programmes, the HLF suggests to give priority to demonstration projects and market oriented activities fostering the take-up of new knowledge and innovative approaches in building renovation and infrastructure maintenance.
- On Skills & Qualifications: The HLF suggests to strengthen the implementation of existing EU and MS instruments to ensure suitably qualified and sufficiently numerous human resources for energy-efficient building renovation and infrastructure maintenance. European quality assurance schemes should facilitate the mobility of workers and construction professionals
- and increase the attractiveness of the sector to young talents.
- On Sustainable use of natural resources: The HLF suggests to improve the comparability of the various existing methods for the assessment of the building environmental performances and to promote a single structure for the assessment of the environmental performance of construction products. Moreover, the factual information basis regarding C&D waste needs to be improved together with the promotion of assessment tools for material efficiency.
- On Internal Market: The HLF confirms that there is a need to assess the cumulative burden of EU legislation on construction products and service businesses. Further improved use of Eurocodes could also be beneficial for the Internal Market of construction services. Based upon the experiences gathered at MS level of market surveillance for construction products, the HLF puts emphasis on the need to guarantee enough resources by MS to ensure quality in the European construction industry. The HLF also suggests to assess how Member States have progressed with the integration of provisions related to sustainability in national building regulations and codes.
- On International Compet-

STANDING COMMITTEES



Standing Committee on Knowledge & Technology

Chairman: Ruben Paul Borg

- **Task Force - Trends in Civil Engineering 2025:**
Assessment of the Construction Industry and Civil Engineering in a 10 year perspective – Survey of Trends – Questionnaire.
- **Task Force - BIM + LCA:**
Successfully setting up of an experts group on BIM and LCA with regular meetings every 2 weeks, to target an important emerging field in Civil Engineering, addressing BIM+LCA. The Task force has attracted interest of many experts. Task Force is active in the formulation of strategy and assessing trends in BIM and LCA in Europe and in identifying the links between Bim and Environmental Performance & LCA.
- **Communication:**
Setting up of **LinkedIn Group** - Knowledge and Technology: Innovation in Materials, Energy Efficiency and Civil Engineering.



Standing Committee on Environment & Sustainability

Chairman: Prof Carsten Ahrens

Vice Chairman: George Demetriou

Based on the information of the ECCE-CCCE conference on “Water Management in Europe” in Nicosia, which concerned Cyprus problems mainly, a questionnaire had been worked out to really find European solutions for

- Monitoring and assessment of surface and ground water
- Managing water resources
- Water loss management

As a first step the questionnaire has been sent to all ECCE-members asking for more general information.

A first summarizing overview will be given in Tbilisi, Georgia.

In addition information has been collected about the responsible staff in our ECCE member institutions with respect to education and environmental problems.



Standing Committee on Education & Training

Chairman: Prof. Iacint Manoliu

- SC E&T launched a survey on the activities devoted to the continuing professional development (CPD) of European civil engineer. A preliminary report will be presented at the 59th ECCE meeting in Tbilisi.
- ECCE representatives Prof. Iacint Manoliu and Prof. Barbara Karleusa contributed to the CLAIU-EU Conference in Brussels, on 13-14 March 2014, and attended the Conference.
- SC E&T is undertaking a study on the possible involvement of ECCE members in various actions of the new Erasmus + programme.



Standing Committee on Associate Membership

***Chairman: Mr. Vassilis Economopoulos,
ECCE Past President***

Vice Chairmen: Bora Kutruza & Aristides Karlaftis

- Permanent contacts and distribution of material to New Candidate Associate Members (Engineering Companies, other organizations, Universities, etc.).
- Contacts with Engineering Organizations in countries that are not represented currently in ECCE as Associate or Full Members (EU-28 Member States which are not represented in ECCE, Albania, FYROM, Azerbaitzan, Armenia, Arab Engineering Organizations, etc.) via e-correspondence or in person discussions at the meetings where VE represented ECCE and by visits in the Embassies of these countries in Greece.
- Distribution of material and contacts with the existing ECCE Associate Members in order to maintain out networking with the Associate Members.
- Personal visits and discussions in order to present ECCE and ECCE works to companies and organizations that have offices in Greece.
- Many relevant with the above contacts and discussions within WFEO (WFEO Paris meetings, 5-11 April 2014 as Special Advisor to WFEO President).

New Chairman of the ECCE Standing Committee on Development & Business Environment



- ECCE Executive Board approved the application of Mr. Hamish Douglas BSc(Eng)Hons, CEng, FICE, FIEI for the position of the Chairman of the ECCE Standing Committee on Development & Business Environment.
- The SC Committee on D&BE will meet under Mr. Hamish Douglas' chairmanship for the first time during the 59th ECCE General Meeting, on 31st May 2014, in Tbilisi, Georgia.
- Mr. Douglas participated in an EU Working Group on "Bolstering the Liberal Professions" and will report on this.



Task Force Civil Engineering Heritage

***Chairman: Mr. Gorazd Humar,
ECCE Immediate Past President***

- The TF CEH is continuing the preparation of the new ECCE book on Footbridges. Many contributions were already send to the Editor in Chief Gorazd Humar.
- The Japanese Society of Civil Engineers decided to participate at the project presenting 16 Japanese footbridges.
- Task Force Civil Engineering Heritage intends to print the book on behalf of ECCE in September 2014 and to deliver the book to the recipients after the first presentation of the book in October 2014.



