

PRESS RELEASE

Athens, 18th March 2016

63rd ECCE General Meeting 4th – 5th March 2016 Madrid, Spain



The 63rd ECCE General Meeting was held on 4th – 5th March 2016 in Madrid, in Spain, hosted by the Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos (CICCP). The 63rd ECCE General Meeting was organized as part of the celebration of an International Civil Engineering Congress which hosted the Portuguese and Spanish Speaking Civil Engineering Professional Associations (CICPC) Congress concurrent with its annual General Assembly. Particularly, the 7th Council of Civil Engineering Professional Associations from Spanish and Portuguese Speaking Countries was held on 29th February – 1st March. On 29th February the

CICPC Meeting was held. On the same day the Homage Ceremony rendered by the Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos, the World Council of Civil Engineers and the Instituto de Ingeniería de España for the legacy of Professor José Medem Sanjuan and the presentation of WCCE's José Medem Sanjuan Civil Engineering Excellence Award were held at the premises of the Instituto de Ingeniería de España. On 2nd – 3rd March the International Congress of Civil Engineering “Paths to bring the world together” was held. ECCE President was member of the Honour Committee of the Congress.

As a postscript to the First International Conference of Civil Engineering, the [Declaration of Madrid](#) was signed, with the aim of showing the commitment of the profession to sustainable development and global concern about climate change. Therefore, the profession offers its technological capabilities and expertise to mitigate its effects. The Madrid Declaration has been signed by the following institutions and their respective representatives:

- Juan A. Santamera Sanchez, president of the Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos (Spain);
- Vicent Esteban Chaparría, president of the Association of Civil Engineering, Channels and Ports (Spain);
- Alfonso Alberto González Fernández, president of WCCE - World Council of Civil Engineers;
- Włodzimierz Szymczak, President of ECCE - European Council of Civil Engineers;
- José Tadeu da Silva, president of UPADI - Pan American Union of Engineers;
- José Manuel Pereira Vieira, president of FEANI - European Federation of National Engineering Associations;

- Carlos Matias Ramos, bastonário ODE Portugal and president of the ICPC-CECPC - Council of Portuguese and Spanish Speaking Civil Engineering Professional Associations.



The 63rd ECCE General Meeting was very well attended. Among the distinguished guests were the WFEO Past President Eng. Marwan Abdelhamid, the ECEC Secretary General Mr. Klaus Thurriedl, the WCCE President Eng. Alfonso Gonzalez, and the WCCE Past President Mr. Emilio Colon.

During the 63rd ECCE General Meeting the Institution of Civil Engineers (United Kingdom) after a period of one year that had suspended its activity and participation in ECCE, was unanimously accepted as ECCE Member again starting its membership from 1st January 2016. ECCE also accepted a new Full Member, Ukraine. The organization that represents Ukraine in ECCE is the Association "Information Technologies in Construction of Ukraine".

In the course of the 63rd ECCE General Meeting a number of important issues were discussed and critical decisions were taken. It was decided that ECCE will join the Engineering Association of Mediterranean Countries (EAMC) with the status of observer and the ECCE representative to the EAMC, Mr. Aris Chatzidakis, was appointed by the ECCE President. The ECCE Standing Committees were terminated and their closing activity reports were presented by their Chairmen. The New ECCE Strategy was the major topic of this General Meeting and time for detailed discussion was dedicated to it. The Guidelines for the "ECCE Position Papers and other activities" was finalized and a number of suggestions for ECCE Position Papers was presented at a conception stage. The New ECCE Strategy has been welcomed by the ECCE Members and positive thinking and brainstorming was achieved. The idea of opening of the ECCE Individual Membership with the status of Associate Membership was voted and finalized too. Finally, the Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership was also discussed and a presentation on the latest evolvments on the TTIP negotiations was delivered by Mr. Govind Nadkarni from the Texas Board of Professional Engineers.

The video recordings of the 63rd ECCE General Meeting can be watched [here](#).

The European Council of Civil Engineers would like to express its gratitude to the Colegio de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos for the successful organization of the 63rd ECCE General Assembly and their exceptional hospitality.