The IEM Signs an Agreement of Co-Operation and Recognition with the Chinese Institute of Engineers

by ***The IEM Standing Committee on Corporate Affairs***

ON 2 October 2009, an Agreement of Co-operation and Recognition was signed between the Chinese Institute of Engineers (CIE) and the Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM) in a simple signing ceremony held in Taipei, Taiwan, in the People's Republic of China. Signing on behalf of CIE was its President, Mr. John T. Yu whereas IEM was represented by its President, Y. Bhg. Dato' Ir. Prof. Dr Chuah Hean Teik.

The agreement was intended to promote, facilitate and extend professional and social links between CIE and IEM, for the benefit of members of both organisations and to assist in advancing the mobility of engineering practitioners and the quality of engineering practice worldwide. The agreement encompasses the following matters as they relate to the respective activities of the two organisations:

- Recognition of status, coverage and membership structure
- General co-operation and access to activities
- Reciprocal recognition for membership on a learned society basis
- Facilitation of registration as a competent practitioner

ACTIVITIES

Both in Chinese Taipei and in Malaysia, each organisation will extend to members of the other organisation as guests for a limited period normally not exceeding one year, the same privileges and courtesies available to its own members. Guests wishing to avail themselves of such benefits indefinitely are expected to seek membership of the host organisation and are encouraged to hold membership of both organisations. Such privileges include attendance and participation in conferences, technical groups and general assemblies as well as publications, public and private websites, and other member services on the same basis, and for the same fees and charges as the host's members.

Each organisation will also extend student membership privileges to student members of the other organisation who are studying in an engineering, technical or scientific field, at the same dues, rates and costs during temporary stays in the host country.

RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Both ICE and IEM agree to recognise as equivalent in substance and standard the criteria and procedures by which CIE members have been granted the status of Registered Professional Engineers by the Public Construction Commission (PCC) and those which IEM admits persons to the status of Corporate Member. Each organisation requires:

- an engineering degree accredited or recognised by the organisation, or
- qualifications gained by other means and formally assessed by the organisation as equivalent, to the standard represented by the Washington Accord;
- a period of professional formation and responsible experience in engineering environments under the general supervision of the organisation;
- evidence of continuing professional development;
- submission of an engineering practice report in the organisation's prescribed format;
- satisfactory performance at a professional interview conducted by not less than two qualified representatives of the organisation.

A Corporate Member of IEM who remains in good standing will normally be admitted as an Individual Member and Professional Engineer by CIE/PPC without formal examination but an interview is necessary. This is however only valid when the PE Law Revision is approved by the Legislative Yuan. Similarly, a Professional Engineer of CIE/PCC who remains in good standing will normally be admitted as a Corporate Member of IEM without formal examination but an interview is however necessary.

Both organisations agreed that engineers who are nationals of either country and who wish to seek registration as a competent practitioner in the other country should do so through the medium of the APEC/EMF Engineer Register. Candidates should apply for APEC/EMF Engineer registration in their respective home country, and this will facilitate registration in all other participant countries. In this respect, for APEC/EMF Engineer registration, Chinese Taipei engineers should apply to CIE and Malaysian engineers should apply to the IEM.

Chinese Taipei APEC/EMF engineers who wish to practice in Malaysia shall apply to The Board of Engineers, Malaysia for temporary registration. All practices must follow the local requirements and regulations.

IEM Members who wish to find out more about the details, fee structure and procedures for admission to CIE are advised to contact the IEM Secretariat (Qualification and Admissions Section) at 03-7968 4008. ■