



Engineering Leadership

Why is it important at International Platforms and National Platforms?

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Leadership in Renown International Platforms...



- Part of the Government Internationalisation Policy
- Branding – National capabilities, products and services, leadership capabilities, global respect, value add National image, trade..
- International network – updated knowledge, trends, issues, solutions, policies, professional relationship... (IWRM, Climate Change, ESG...)
- Recognised by other international bodies – UN, International Funding Agencies, IPCC, International Organisations

Some prominent persons at International Platforms

- Tan Sri Ir Shahrizaila bin Abdullah – President ICID
- Datuk Paduka Ir Keizrul Abdullah – President ICID, Chair NARBO, Chair Wetlands International (Malaysia)
- Tan Sri Ir Syed Muhammad –VP IWA
- Dato' Sri Ir Zaini Ujang – VP IWA Committee, others
- Tan Sri Ir Ahmad Tajuddin Ali – Many...
- Ir Megat Johari Megat Mohd Noor – Deputy Chair, Dublin Accord
- Prof Ir Norlida Buniyamin – Deputy Chair, APEC Agreement
- Dato' Ir Dr Gue See Saw – many...

***At that stage, they are
International Leaders; representing the world;
enriching National image***

***Very often, after they have completed their terms of office, they
continue to be consulted by international organisations for their
wisdom, knowledge and diplomatic skills***

Countries vie to put their representatives at the top positions... developed and developing countries

- But no one can just put up their hand and ask to be elected
- Takes time, effort... start early, be active in committees, gain respect and confidence of others
- Continuous presence e.g ICID – International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage:
 - Malaysia a member since 1958
 - Never missed the annual conference
 - Always have representatives in Working Groups and Committees
 - Seniors bring in young professionals
 - Gain respect and confidence
- But this requires funding support; policy support
- Not easy for Private Sector
- Should be a Government policy and strategy

Example:

FIDIC – International Federation of Consulting Engineers

- Founded 1913, represents more than 1 million engineering professionals, 40,000 firms over 100 countries
- Recognised by UN Bodies, International Organisations, International Funding Agencies, many advanced countries, EU...
- FIDIC Contracts the *de facto* form of international contract
- China
 - A National Agenda to gain international recognition for its services, products and international policies – active, aimed for Presidency
 - Organised workshops and capacity building programs in China
 - Contributed funds for specific programs
 - Extensive program for their engineers to be FIDIC Certified Engineers
 - 90% of exhibitors of products and services at major FIDIC events
- Iran
 - Views such organisation as a non-political network to promote the country
- India, Indonesia are regularly represented at the FIDIC Board
- Malaysia?
- Malaysia has the chance
- Malaysia represented by ACEM only at the Asia Pacific level
 - Ir Chong Chew fan
 - Ir Sundraraj



Leadership in High Level National Platforms...

- To be more assertive and affirmative in transforming the profession, industry and business and culture – Not reactive as it is now (now unilateral decisions on rules and procedures, little consultation, industry can only react, tiresome)
- To encourage the Government to be a Model Client; a model for the private sector to emulate
- To encourage all round adoption of ESG
 - E – Investments in new advanced environmental friendly designs
 - S – Fair remuneration, recognising expertise, respect, risk sharing, fair cashflow (e.g not milestone-based), mutual respect (meetings...), recognition (now LAD for delays; no incentives for cost and time saving designs, no acceleration fees for compressed delivery time), support for tools (BIM, Capacity Building, Advanced models...)
 - G – fair terms and conditions of contract, fair and flexible TOR with room for creativity (not specifications)
- To influence research priorities in engineering – e.g. water services industry is facing serious financial challenges and sustainability, need new designs to reduce cost; address issue of residual waste, pipe replacement...), Climate Change mitigation and adaptation...
- To support affirmative **BRANDING** of local engineering firms for international recognition and acceptance. Now there are organisations that does not allow ECPs to put their names and logos on reports, and on project signages (contractors ok!). Yet nobody remove the names and logos of their cars, shirts, handbags...

Did you know that major development and infrastructure of international importance (development, airports, ports, utilities) requires high internationally reputable engineering consultants?

- To give confidence to foreign investors and users
- Insurance coverage
- Compliance with ESG

It is not just because locals lack the capabilities



Leadership in High Level National Platforms...

- To develop policies and strategies that would propel the profession to go to higher levels of engineering, to be the driver of high level, high income nation, towards an advanced nation. Engineering has the technical and socio-economic characteristics to support this.
- The severe control and highly restricted access to non-security data and information is stifling public engineering innovativeness and creativity and advancement and research.
- We need to “unlock the value of data and information”.
- See how the world (and us) have benefited from opening up of GPS, Internet, Satellite data, private development of software and new technologies..
- We need easy access to granular data if we want a chance to allow the public and engineering profession to develop AI technology, space business, be innovative.. (we have a special council for aerospace industry... but does not excite the engineers. But space industry and business is now big in advanced countries because of accessibility to data and information.
- The time has come for the engineering sector to revitalise itself and excite the public and the nation
- We need to go to space, to use space technology, to launch a satellite for civilian use (we can now access imageries from third parties overseas)
- This will be a new dimension to our engineering sector and capabilities.

Did you know:

- That there is a library we can visit but cannot borrow, cannot photocopy, cannot take photos... we have to memorise and reproduce later!!
- That engineering service contract does not allow reproduction in any form
- Reports are so confidential that even if the recommendation requires public participation and support, it is not readily accessible
- There are many repositories, but not readily accessible.
- The late 1880s and early 1900s marks the beginning of systematic infrastructure development in the country. FR I, railway line, irrigation schemes, water supply systems, energy production..
- We have not stopped since...
- repeated improvements of the same
- But what next???



THANK YOU



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