

## 30th Conference of ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (CAFEO-30)

Theme: Advantage of the Integration of Engineering Services for Least Developed ASEAN Member Countries



by Engr. Mah Way Sheng and  
Engr. Vivekasugha Alif Gunaalan



Opening Ceremony Group Photo

**THE** 30th Conference of ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (CAFEO) was successfully organised by the Board of Engineers, Cambodia (BEC) at Sofitel Phnom Penh Phokeethra Hotel, Phnom Penh, Cambodia from 16 to 19 December 2012.

The conference was attended by delegates from ASEAN member countries, as well as Japan, Hong Kong and Australia. The 80 members of Malaysian delegation were led by IEM President, Ir. Vincent Chen Kim Kieong and Deputy President, Ir. Choo Kok Beng, while the Young Engineers Section's (YES) delegation was led by YES Chairman, Engr. Mah Way Sheng. The young engineers arrived a day earlier and toured around the Cambodian capital, Phnom Penh, on their own arrangement while the rest of the delegates arrived on the 16 December 2012.

### DAY 1

Following the yearly tradition, CAFEO-30 was kicked off with the President Golf Cup tournament at Grand Phnom Penh Golf. The event started at 1.00 p.m. and ended by 5.00 p.m. It was then followed by dinner at Sofitel Phnom Penh Phokeethra Hotel.

Since golf was not part of the young engineers' interested itinerary, they made use of the time to tour around Phnom Penh and visited places such as Choeung Ek Genocidal Centre, Central Market, Russian Market and even the famous night market located within the capital.

### DAY 2

CAFEO-30 was officially started at Sofitel Hotel early in the morning with the registration of delegates from various countries. The registration took some time due to the overwhelming number of delegates this time around for CAFEO. Nevertheless, everything went well and the first session started with three parallel session meetings, namely the Award Meeting Group, Education Engineering & Capacity Building Working Group, and ASEAN Engineering Inspectors (AEI) Working Group. Besides that, a full-day city tour spouse programme was arranged for the accompanying family members of the delegates who were not involved in the technical programme.

After the morning tea break, meeting rooms were re-arranged to accommodate another four important meetings, namely the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisation

(AFEO) and Federation of Engineering Institutions of Southeast Asia and the Pacific (FEIAP) Dialogue, Energy and Environmental Working Group, Transportation and Logistic Working Group and Young Engineers ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisation (YEAFFEO) Meeting. One of the important ideas highlighted by the young engineers during YEAFFEO meeting was to have a quarterly online meeting to ensure action would be carried out progressively throughout the year.

The meetings were adjourned for a lunch break in the afternoon. Due to huge group size of delegation, AFEO members were invited to the Hotel Grand Hall while the young engineers were invited to a restaurant in the hotel. The delegation was treated to a delicious Cambodian cuisine. They also took the opportunity to mingle around and meet fellow engineers from all over the ASEAN region.

After lunch, YEAFFEO meeting continued with the presentation of reports by all country representatives. On top of that, there were two other meetings held in parallel with YEAFFEO, namely the Disaster Preparedness Working Group and ASEAN Engineers Register (AER) Commissioning Meeting, which was chaired by AER Head Commissioner, Ir. Choo Kok Beng to discuss on issues involving ASEAN Engineers.

The last session was held after tea break. It consisted of three meetings which were FEIAP Exco Meeting chaired by IEM Immediate Past-President Y.Bhg. Academician Dato' Ir. Prof. Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Women Section Meeting chaired by Ir. Puan Raftah bt. Mahfar and YEAFFEO meeting which ended with souvenirs exchange ceremony amongst the member countries.



*Women Engineers Meeting*

The day was called to an end with a welcoming dinner hosted by BEC at Grand Hall of Sofitel Hotel. All CAFEO attendees were given a chance to taste delicious Cambodian cuisine while enjoying traditional art performances by the local. The delegates enjoyed the night and took a lot of photos with their new friends there.

### DAY 3

Day three started with CAFEO Opening Ceremony held at the Grand Hall of Sofitel Hotel. The ceremony was officiated by the Vice Chairman of BEC, H.E Mrs. Ho Naun who is also the Member of Parliament of The National Assembly.

The guests and participants were then invited to visit the exhibition booths outside the hall and were followed by tea break. The ceremony was then continued with two presentations by key note speakers Dato' Paduka Ir. Prof. (Dr) Keizrul bin Abdullah from IEM and Eur. Ing. Chitr Lilavivat from EIT.

After lunch country report presentations by AFEO members was held at Grand Hall of Sofitel Hotel. IEM country report was presented by Ir. Prof. Dr Jeffrey Chiang Choong Luin, Honorary Secretary of IEM. The session ended around 6 p.m.

The young engineers decided to have the evening more memorable by having a get-together on a river cruise at the famous Mekong River, which was hosted by Ms. Prak Chhayrotanathe, Chairlady of Young Engineers of BEC. The whole night was filled with food and also games while having the beautiful river side scenery throughout the two hour journey.

### DAY 4

The technical session was held on the fourth day with technical paper presentations. Representing IEM were Engr. Shuhairy Norhisham, Engr. Vivekasugha Alif Gunaan, Engr. Dr Ranjit Singh Al Sarban Singh, Engr. Kher Vee Kiat and Engr. Dr Balamuralithara Balakrishnan. Parallel to the technical paper presentation sessions were the AFEO Governing Board Meeting and Technical Visit to Khmer Brewery, the manufacturers of Cambodia Beer.



*Technical Visit*

The closing ceremony of CAFEO-30 was held in the afternoon at the Grand Hall of Sofitel Hotel, attended by Chairman of BEC, H.E Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister in Charge of the Office of the Council of Ministers.



*Closing Ceremony*



*Malaysian Delegate Group Photo*

Finally, after going through all the formalities, the delegates got themselves readied for the much anticipated highlight of the day – the farewell banquet dinner held at Grand Hall of Naga World Hotel. All the delegates paraded into the banquet hall in their national costume. They took all the available chances to snap photos with other delegates. During the country performance, Malaysian delegates sang two songs which were 1 Malaysia and AFEO song. The delegates enjoyed the performance so much that they started to dance and cheer. The dinner also witnessed awards presentation to the winners from various AFEO members organisations in several categories. Everyone had enjoyed the night and left CAFEO-30 with sweet memories that they would cherish years down the road.

*\*As the report is meant for IEM members and limited publication space, only the achievements in Malaysia would be highlighted.*

## DAY 5

Most of the delegates left Phnom Penh and headed back to their respective countries. Nevertheless, some delegates such as the young engineers decided to continue their trip to Angkor Watt, Siem Reap, for a few more days before heading back to Malaysia.

## ASEAN OUTSTANDING ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: PROJECT CATEGORY

The award was presented to M.E.I. Project Engineers Sdn. Bhd. on the successful design and completion for Engineering, Procurement, Construction Management (EPCM) of the 127 acre AUO Sunpower Solar Cell Manufacturing Plant located at the Melaka Solar Valley, Rembia Industrial Park, Alor Gajah Melaka – Malaysia with Full Build Annual Cap city in Excess of 1 GW Peak, "The World's Most Efficient Solar Panel".

In addition, the conferment of AFEO Honorary Membership was awarded to the following IEM members who were present at the function:

### AFEO Honorary Fellow

- Ir. Ishak bin Abdul Rahman
- Ir. Mohd Aman Hj. Idris.

### AFEO Honorary Member

- Datuk Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta Maria
- Ir. Dr Cheong Thiam Fook
- Ir. Tiong Ngo Pu
- Ir. Mohamad Nor bin Mohd. Dros
- Ir. Mohammed Noor bin Abu Hassan. ■

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Engr. Mah Way Sheng was graduated from University of Malaya with Bachelor Degree in Electrical Engineering. He then obtained his Master Degree in Engineering Management at Universiti Putra Malaysia. He is currently the Chairman of Young Engineers Section (YES). He joined YES since university time and has been serving IEM with passion. He is now attached with SSP (E&M) Sdn. Bhd. as a senior electrical engineer.

Engr. Vivekaugha Alif Gunaalan is currently the Graduate Affairs Director of the Young Engineers Section (YES) and the Committee Member of the Electrical Engineering Technical Division (EETD), Institutions of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM). He has obtained his Bachelor in Electrical Power Engineering (Hons.) from Universiti Tenaga Nasional (UNITEN) and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Power Systems at University of Malaya (UM). He is now working as an Electrical Engineer in the Transmission Division, Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB).

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