



The GCEA News

January 2018

Volume 4 Issue 1

GCEA CELEBRATES ITS MAIDEN ANNUAL WEEK 2017



Mrs Carlien Bou-Chedid, Mr Andy Kwame Appiah-Kubi (3rd left), Deputy Minister of Railway Development, and Mohammed Adjei Sowah (3rd right), Mayor of Accra, Mr. Albert A. Ogyiri (2nd left), Ing. K. Asare-Yeboah, GAMA Pres, Ing. K. Kwakwa Associated Consultants and members of the Association

The Ghana Consulting Engineers Association held its Annual Week Celebration from December 6-8, 2017, at the Engineers Centre.

THEME

The theme of the Week Celebration was **"The role of Consulting Engineers and the Development Agenda of Ghana"**

AIM

The aim of the Week Celebration was to build membership, whip up interest in the activities of the Association and also to hold an Annual General Meeting.

SPEAKERS

The Guest Speaker for the occasion was the Deputy Minister of Railway Development and the Member of Parliament for Asante Akyem Appiah-Kubi. He represented the Minister of Railway Development, Hon. Joe Ghartey.

Keynote Speakers were given the platform to address members on the Role of Consulting Engineers and the Development Agenda of Ghana.

A total of five (5) presentations on both Technical and Workshop Sessions were made by the following persons;

Dr. Felix Addo-Yobo, Ing F. K. Asare-Yeboah - GAMA President, Ing. Kwasi Kwakwa- Associated Consultants, Dr. Dominic Dokbilla Naab - GRA, and Ing. Dr. Kwame Boakye.- Ecolnformatics.

1. **The Development Agenda of Ghana; General outlook, Now and Beyond** - By Dr, F. Addo-Yobo
2. **How Consulting Engineers can impact the Development Agenda of the Nation**—By Ing. K. Asare-Yeboah
3. **Running a Consultancy Firm**— Ing. Kwasi Kwakwa
4. **Importance of Good Corporate Governance in the growth of Consulting Industry**—by. Dr. Kwame Boakye.
5. **Consulting Engineering Institution—The Role of GRA** , by Dr. Dominic D. Naab.

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Ing. Isaac Addai is the new President of GCEA.



He succeeds Ing Albert A. Ogyiri, FGhIE.

He is the CEO of Bans Consult.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **GCEA will Inaugurate the new council led by Ing Isaac Addai first week in April 2018**
- **GAMA Conference will be held in Mali, Bamako from 6-9 May 2018. Registration is open. Please contact the Secretariat for registration.**
- **The FIDIC Training Courses Modules 1 & 2 and EPC/Turnkey will be held in June 18-23, 2018 at the Engineers Centre. Modules 3 & 4 will be held on 23-26 October 2018**
- **The FIDIC Africa Users Conference will also be held on October. Date will be announced later.**
- **The FIDIC 2018 Conference will be held in Berlin, Germany, on 9-11 September 2018.**

GCEA CELEBRATES ITS MAIDEN ANNUAL WEEK 2017 Cont'd**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Conference Room of the GhIE to report on the activities of the Association under the leadership of the Immediate Past President, Ing Albert Ogyiri.

The Management and Financial Reports were presented by the President and the Treasurer.

Moderators for the Technical Sessions and Workshops included;

Ing. Magnus Quarshie of Delin Consult and Ing Francis Kofi Yankey of ABP Consult

ELECTIONS OF THE NEW COUNCIL

During the Annual General Meeting Elections were conducted to elect new members of the Council of the GCEA for 2018/2019 period.

Ing. Kwaku Boampong of ABP Consult and Ing. Franklin Twumasi of Bans Consult were appointed Scrutineers to oversee the collation of the ballot papers.

The following persons were elected to the new Council after the elections;

Ing. Isaac Addai, President

Ing. W.D. Albert Viala, Vice President

Ing. J.N. Okyere, Hon. Treasurer

Ing. Festus Odametey, Hon. Secretary

Ing. K. Osafo-Affum, Councillor

Ing. (Mrs) Nana Akua Brenyah Boateng, Councillor

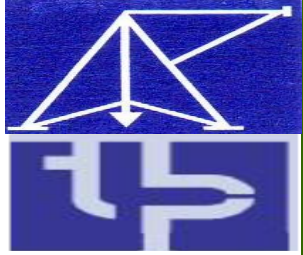
Ing. Francis Kofi Yankey, Councillor

Ing. Samuel M. Asiedu, Councillor

Also on the new council are:

Ing. Albert A. Ogyiri, Immediate Past President (IPP)

Ing. (Mrs) Jane Naki Tetteh-Anowie, Councillor, representing Young Professionals.

SOME GCEA MEMBERS**LAMDA Consult**

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GCEA CELEBRATES ITS MAIDEN ANNUAL WEEK 2017 Cont'd

AWARDS/DINNER



Some of the participants at the Dinner

In the evening of 7th December 2017, the Association organized an Awards and Dinner Dance at the Fiesta Royale Hotel at North Dzorwulu.

The following persons were awarded for their contribution towards the successful organization of the 2015 GAMA Conference held in Accra at Movenpick Hotel in Accra.

1. Ing. K. Asare-Yeboah, Associated Consultants
2. Ing. J.N. Okyere, Comptran Engineering
3. Ing. David Sackey, Associated Consultants
4. Ing. Festus Odametey, Bans Consult
5. Ing. (Mrs) Nana Akua Brenyah Boateng, Associated Consultants
6. Ing. (Mrs) Jane Naki Tetteh-Anowie, Associated Consultants
7. Ing. Juliet Adu, Associated Consultants.
8. Mrs Elaine Asare, GCEA

They received individual citations

THE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

The Young Professionals Programme was held on 7th December 2017, as part of the Annual General Meeting. Discussions focused on the conduct of the Ghanaian Young Professionals and the way forward.

TECHNICAL TOUR

The conference ended with a Technical Tour to Zoomlion's Accra Compost at Adjen Kotoku.

CLOSING

The conference closed on the 8th of December after the tour.

INDUCTION OF THE NEW COUNCIL



Members of the new council at the Induction Ceremony

Members of the New Council were on January 10, 2018 inducted into office after a short ceremony.

Induction was conducted by the Immediate Past President, Ing. Albert Ogyiri.

REORGANIZATION OF THE COMMITTEES OF THE NEW COUNCIL

At the last meeting of the Council (16th February 2018) the Committee Chairs were re-organized as follows;

- Ing. W.D. Albert Viala was appointed the new chair for the Membership Committee while Ing. Francis K. Yankey was appointed the chair for outreach committee. The newly established Welfare Committee, is chaired by Ing. Festus Odametey.
- The rest of the chairs however maintained their positions as follows;
 1. Professional Ethics Committee -Ing. S.M. Asiedu.
 2. Training—Ing. (Mrs) Naan Akua Brenyah Boateng
 3. Publication—Ing. K. Osafo-Affum
 4. Young Professionals—Ing. Jane Naki Tetteh-Anowie

GCEA WEEK 2017— WELCOME ADDRESS BY ING ALBERT A. OGYIRI, FGhIE—PRESIDENT

**Ing Albert A Ogyiri, FGhIE,
President**

It is with the utmost pleasure that I welcome you to this year's GCEA Week Celebration.

We believe that the indigenous Consulting Engineering industry has a critical role to play in the development of the needed infrastructure in Ghana. Such infrastructure has to be safe, sustainable, resilient and most importantly offer good value for money. For this reason, the GCEA has since its formation, sought to establish a working partnership with the relevant public sector ministries, agencies and the private sector in order to meet the challenges posed by Ghana's developing economy.

The GCEA has also been working assiduously to bring together the various practitioners in the Consulting Engineering industry under one umbrella to achieve the following;

- A sound foundation for the performance of professional engineering services in Ghana;
- Growth and sustainability of member firms;
- Promotion of professional interest, rights, powers, privileges and economic welfare of consulting engineers;
- A referral body available to Government, public bodies and private organisations for the delivery of professional services;
- Improving and enhancing the quality of life for all with professionalism, integrity, independence of judgment and sympathetic consideration of the environment;
- Promotion of education and training in engineering and its professional practice with emphasis on young professionals;
- Cooperating with relevant associations representing manufacturers, contractors and other persons engaged in engineering services on matters of common interest.
- International presence and being up to date in affairs which affect the profession globally;

The GCEA, in pursuit of the noble objectives above, is pleased to host you during this annual conference which is aimed at assembling stakeholders in the consulting industry as well as partners engaged in the delivery of infrastructure in Ghana, to deliberate on current issues pertaining to our infrastructural development.

We shall have the opportunity to listen to knowledgeable speakers on infrastructure, participate in workshops on good corporate governance and also inspect some important infrastructural projects implemented within the city of Accra.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS DEVELOPMENT - GUEST SPEAKER, HON. JOE GHARTEY

I count it a pleasure to be among this array of engineers in the consulting engineering fraternity of Ghana. I understand these are legally constituted indigenous Ghanaian firms and individuals practicing engineering in Ghana.

Mr. Chairman, there could be no better opportunity than now, at the time, when the agenda for the transformation of this country has been set by H.E. The President of the Republic, Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, by his announcement of the creation of the Ministry of Railways Development. The creation of the Ministry was hailed as the single most important gift to the people of this country as the move is expected to turn around Ghana's economic fortune.

That is why H.E. The President lamented in his State of the Nation Address that "one of the tragedies of Ghana as a state, is that 60 years after Independence, we have not developed our railway sector in spite of the enormous benefits of rail transportation" over the other modes of transport.

In line with the agenda of H.E. The President, the Ministry has identified priority areas of the Rail sector as follows;

- Review the Legal and Institutional framework
- Construction of modern Rail network
- Development of associated infrastructure

The Ministry has been tasked with ensuring the rapid development of a modern rail network in Ghana.

What makes the compelling case for the focus on the railways sector in Ghana are the following:

- Connecting the major cities of Accra, Kumasi, Sekondi-Takoradi and Tamale to the rest of the country, thus ensuring that movement and flow of goods, freight and people across the country becomes easy and cheap.
- The use of Ghana as the route for transporting goods from landlocked countries north of Ghana, such as Burkina Faso, to the ports of Tema and Takoradi and also from the ports to the landlocked countries;
- The presence of major deposits of manganese, bauxite and iron ore along the route of the existing railways network;
- The potential to attract other bulk cargo such as cocoa, cement, mining equipment and petroleum products onto the rail network and
- The expansion of the ports of Tema and Takoradi that would lead to increased shipping and dry-dock activities

Mr Chairman, the existing rail network consists of three lines: the Western Line, the Eastern Line and the Central Line (from Huni Valley to Kotoku). Built during the colonial era, what is operational is barely 13% of the approximately 947 kilometres of rail that existed at Independence in 1957.

GCEA Week 2017 - The Minister of Railways Development's Speech Cont'd

These lines are all narrow gauge, single track lines; what is left of it, is used for both freight and passenger traffic. Over the years, the track and rolling stock have all deteriorated due to lack of maintenance.

The Ghana Railway Master Plan, which remains a guide for the fulfilment of the Ministry's mandate proposes a new railway network of 4,007.6km with the investment of approximately US\$21,507,920.00.

The plan envisages that total rail network will be standard gauge and executed in six phases.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Ministry of Railways Development will not invest such a huge amount in the sector without considering local industry players on a quality and capacity-based approach, therefore we support the call for a local inclusion policy on any investment in the country.

The Government of the Republic of Ghana through the Ministry of Railways Development has reviewed the Master Plan and identified specific priority areas for the next few years. The proposed time frame for the execution of these priority projects is from 2016 to 2020 and forms the Phase 2 of the entire Master Plan.

The priority projects are:

A. The Western Line which runs from Takoradi Port to Kumasi with a branch line from Dunkwa to Awaso with a total distance of 339km.

Resources along the line, include:

- The manganese mines at Nsuta, 64km from the Port of Takoradi relies on rails as well as roads to transport manganese from Nsuta to the Port of Takoradi.
- The bauxite mines at Awaso 239km from Takoradi. These mines had used the rail network in the past, but it currently transports all its bauxite by road to port of Takoradi because the rail line between Awaso and Nsuta, near Tarkwa, cannot be used.
- Cocoa is also found along the corridor in commercial quantities and before the collapse of most of the Western Line, cocoa was transported in significant quantities by rail. The last time cocoa was transported by rail using the Western Line was in 2006.
- Transportation of other bulk cargo such as cement, mining equipment and petroleum will also benefit from the construction of the rail line.

B. The Eastern Line covers a distance of 300km from Accra to Kumasi with a branch line from Accra to Tema. Apart from the 20km Accra-Nsawam line which is used for passenger services, the rest of the line is in disrepair and inoperative.

The town of Kibi lies on this line and is between Accra and Kumasi. Here, significant bauxite deposits of approximately 180 million metric tons may be found.

Mr. Ejuanema also on the Eastern Line has 5 million metric tons of bauxite. Both deposits are yet to be exploited. The Eastern Line also connects to the Central Spine which terminates on the border with Burkina Faso at Paga. It has potential for significant passenger as well as freight traffic.

GCEA Week 2017 - The Minister of Railways Development's Speech Cont'd

A proposed inland rail terminal (Boankra Inland Port) also lies on the Eastern Rail Line.

C. The Central Spine runs from Kumasi through the central part of Ghana to Paga, in the north of Ghana and on the border with Burkina Faso. The Central Spine is 595km. When developed, it will facilitate the transportation of freight cargo from the south to the north of Ghana and onward to Burkina Faso and the Sahelian Region. In Kumasi Central Spine (Line) splits into two lines southwards—the Eastern Line and the Western Line.

The development of these (three) lines will lead to major economic transformation of the economy.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the Ministry is also considering proposals for the development of the Metro Light Rails for the Accra Metropolis whose population is approximately 5 million people. There is another proposal for the development of the Metro Light Rail for Kumasi Metropolis with an approximately 3 million people.

Mr. Chairman, the financial model for the Lines are as follows:

Western Line

- The estimated Investment required to contract a single standard gauge rail line along the Western Line—Takoradi to Kumasi is US\$1,898,400,000.
- Front End Engineering Designs have been completed and Government is ready to appoint a Transaction Advisor to advise on the EPC Contractor and the Funding Model.
- Significant proposals have been received including proposals for BOT and BOOT.

Eastern Rail Line

Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC) are the Transaction Advisors. The firm has reached a stage where, together with the Ministry of Railways Development, request for proposal (RFP) to procure investors for the development of the line are being solicited. As I speak today a forum for Market Sounding is being held at Alisa Hotel for investors who had expressed interest in the Line.

- The estimated cost of this line is US\$1,680,000,000.

Central Spine

- The Ministry of Railways Development is going through a procurement process to engage consultants to undertake financial, economic, social environmental feasibility studies as well as surveying and mapping out the right-of-way.
- The estimated cost of this is US\$3,332,000,000.

Mr. Chairman, the Ministry was allocated over GHC500 million in this year's budget, an incredible improvement over the previous year's budget allocation of GhC10 million when the sector was under the Ministry of Transport. The railways sector received the second highest budgetary allocation in the 2017 budget. The reason for this is the importance given to the sector by the NPP government and to rail infrastructural development which has over the years been largely unattractive to investors.

Ladies and gentlemen, almost all the modes under the transport sector have seen some investments particularly in roads infrastructure, maritime and the aviation sub-sectors. However, much attention was not

The Minister of Railways Development's Speech Cont'd

given to the strategic importance of rail transport.

The under-investment in the rail sector has led to the near collapse of our railway system in the country. The creation of a new Ministry to develop railways sector, therefore, marks a sharp focus on an industry that will turn around Ghana's economic fortune.

I am also told that, among the various modes of transport that are available for use, the rail Transport mode provides the best opportunity for this transformation to happen.

This is not all, the proposed creation of inland rail terminals; the development of new industrial estates; the development of new settlements and the complete transformation of the economy and the robust and modern railways network give more credence to this compelling case.

Mr. Chairman, what does all these mean to the Consulting Engineering fraternity.?

Implementing these priority projects, will create jobs, facilitate trade and industrial development. This will, in turn, stimulate economic growth. In the process, new towns and cities will be created and older towns would be revitalized, under the Ministry's Flagship programme "from-Stations-to-Cities". The railway projects will provide opportunity for Associations like yours to take advantage and seek for jobs for your members. The construction of the rails will also take the burden off the road network and ensure longer life spans of newly constructed roads. The development of the railways sector will completely transform the economy.

Industrial and commercial minds, like those of your members, stand to benefit a lot as there are unlimited opportunities for the private sector in the development of the railway network in the provision of related services together with the development of associated infrastructure. The Ministry, therefore welcomes various forms of collaboration with the private sector in the provision of consultancy in the development of the rail network, the provision of railway-related services and associated infrastructure in the country.

The Ministry is determined to give Ghanaians the opportunity in these kinds of investments.

Concluding, Mr. Chairman, His Excellency the President once said: "One of the legacies I want to leave is a modern railway network from Accra to Paga which has interconnectivity with Burkina Faso."

This suggests that rail transport is an unavoidable element in economic growth and development and a lot of the congestions being experienced in our major cities in Ghana could be avoided in the presence of an effective, robust modern rail network.

May I also take this opportunity to congratulate the organizers for their insight in putting this dialogue together. It is the hope and wish of the Ministry that you would come out with appropriate recommendations that will be geared towards partnering government in her forward march towards Ghana-without Aid.

GCEA WEEK 2017—Remarks by other Speakers

Mayor of Accra

The Mayor of Accra, Hon. Mohammed Adjei Sowah, in a remark, said it was important that political leaders work closely with professional consulting engineers to find solutions to problems confronting the nation in the areas of providing accommodation and the construction of energy efficient buildings to help reduce the electricity usage on the national grid.

Ing (Mrs) Carlien Bou-Chedid, President –GhIE

Ing Mrs. Carlien Bou-Chedid, President of the Ghana Institution of Engineers, explained that with the coming into force of the Engineering Council Act 819, it had become even more important that industry sectors became better organized, so they would be well positioned to address the needs of their sector and engage in the advocacy that would enable those in the sector contribute more meaningfully to the development of the country.

Ing. Kofi Asare-Yeboah, GAMA President

Chairman of the Group of African Member Association (GAMA) of FIDIC, Ing. F. Asare- Yeboah, congratulated GCEA for organizing a public event of this nature to discuss issues related to the development of Ghana's infrastructural development.

OTHER 2017 ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

FIDIC 2017 CONFERENCE



The 2017 FIDIC Conference was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, in October 1-3, 2017.

17 Ghanaian delegates including Young Professionals and Accompanying persons attended the conference.

FIDIC Training Courses Modules 3 & 4



Group Photograph of Participants

The FIDIC Training Courses Modules 3 & 4 were held from 6-9 November 2017 at the Engineers Centre, Roman Ridge, Accra.

A total number of 20 participants from VRA, Zambia, GHA, CKP, and Associated Consultants participated in the training.

The Trainer was Mr. Robert Werth from Germany.

PHOTO GALLERY—GCEA WEEK CELEBRATION



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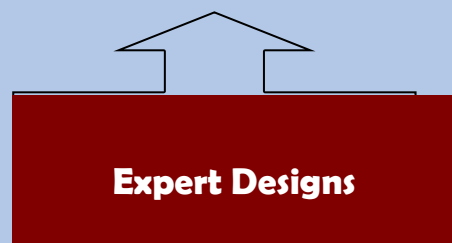
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