



NOTES OF THE 9th MEG MEETING

4th – 5th JUNE 2013, ANKARA, TURKEY

The annual Mediterranean Engineering Group – MEG meeting was organized in 4th and 5th of June 2013, in Ankara – Turkey. MEG is a technical cooperation platform established in the year 2006; its members are representatives from associations of engineering consultancy companies and/or representatives of engineering consultancy companies from the Mediterranean region. The meeting was organized by Association of Turkish Consulting Engineers and Architects – ATCEA; with the attendance of 32 participants from 8 countries.

The meeting was opened by Mr. Demir INOZU, President of ATCEA; he thanked the participants with a warm welcome and emphasized the common approach between Mediterranean Countries and responsibilities by belonging to this area. He also expressed that the meeting will focus on sustainability and reminded about the FIDIC Centenary Conference in Barcelona. After his speech, the presentation film of ATCEA was shown.

After the participants have introduced themselves; Mr. Patrick-Yann DARTOUT, International Delegate of Syntec Ingeniere from France, presented vision of the Union for the Mediterranean Supporting Action – UfM and possibilities for MEG. He gave examples from promoted developing projects and secured funding by UfM.

Mr. Ibrahim SIRER, former World Bank Senior Procurement Specialist, made his presentation on “Procurement of Consulting Services- World Bank Practices”. He explained the definitions of consultant and consultancy, as well as consultancy services selection methods in terms of World Bank applications.

Mr. Italo GOYZUETA, Deputy Director of FIDIC, gave detailed information about the FIDIC Centenary Conference program, which will be held in Barcelona, in September 2013. His presentation included also a short video message from FIDIC President, Geoff FRENCH. Mr. GOYZUETA expressed that, although the early bird registration for conference is closed, a discount in the registration fees could still be



applied, if a group will be formed from the MEG members, who want to attend the Conference and not registered yet.

As a member of EFCA European External Aid Committee (EEA), Mr. Rasit UNUVAR (Tempo Eng.) focused on an interesting subject; “Marketing Tools and Lobbying Strategies”. In his presentation he emphasized how the markets are evolving, the business opportunities in new markets, as well as strategies for developing business opportunities, capacity building and partnership. He expressed the lobbying activities of the EEA Committee in Europe, and concluded his presentation explaining the term ethics and describing FIDIC Ethical Rules.

A feedback on marketing tools discussed in Casablanca meeting last year was explained by Mr. DARTOUT. He also demonstrated the MEG cooperation platform – the Agora tool in web site and stated that all MEG members could meet on this site after the test period would be completed. Additionally, he focused on the possible MEG meeting in 18 September 2013, Business Day of FIDIC Conference. It is stated that OICE (Italy) will prepare a booklet for MEG group.

During lunch and coffee breaks, participants have found the possibility to meet with each other and found the opportunity for B2B and networking.

The agenda embodied a special topic as “sustainable development in Turkey”, where three successful projects were presented. Mr. Ali KANTUR (ITC Invest AG) presented an interesting solid waste management project - the Mamak Landfill and Recycling Project in Ankara. He explained the system developed by their company and expressed the environmental friendly results of the project for the city. Another project was presented by Mrs. Burcin CETIN (Temelsu Inc.), which was a sustainable treated wastewater discharge project in Mugla city. She gave important design details and consideration of alternatives during design, and mentioned the positive environmental effects of the project to the area. The presentation of Mr. Simon AULAGNIER (Burgeap) has the subject of “the Eco-zone of Kilis Road in Gaziantep”. He explained the energy efficiency, renewable energy and water management studies during the design of the eco-zone and mentioned that the sustainable cities are an opportunity to create technical partnerships.

Mr. Ozgur OZCELIK, Assist. Prof. in Civil Eng. Department in Dokuz Eylul University Izmir, performed a very useful presentation on “Seismic Isolation and Structural Health Monitoring Technologies”. He explained



the two terms by examples from real world, as well as the controlling mechanisms. In the seismic area, another interesting presentation was shared by Dr. Fausto BISI (Dune Arch.), as “Anti-seismic Technologies – the Italian approach for the recovery of monuments”. Mr. Bisi gave important examples from projects in Italy, expressing good and bad practices.

The second section was assigned to some examples of successful contractor and consultant cooperation. Mr. Haluk BUYUKBAS, Secretary General of Turkish Contractors Association, presented the Gebze-Izmir Motorway & Izmit Bay Crossing Project. He gave the project details and investment rationales of this EPC contract, where the sponsors built up a JV and grantor is General Directorate of Highways in Turkey. Mr. Munis OZER, Board Member of ATCEA and Partner of TMA Eng. Ltd., gave a good Public Private Partnership – PPP Project example with “Operation and Expansion of Pristina International Airport – Adem Jashari”. He defined the PPP method, expressed the benefits and gave information about the types of PPP contracts. He informed us about PPP applications in airport business through the presented project.

The meeting was continued by getting the expectations and proposals from MEG for joint projects in MED countries. The main question was on the possibility of making a simple contact between MEG group members. Mr. INOZU stated that the communication by e-mail could be used more effectively, also some special meetings could be organized. Mr. UNUVAR stated also that, meeting once a year is a long period, but due to the financial constraints web based communication would be useful. He also expressed that, in EFCA every meeting has its own agenda; MEG group could also determine some specific topics for its meetings. Mr. DARTOUT emphasized the simplicity and benefits of the web communication platform. Mr. BENAZZOUZ agreed and mentioned that they added a link to the web site of their association.

Mr. INOZU closed the meeting highlighting the below conclusions:

- Communication and cooperation among Member Associations and firms are very important. Marketing and lobbying strategies should be developed.
- Cooperation between the regional National Associations should be strengthened. Creation of simple network for maintaining easy contacts is important.



-We have to promote principles of independent consulting engineering and FIDIC rules among young engineers.

-Natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods and landslides are threatening the lives of people and sustainable environment. Therefore capacity development and knowledge transfer are very important among the Member Associations.

-in order to increase the benefit margins for the technical consultancy sector, risks should be shared, this necessitates cooperation between companies. By increasing the benefit margins it is possible to spent more for innovation.

-For the sustainable urban development, most important issues are:

- i)water management
- ii)waste water management
- iii)waste management; covering recycling, municipal solid waste management
- iv)land management
- v)clean transportation systems
- vi)green buildings
- vii)use of renewable energy
- viii)urban regeneration projects

-PPP method is necessary for sustainable development of cities and regeneration projects.

Success of PPP projects are increasing when the responsibilities, risks, resources and benefits are shared among the parties in proportional with their expertise and financial capacities.

-innovation, Research-Development and Technology Platforms are very important for the success of PPP projects.

-PPP projects promote research-development and innovation activities.

-EPC type contracts necessitate Consultant-Contractor cooperation.



ATCEA invited all participants to dinner, where traditional Turkish cuisine was served.

Participants attended to a site visit next day; the aforementioned Solid Waste Management Project – Mamak Landfill and Recycling Project Area in Ankara.

In the afternoon some of the guests went to Istanbul, for Futurallia 2013 event.

MEG members will meet in Barcelona FIDIC Conference, in September 2013 next time.