

# **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING - 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019 AT AKOSOMBO, GHANA**

## **1.0 Preamble**

At the 1<sup>st</sup> General Assembly (GA) of the reconstituted Federation of African Engineering Organisations, FAEO held on 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya it was approved by members of the Federation that the Secretariat of FAEO be hosted by Nigeria and in Abuja on a permanent basis to serve the interest of all Professional Engineering Institutions, PEIs in Africa in tandem with global best practice. To deliver on its mandate the secretariat needed to build capacity in a transparent, diverse and inclusive magnitude which was constrained due to paucity of funds until in 2018 when an intervention fund was gained through the Africa Catalyst Project to engage 2 additional staff to effectively run the administrative machinery of FAEO to the desired yarning of all stakeholders. The report is essentially to highlight areas the secretariat is repositioned to deliver on its obligation.

## **2.0 Production of a Strategic Plan**

A 5 year strategic document (2020 – 2025) is at its early stage of production with the target to be delivered on or before 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

## **3.0 FAEO Governance Documents**

FAEO Governance workshop to totally rebrand FAEO is scheduled to take place in Kigali, Rwanda 1 – 5 May 2019 with the 3 staff members, Executive Committee members and consultants from both RedR and Royal Academy of Engineering UK as participants. It is expected that by 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2019 all the relevant FAEO Governance documents will be produced as a working manual.

## **4.0 FAEO 2019 Budget**

Working with the Executive Committee members, the Secretariat is placed to serve various working groups on thematic projects to fund a budget of \$315,000.00 in year 2019. Specific projects are in the following areas:

- Young Engineers
- Women in Engineering
- Crises and Disaster Management
- Mitigating the Effect of Climate change
- Support capacity building of secretariats of other PEIs in Africa

Targeted sources for funding for the above listed projects include, but not limited to:

- ✓ African Development Bank especially on its High 5s for transforming Africa
- ✓ United Nations... taking advantage of Nigerians/African contacts in UN eg UNEP
- ✓ FAEO/African Union MoU Projects

- ✓ Further work with Royal academy of Engineering UK
- ✓ FAEO Seminars and Workshops during the Africa Engineering Week and conferences of other PEIs
- ✓ FAEO Publications
- ✓ Other miscellaneous sources of income.

## **5.0 Rebranding Corporate Image of FAEO**

### **5.1 Training**

The drive of the new leadership of FAEO under President Eng. Martin Manuhwa to rebrand the Federation into a world class organisation is yielding results with training and coaching sessions for the staff. The Executive Director was in Paris to study the workings of the Secretariat of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations, WEFEO: January 27 to February 2, 2019. The newly 2 employed staff taking coaching sessions on Financial Management, Professional Marketing Skills, Human Resources Relations, Transparency, Inclusiveness and Diversity Global Policies, etc from reputable consultants from UK, Iraq and Kenya.

### **5.2 Targeting Francophone members**

Deliberate efforts to bring into FAEO the Francophone countries in Africa are made while the Marketing and Membership Affairs Manager at FAEO Secretariat translates all documents of the Federation for the French speaking the President and Executive Director met with Ambassadors of the French speaking countries in Africa at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris early this year to cultivate new partnerships.

### **5.3 Social Media Handles**

FAEO commenced effective communication strategy which includes creating of the Federation's Social Media handles like Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn and all this social handles are making FAEO more visible. FAEO Website under overhauling at the moment and is expected to be completed before end of April 2019.

FAEO had its first press release on 8 March 2019 marking the celebration of International Women's day by its First Female President-Elect Ing. Carlen Bau-Chedid, FGhIE and other women in Engineering. The broadcast was published on the website and on 3 FAEO social media pages. The event attracted favourable comments from the Royal Academy of Engineering UK and our UK partners – Redr UK among others.

## **6.0 Conclusion**

At the Secretariat of FAEO we are committed to implement resolutions of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee as well as policies and procedures in tandem with the FAEO Constitution, to position FAEO into a world class international organization.

**Bernard Ordams**