

CONTACT REPORT

Subject	FIDIC conference 2018	Vtiger relationship management
Company name	FIDIC/EFCA	<input type="checkbox"/> Add
Contact person	-	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual report
Position	-	<input type="checkbox"/> W+B News
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Action taken by Report/Result/Comments

1 INTRODUCTION

FIDIC 2018 conference this year has been organised in Berlin. As Germany is not far-far away country and it's rather affordable to travel there, it has been decided that Latvian association of consulting engineers will delegate one representative to take an active participation in this event. During the board meeting in June it was decided that Oskars Zivtins of Witteveen+Bos Latvia will be delegated to this conference on behalf of LIKA. This contact report has been prepared by Oskars to inform colleagues about all activities that have taken place during the conference. In the appendixes there are various contact info and scanned copies of the hand out materials obtained during the conference. The FIDIC conference took place in Intercontinental Hotel in West-Berlin.

2 PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

In June FIDIC has distributed to the Member associations (further MA) a programme of the conference (see Appendix I). It was rather difficult for somebody who first time sees such a programme to make right decisions about attending this event. The programme starts with so called pre-programme which in-fact is very important to attend, especially, because there is FIDIC organisation. While it's not shown as part of FIDIC conference and therefore might have caused some confusions (i.e. Estonian colleagues missed that part). This pre-conference programme also is mixed with FIDIC Young professionals event related activities and that may cause some misunderstandings too. This year all these activities have taken place from Wednesday till Sunday.

So called FIDIC Business days conference was opened on Monday and continued all day on Tuesday. After the closure of the conference, there was FIDIC MA General Assembly Meeting (GAM), which is also important event to take a part in.

Thanks for friendly advice by Raimonds Eizensmits (former chair and board member of LIKA) it was decided that it's essential to participate in all FIDIC organisation events from Saturday morning till GAM on Tuesday evening. Therefore the flight schedule has been chosen to arrive to the conference in the evening on Friday and leave in the morning on Wednesday.

3 AGENDA FOR FIDIC 2018

On Wednesday (5th September) FIDIC management and members of Executive Committee (EC) members arrived at the venue.

On Thursday and Friday (6th and 7th September) there were several FIDIC EC meetings taking place.

On Saturday (8th September) the pre-conference part for MA representatives commenced with DNS meeting, which was followed by FIDIC Presidents meeting.

On Sunday (9th September) the pre-conference programme continued with Best Practice Forum, where FIDIC Specialised Committee representatives informed about FIDIC tools and services available to Members and to the Industry. Which was followed by YP discussion and later by FIDIC future leadership workshop. As optional programme in the afternoon various city sightseeing tours have been organised for interested participants.

On Monday (10th September) the FIDIC infrastructure conference commenced for a subject - Mobility & Business - Global Perspectives.

In the evening FIDIC Gala dinner and Awards ceremony took place.

On Tuesday (11th September) second day of FIDIC conference continued with topic - Smart Infrastructure.

At the end of working day FIDIC 2018 General Assembly meeting (GAM) took a place. Followed by Local Colour night dinner (optional).

4 ACTIVITIES ON SEPTEMBER 8

4.1 DNS meeting

The meeting has been opened by members of DNS council Ms. Jacolien Eijer (Director of NL ingenieurs) and Mr. John Gamble (President & CEO, Association of consulting engineering companies Canada, ACEC)

There were some 100 participants in this meeting from many countries across the globe. After round table introduction the word has been given to the new CEO of FIDIC - Mr. Nelson Ogunshakin (UK).

Highlights of his presentation:

- FIDIC as organisation should define and explain to MAs the value of fees and why MAs have to pay them.
- He referred to the recent study that max profit margin for contractors is 1-5%, for engineering companies in average 6-9%, if there better paid engineer involved in the project the profit margin for the contractor can reach 5% and a bit higher %.
- Also use of English will increase chances to get higher profit %.
- In his opinion the FIDIC organisation needs rebranding and decentralisation.
- By 2023 (in 5 years) he hopes that FIDIC will be better recognised brand.
- ACEC (has been mentioned as good example on how to cooperate and actively participate in FIDIC. (<https://www.acec.org/about/>))
- FUTURE OF FIDIC CONFERENCES, there is group working to evaluate all shortages of the conferences in the past and come up with suggestions on how to improve them in the future. In general the idea is that there will be 4 cities set as places where conferences will be organised and the conference will travel from one to the other and back. The topics to be addressed in the conferences are still open, all MAs are welcome to submit their suggestions. Bill Howard presented this topic more in details.
- The headquarters in Geneva - due to various reasons (also taxes), it will remain in Geneva. It has been decided. There is still open question whether the secretariat will move to another office or not, but for sure there will be some optimisation implemented.

Afterwards DNS council (consisting of 9 members from different countries) presented their findings.

Coffee break - during this break there were still interested parties promoting MAs to vote for their candidate to EC. Also some professional conferences have been promoted. During the lunch break I shook hands and had some introduction discussion with:

- New FIDIC CEO - Nelson Ogunshakin (UK). He was happy to see representative from Baltic states, I mentioned that being from Latvia I will inform my colleagues in Estonia and Lithuania about this part of FIDIC conference, as they somehow decided that the most important is to attend conference on Monday and Tuesday. He is willing to change the organisation and turn the FIDIC to work more for MAs. He is open and willing to assist once MAs will ask him.
- The president of FIDIC Mr. Alain Bentéjac (France), he was also happy that there is a representative of Baltic states and encouraged to participate more actively in work of FIDIC organisation). We also found one more aspect why it was interesting to meet each other, as he is working for French company Artelia Group, which is a SEEN partner with together with Witteveen+Bos.
- Former CEO currently special advisor - Enrico Vink, he also is willing to assist once MA will invite him or ask for an advice.
- Several representatives of MA (Denmark, Switzerland, Germany, Netherlands, Czech republic, Indonesia, South Korea))see business cards in the appendix.

4.2 MA Presidents meeting.

All the previous topics from DNS meeting have been presented to the audience of MA presidents (will not repeat here).

Welcome cocktail for attendants has been based on tickets, which the interested parties should buy at the conference information desk.

5 EVENTS ON SEPTEMBER 9

5.1 Best Practice Forum

The FIDIC organisation consist of several committees:

- [Business Practice Committee \(BPC\)](#)
- [Capacity Building Committee \(CBC\)](#)
- [Contracts Committee \(CC\)](#)
- [Integrity Management Committee \(IMC\)](#)
- [Membership Committee \(MemC\)](#)
- [Risk and Quality Committee \(RC\)](#)
- [Sustainable Development Committee \(SDC\)](#)
- [FIDIC Body of Adjudicators \(FBA\)](#)
- [FIDIC Body of Trainers \(FBT\)](#)

(MAs are delegating representatives to FIDIC committees and these committees are the main driving force of the FIDIC professional activities, books, etc)

During this event the chairs of those committees informed about the activities carried out last year. During Q/A session the suggestions on how to intensify the activities and achieve better results have been provided by audience.

See video at

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e3_zcXeOeEw&list=PLaTXWAZWdAww9NloRjnu8RtTmWkUfkV8

The afternoon has been allocated for the Berlin sightseeing tours (for which special tickets could be bought at the conference information desk).

In the evening the welcome drink has been hosted by the FIDIC to the delegates of the conference.

6 EVENTS ON SEPTEMBER 10

6.1 Conference

Infrastructure conference for consulting engineers has started with registration and entertainment of delegates.

A video with presentations of part 1 see here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WHtYdGd2F1Y8&index=5&list=PLaTXWAZWdAww9NloRjnu8RtTmWkUfkV8>

A video of part 2 - Perspective from board room see here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUumLUM5zgm&list=PLaTXWAZWdAww9NloRjnu8RtTmWkUfkV8&index=6>

Part 3 - SOFTWARE INFRASTRUCTURE PANEL Impact of Digital Technology on Mobility and Business, see video and presentations here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZYX42jilyDA&index=7&list=PLaTXWAZWdAww9NloRjnu8RtTmWkUfkV8>

Part 4 - The City of Today and Tomorrow Challenges and Smart Options, video and presentations see here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eGQjgswrzwE&list=PLaTXWAZWdAww9NloRjnu8RtTmWkUfkV8&index=8>

Part 5 - Impact on Global Digital Economy:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hDdgxRtEzjk&list=PLaTXWAZWdAww9NloRjnu8RtTmWkUfkV8&index=9>

6.2 Gala dinner

In the evening there was Gala dinner hosted for all delegates of the conference. During this gala dinner the FIDIC awards have been announced for the YPs and honorary awards for the project of the year (mostly Chinese projects, but for sure there could be projects also from EU). I was sitting at the table with representatives of Finish association of consulting engineers (see business cards in appendix). They had two YPs that have been nominated for award, but didn't get it unfortunately. (Suggestion: We should also evaluate possibilities to submit application of best national project for this FIDIC award, that will certainly promote the country)

7 EVENTS ON SEPTEMBER 11

7.1 2nd day FIDIC conference

Part 1 of 2nd day - Host Nation welcome, see video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xbY38U8ZjZQ&list=PLaTXWAZWdAww9NloRjnu8RtTmWkUfkV8&index=10>

Part 2 of 2nd day - Urban sustainability (German experience), see video and presentations here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cCvylx_DIE&index=11&list=PLaTXWAZWdAww9NloRjnu8RtTmWkUfkV8

Part 3 of 2nd day - Innovative approaches in investing in smart infrastructure, video and presentations see here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9tUXGYBMUzk&index=13&list=PLaTXWAZWdAww9NloRjnu8RtTmWkUfkV8&t=0s>

Part 4 of 2nd day - Urban connectivity, presentations and discussions see here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lnrgp65pO-M&list=PLaTXWAZWdAww9NloRjnu8RtTmWkUfkV8&index=13>

Part 5 of 2nd day - New worlds of work, new fields of tension, presentations and discussions see here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x-0oOIMkcQI&list=PLaTXWAZWdAww9NloRjnu8RtTmWkUfkV8&index=14>

Part 6 of 2nd day - Future leaders outlook, discussions and presentations here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O5fc1wnuNRc&list=PLaTXWAZWdAww9NloRjnu8RtTmWkUfkV8&index=15>

Part 7 of 2nd day - Conference closing words and presentations, by president of FIDIC, CEO of FIDIC and the president of EFCA, see here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yFB1Dljt4jY&index=16&list=PLaTXWAZWdAww9NloRJnju8RtTmWkUfkV8>

Few subjective conclusions: there were lot of interesting topics discussed, but these topics have nothing to do (not directly) with FIDIC organisation. All the FIDIC organisation related topics were discussed in events before the conference (Saturday and Sunday) and after it (during GAM), and also during networking breaks.

7.2 General Assembly meeting

There were very limited number (some 50-60% of previously participating MAs) left in this meeting at 16:00. There was rather detailed agenda for this meeting handed over.

The audience approved all topics. The most important were:

- FIDIC organisation will stay in Switzerland and optimise the staff and office.
- Most likely the FIDIC conferences will be organised in 4 cities only. The exact cities will be chosen and decided later.
- William Howard (USA) had been appointed by the board as the FIDIC president elect (for period from 2019-2021) and there were no objections from the MAs.
- Antony Barry (Australia) has been appointed by the board as the FIDIC vice president elect (for period 2019-2021) and there was no objections from MAs.
- It was announced by the election commission members (Australia/USA) that Mark Pehlig (the Netherlands) has been elected as the new FIDIC Executive Committee member.
- The FIDIC annual conference in 2020 will be hosted in Geneva.

Observations about GAM, it's rather formal event, but this is still one of major events where MAs can directly influence FIDIC organisation. As you have to vote by waving up the plate with name of your country, as well you can express suggestions/innitiatives prior and during this meeting.

7.3 Local colour night dinner

There was a possibility to buy the tickets to this event at the information desk of the conference. Some participants of conference have named this event as the most exciting event of the FIDIC conference.

7.4 Meeting with EFCA president

Representatives of Estonian and Latvian delegation had a separate meeting with EFCA president Kevin Rudden (Ireland) and Jan Van der Putten (Belgium) and EFCA Secretary General. Also president of Finish association of consulting engineers Mr. Kimmo Fischer. Mr. Rudden pointed out that it's great to meet representatives of countries at FIDIC forum and explained about EFCA. In short: EFCA represents FIDIC in Europe. EFCA has strong lobby and protects/promotes consulting engineers at EC in Brussels. EFCA organises seminars and conferences for MAs. MAs members can learn a lot from each other and establish/strengthen their network. So far Baltic states have been not participating, but they are more than welcome.

We explained that in all three countries the MAs are small and therefore financially not so powerful, that must be the main reason why we have afforded only participation in FIDIC. Mr. Putten explained that EFCA has very democratic approach, the membership

fees depends from number of engineers in the MAs. In case of Baltic states the fee will be very affordable. Both - Estonian and Latvian representatives concluded that if you want to be competitive, updated and aware of that it going on, you have to be part of the global organisation. Mr. Rudden proposed that Latvian, Lithuanian and Estonian associations of consulting engineers should join EFCA as MAs.

Representatives promised to bring this message back to their organisations and promote the idea of joining EFCA. Mr. Putten promised to send some basic info and indication of potential membership fee.

(Oskars suggests to consider joining EFCA, as there will be more benefits).