



International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering

# CIGR

*Newsletter  
Quarterly*

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March 2017**

*Since 1930  
87 Years of CIGR*

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***Commission Internationale du Génie Rural (CIGR)***

CIGR Website: <http://www.cigr.org/>

# 1. CIGR NEWS

## Message from the President

It is my great pleasure and honor to be elected as the President of CIGR by the CIGR members, CIGR Executive Board members and CIGR Presidium. I regard it as both an honor and as a responsibility. How to execute the duties to lead CIGR fully playing its role in advancement of the international agricultural and biosystems engineering has been my constant consideration ever since I was elected in 2014. I could not help thinking of the time when I was first involved in a CIGR academic activity, specifically, the 13th World Congress of CIGR in Rabat, Morocco in 1998, wherein only two scientists from China attended. At that time, the agricultural engineers in China were not familiar with CIGR or its activities. I am happy to see that after about 20 years, more and more Chinese agricultural scientists not only actively participate in CIGR activities but also volunteer their services for CIGR's impact in the world, and promoting the scientific and technological exchanges among the scientists and engineers worldwide. I witnessed it and thus I am convinced CIGR will surely promote the development of agricultural and biosystems engineering in all its member countries while realizing self-development. From January 1, 2017, I will assume my duties as CIGR President. The following are my action plan for my term: Shoulder the responsibility of the president-organize CIGR Presidium meetings, make action plan, raise suggestions and keep regular contacts with CIGR presidium members, Executive Board members and the national, international and regional associations for the smooth operation of CIGR; Guide to successfully organize CIGR worldwide academic activities -- world congress, international conferences, scientific symposiums, seminars and workshops; Instruct and support the S&T researches of CIGR working groups in order to solve the hot and key issues that the world faces in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering; Organize in preparing CIGR new handbook for the emerging industry in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering; Recruit new members and enlarge CIGR impact; Work together with the Editor-in-Chief of CIGR Journal for entering Thompson Reuters; Plan new strategies for CIGR when facing untraditional challenges. I am determined to do my very best to serve CIGR during my term along with all of you, my dear colleagues. This action plan could not be fully implemented without your strong support and generous efforts. Let's work together for the common goal- for the betterment of all the people on earth which is our common home. I encourage all of you to give your contributions to this great cause.



Prof. Shujun Li

*Prof. Dr. Li Shujun  
President of CIGR*

## Message from the Incoming President

Exactly 30 years ago as a young graduate, I had opportunity to assist my supervisor prepare for a CIGR workshop held in Nigeria. This contact encouraged me to follow the activities of CIGR with interest, subsequently serving at various levels within the leadership structures. I graduated with several degrees in agricultural engineering; from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka (BEng *First Class Hons* 1987 and MEng *cum laude* 1989) and Massey University, New Zealand (PhD 1993). My work experience includes academic positions at Massey University and Sultan Qaboos University, Oman. In 2009, I moved to Stellenbosch University in South Africa, where I am currently a Distinguished Professor and South African Research Chair in Postharvest Technology. Over these years, I have travelled extensively to various continents, including a Visiting Expert position at the Food and Agriculture of the United Nations in Rome.



Prof. Dr. U. Linus Opara

Thanks to the foresight of our forebears, CIGR was formed in 1930 as the apex global network of agricultural engineers to promote our discipline and profession. For nearly a century, both the discipline and profession have undergone significant changes in response to internal and external influences. Today, CIGR is facing challenges including declining membership, low participation, and inadequate finance and uncertainty. To address these, we need to renew and deepen engagement with our stakeholders – member societies, academic and research departments, etc. To survive the next 100 years, CIGR must reform and transform. Present students must “know and feel” CIGR so that they can aspire to serve and lead in the near future. Our leadership and management structures must provide platforms and incentives for the youth to actively engage. Individual members at grassroots level must also “know and feel” CIGR for similar reasons.

The current management structure of CIGR has served us well over the last decades, but I am still unsure about the future prospects. I believe that CIGR needs a permanent secretariat, lean and efficient, to assist us and to serve our stakeholders better. We definitely need more volunteers but the future of CIGR is too important to rely solely on part-time. We can ill-afford to have our Secretariat constantly on the move; this creates challenges to retain momentum, preserve institutional memory and provide a repository of our historical records. Let us continue this conversation, and I welcome your thoughts. As we work together, I am looking forward to more exciting years ahead and a brighter future for the CIGR beyond my term of office.

*Prof. Dr. Umezuruike Linus Opara  
Incoming President of CIGR*

## Reports from the Secretary General

Dear Colleagues

I am pleased to inform you that we have accepted the application for CIGR membership as a national member from the PSAE (Philippine Society of Agricultural Engineers). The CIGR Executive Board meeting to be held on 12 June 2017 will formalize the approval of the PSAE.

CIGR statues related to new members for your information.



Prof. Mikio Umeda

### II - STRUCTURE AND INTERNAL ORGANISATION

#### Article 3: Membership

7. Applications for membership are approved by the General Assembly (Art. 8c). Termination of membership takes place by a written request to the General Secretariat by October 31 of the year in effect; or a decision of the Executive Board to be confirmed by the General Assembly.

In addition to PSAE, I am hopeful that Malaysia and Thailand will soon join as the members of CIGR. CIGR mainly consists of European and American countries. However about 4 billion people live in the Asian region which is about 54% of the total world population. For several years, I have been making every possible effort to promote CIGR activities and explain the importance of CIGR, visiting Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar,

Philippines, and Thailand. Indonesia has been a member of CIGR since 2013. Malaysia (MSAE) and Thailand (TSAE) are also considering to become members. If they join, it will result in a total of ten (10) member countries, including China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Korea, Japan, Malaysia Philippines, Thailand and Turkey. Lastly, I believe that 21st century is the age of SMART FARMING. The role of CIGR becomes even more crucial in the exchange of relevant information for the development of smart farming. Active participation of the new Asian members will contribute greatly to stimulate CIGR activities in many ways.

With best regards,

Prof. Mikio Umeda  
Secretary General of CIGR

## The schedule of 2017 CIGR Business Meetings during XXXVII CIOSTA & CIGR Section V Conference 12 June, Palermo, Italy

### 12 June (Mon), 2017

9:00-11:30: CIGR Presidium meeting at Aula Magna G. Ballatore

14:00-16:00: CIGR Executive Board meeting at Aula Magna G. Ballatore

## CIGR World Congresses and Internatinal Conferences, 2018–2022

### The XIX CIGR World Congress 22-26 April 2018, Antalya, Turkey was changed into Kyrenia, Cyprus

During the CIGR General Assembly held in Valencia, Spain on 9 July 2012, Turkey was elected to host the XIX CIGR World Congress.

The venue of the XIX CIGR World Congress has been changed from Antalya, Turkey to Kyrenia, Northern Cyprus due to the recent inquiries by the members regarding security in Turkey. Kyrenia has been very ideal as Cyprus being also an island has the most desired qualities in terms of security. Direct flights are available from major European cities to Larneca Airport / from several destinations in Europe and Istanbul to Ercan Airport in Nicosia (Lefkose). The Congress will be organized in cooperation with the Turkish Chamber of

Agricultural Engineers, Akdeniz University and Ege University. This congress is the most important and the biggest event for the international community of agricultural engineers. It will be an excellent opportunity to present your current studies, discuss new ideas, technologies, processes, application experiences and machines, developing new collaborations between academics, researchers, developers, engineers, experts, students and also practitioners. This World Congress will also offer you and your family extraordinary experiences about Turkish culture, and daily life as well as the historical wonders of the country during the pre or post congress tours. The Organizing Committee is now actively preparing to ensure the success of this great event.

For queries, you may send an email to Prof. Can Ertekin of Akdeniz University email: [ertekin@akdeniz.edu.tr](mailto:ertekin@akdeniz.edu.tr)

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## XIX. World Congress of CIGR

Kyneria - Northern Cyprus  
22 - 25 April 2018



## CIGR 2018

The venue for **CIGR 2018** has been changed to  
Kyneria, Northern Cyprus and **CIGR 2018** will be held at  
**Elexus Resort Hotel** between the dates of April 22 - 25, 2018.

Please visit the congress website for relevant information.  
Online Registration and Abstract Submission  
are now open at the congress website.

[www.cigr2018.org](http://www.cigr2018.org)



### The 5th CIGR International Conference 2020

**Integrating Agriculture and Society through  
Engineering**  
14-17 June 2020, Quebec, Canada

During the CIGR General Assembly in Beijing, China on 17 September 2014, Quebec was elected to host the 5<sup>th</sup> CIGR International Conference.

The Conference will be held on 14-17 June, 2020 in Quebec, Canada.

Program overview

14 June (Sun): Registration and welcome reception  
15 June (Mon): Opening ceremony, Technical sessions and Cruise on the St.-Lawrence River  
16 June (Tue): Plenary session, Technical sessions and CIGR Awards Ceremony  
17 June (Wed): Technical sessions and closing ceremony

Congress venue: The Quebec Convention Centre

For queries, you may send an email to the Organizer and/or Local Committee Chair at the following email addresses:  
[stephane.godbout@irda.qc.ca](mailto:stephane.godbout@irda.qc.ca)

### The XX CIGR World Congress 2022

During the 4th CIGR International Conference in Aarhus, Denmark, the Executive Board meeting on 25 June 2016 was held to discuss the XX World Congress 2022. Two candidate presentations were made by the representatives from Japan and Germany. Afterwards, it was agreed that the final decision will be made by the next Presidium meeting.

At Skype Presidium meeting on 6 December 2016, Japan was elected to host the XX CIGR World Congress 2022.

The Congress will be held in Kyoto and the organizing committee has been created.

For queries, you may send an email to Prof. Dr. Noboru Noguchi of Hokkaido University  
email: [noguchi@cen.agr.hokudai.ac.jp](mailto:noguchi@cen.agr.hokudai.ac.jp)

or

Prof. Dr. Hiroshi Shimizu of Kyoto University  
email: [hshimizu@kais.kyoto-u.ac](mailto:hshimizu@kais.kyoto-u.ac)

## 2. CIGR SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

### 11th International AIIA Conference “Biosystems Engineering addressing the human challenges of the 21st century” in Bari - Italy July 5-8, 2017

The Italian Society of Agricultural Engineering (AIIA) proposes the AIIA 2017 Conference in Bari with the aim of increasing both the enhancement of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering knowledge and scientific exchanges among Italian and international researchers particularly those coming from the Mediterranean area. The conference will be organized into several parallel sessions for full and short presentations covering a wide variety of topics.

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The Organizing Secretariat, Centro Italiano Congressi CIC SUD, has reserved a large number of rooms in different hotel categories both in the conference venue area and in different other areas of the city. An early reservation is strongly recommended. Hotel room reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until 30 April 2017. After this date, room availability cannot be guaranteed but every effort will be made to satisfy your request.

For queries, you may send an email to

Giacomo Scarascia Mugnozza  
[Giacomo.scarasciamugnozza@uniba.it](mailto:Giacomo.scarasciamugnozza@uniba.it)

### Agenda for the 2017 Board Meeting of CIGR Section I “Land and Water Engineering” in COLPOS, Montecillo, Mexico at 18:00 on May 23, 2017

Agenda

- Item 1: Opening and welcome.
- Item 2: Minutes of the 2016 Board Meeting in Aarhus, Denmark.
- Item 3: Draft report CIGR Section I 2016.
- Item 4: 4th CIGR Inter-Regional Conference on Land and Water Challenges - Sustainable Innovation.
- Item 5: Upcoming conferences
  - 2018: XIX CIGR World Congress in Kyrenia, Northern Cyprus
  - 2019 and 2021: Locations of the 5th and 6th Inter-Regional Conference on Land and Water Challenges to be identified
- Item 6: CIGR Section I Mission and strengthening.
- Item 7: Other subjects to be proposed by the board members.

### CIGR Section Boards (2015-2018)

<b>Section I:</b>	<i>Land and Water</i>	Chair: Gerrit J. Carsjens (Netherland)
<b>Section II:</b>	<i>Structures and Environment</i>	Chair: Álvaro Ramírez-Gómez (Spain)
<b>Section III:</b>	<i>Plant Production</i>	Chair: Qin Zhang (USA)
<b>Section IV:</b>	<i>Energy in Agriculture</i>	Chair: R.Cengiz Akdeniz (Turkey)
<b>Section V:</b>	<i>System Management</i>	Chair: Remigio Berruto (Italy)
<b>Section VI:</b>	<i>Bioprocesses</i>	Chair: Amauri Rosenthal (Brasil)
<b>Section VII:</b>	<i>Information Technology</i>	Chair: Seishi Ninomiya (Japan)

**All correspondence and information on forthcoming activities should be sent to:  
CIGR GENERAL SECRETARIAT**

**Professor emeritus Dr. Mikió Umeda, Secretary General**

**Professor emeritus Dr. Makoto Hoki, Assistant to Secretary General**

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