

The 13th Young Engineers of the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisation Conference (YEAFFEO)

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BACKGROUND ON YEAFFEO

YEAFFEO was formed on 9 November, 1993 in Singapore, pursuant to Article 6 (c) of the joint communiqué of the Governing Board of AFEO.

The Vision:

To be a dynamic and progressive organisation that leads to the development of young engineers in the ASEAN region.

The Mission:

- To promote understanding, goodwill and co-operation among young engineers;
- To promote and exchange ideas, concerns and experiences; and
- To support the purposes and objectives of the AFEO.

Date: 28 November to 3 December 2006

Place: Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel, Malaysia



After months of preparation, YEAFFEO-13 finally unfolded. This year, Malaysia was the host country for this great annual event. So be proud, Malaysians!

There were approximately 150 YEAFFEO Delegates, representing the 10 member countries and 4 guest countries, i.e.:

Brunei Darussalam	Malaysia	Thailand	Australia (Guest)
Cambodia	Myanmar	Vietnam	Canada (Guest)
Indonesia	Philippines		Hong Kong (Guest)
Lao PDR	Singapore		Japan (Guest)

This was by far the biggest ever YEAFFEO gathering in its 13 years of history and it was organised by the IEM Graduate & Student Section (IEM G&S), with the assistance of volunteers from both University Malaya and Multimedia University, Malacca Campus and International Islamic University (IIUM).

The Conference was lined-up with some magnificent and unforgettable programs, thus creating an unforgettable memory for each of the participating delegate to bring home. And surely, YEAFFEO 13 would stay in their hearts forever.

28 NOVEMBER 2006 AND 29 NOVEMBER 2006 – WELCOMING DELEGATES AT AIRPORT

The delegates started arriving in earnest at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) from their respective home countries starting from 28 November. They were greeted with warm welcomes by the welcoming volunteers stationed at KLIA – headed by none other than the IEM G&S Chairman, Engr. Yau Chau Fong.

The welcoming session was well planned and conducted to ensure all the arriving delegates were ushered from the arrival gateway of the airport to their respective hotels.

In the evening, IEM G&S conducted an ice-breaking session, which was meant as a non-formal, introductory session for all delegates to get to know each other.



30 NOVEMBER 2006 – YEAFFEO COUNTRY REPORT AND BOARD MEETING

The day kicked off at around 9 a.m. with the 1st Session of the YEAFFEO Conference – the opening remarks from Chairman of YEAFFEO 13 and the IEM G&S Chairman, Engr. Yau Chau Fong.

It was then followed by the country presentations from all participating countries. Each country representative took turn to report and share the various activities conducted by their own young engineers section of their respective institutions; and needless to say, the IEM G&S was represented by Engr. Yau.



At around 10.30 a.m., the YEAFEO country reporting was temporarily halted to allow all participants to proceed to the grand opening ceremony of the 24th Conference of the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (CAFEO 24) in the Grand Ballroom of the Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel. The opening ceremony was officially declared open by the Works Minister of Malaysia, Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu.

After the opening ceremony ended, all the young engineers proceeded to continue their country reporting. As host, IEM G&S was the last to present their report and their presentation ended with a great clip of the G&S Charity Video, which touched the hearts of all participants.

The Conference continued with the YEAFEO 13 Council Board Meeting – chaired by the host country Malaysia, after a sumptuous lunch served by the hotel.

Among some of the major issues discussed during the Board Meeting were: -

A) YEAFEO WEBSITE

Young Engineers of Engineering Institute of Thailand (EIT) was re-appointed as the webmaster and shall continue to update the YEAFEO website for all member countries.



B) PROPOSED SETTING UP OF YEAFEO SECRETARIAT

Overview

The Secretariat shall have functions of administering the daily affairs of the Group. Amongst the major responsibilities of the Secretariat shall be: -

- 1) To keep minutes and record of all meetings and dialogues of the Group;
- 2) To distribute the minutes of the meetings, circulars and other materials and information which are of interest to the Group;
- 3) To administer the funds of the Group under the guidance of the Chairman and as the Council may direct.

Conclusion

The AFEO Board accepted the proposal for YEAFEO to set up its Secretariat and informed that the YEAFEO Secretariat shall be part of AFEO Secretariat.

C) FORMATION OF ASEAN YOUNG ENGINEERS REGISTER (AYER)

Overview

YEAFEO proposed to form the ASEAN Young Engineers Register (AYER), which shall be non-professional in nature. It sought in principle approval from AFEO Board, after which details of the register will be worked out and presented at the next Mid-Term Board meeting. The AYER, if approved would be one of the categories of membership under the AER.



The registration of young engineers within ASEAN region as YAER will pave the way to enhance their networking at international stage and prepare them to face future challenges to be successful engineers.

The proposed objectives of the AYER are as follows: -

- 1) To provide a complete data of young engineers within ASEAN with ultimate purpose of facilitating their mobility within the ASEAN ambit and to establish a framework of mutual recognition of qualification in order to allow young engineers who wish to practice outside their home country;
- 2) To provide sufficient data regarding the formation of individual young engineers for the benefit of prospective employers;
- 3) To encourage a continuous updating of the quality of engineers by setting, monitoring and reviewing standards;
- 4) To promote cultural and professional links among ASEAN young engineers;
- 5) To enhance wealth creation process of ASEAN countries.

Conclusion

The AFEO Board agreed in principle that there could be a register for the young engineers. However the format of whether it should be a combined register with the AER or a



separate register of its own would be presented for discussion at the Mid-Term Board meeting in Thailand.

At the end of the YEAFEO Council Board Meeting, all participants were greeted by the presence of one of the most distinguished and honorable guest at the CAFEO and YEAFEO events – the President of World Federation of Engineering Organisation (WFEO), Professor Kamel Ayadi. He gave a brief account on the role of young engineers in the engineering fraternity and urged the YEAFEO to take the leading role and participate in international events at not only ASEAN level, but on a wider international stage.

1 DECEMBER 2006 – TRIP TO CYBERJAYA, PUTRAJAYA AND GRAND SUPPER

After a full day of formal activities on the first day of YEAFEO 2006, the second day of the programme was definitely more relaxing with trips and visits arranged for all the participants.



The first stop of the morning trip was Putrajaya. All participants were warmly greeted by the person-in-charge and followed by an-hour presentation on Putrajaya. The entourage then proceeded to visit several places in Putrajaya, i.e. Putrajaya International Convention Center (PICC) and Putrajaya Square. In the afternoon, all participants were hosted to a lunch at Multimedia University (MMU), Cyberjaya, followed by a campus tour, before we were brought to a city tour around Kuala Lumpur. One of the highlights of these tours was the traffic police escort that was accorded to all the tour buses.

Malaysian concept hawker style was the theme of the cultural night dinner, as all the delegates were treated with a

wide variety of delicious Malaysian food and also some wonderful dance performances by dancers dressed in traditional costumes. The performances were meant to signify Malaysia's rich multi-cultural heritage and the harmonious nature of it's' peoples. The performance ended by inviting audiences to join in the dances. Everyone had a great evening.

The night was not finished, as the IEM G&S committees treated the all the young engineer delegates to a supper at a mamak nearby the Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel. Although most of the participants were exhausted and tired, they still enjoyed the new experience of this mamak culture.

2 DECEMBER 2006 – TRIP TO MALACCA AND FAREWELL DINNER

The YEAFEO Delegates visited the historical Malacca State as part of the YEAFEO programme.

After the tour guides have led us on a brief but enjoyable trip around Malacca, the YEAFEO entourage proceeded to lunch at Baba Nyonya Restaurant, followed up a shopping excursion at Jonker Street and Malacca Parade (shopping parade). A fruitful trip indeed for most of the foreign delegates! Of course, for those



who have never tried on the trishaw, it was an unforgettable moment being taken on a short trip on the trishaw while enjoying the breathtaking sights of the Malacca town. After another eventful, the delegates then proceeded back to the event hotel for the closing ceremony.

After five full days of visits, conferences and fellowships, it was finally time to say goodbye to our friends from overseas. We cherished every single country performance that was presented by each country for the closing ceremony. It is indeed a special

and unique experience to be able to witness so many diverse cultures being performed on the same stage, by some wonderfully talented young engineers from the ASEAN region and beyond.

The IEM G&S Committees and IEM Secretariats also did the country proud by performing difference dances to represent the three main races of Malaysia, namely Malay, Chinese and India.

The performances drew loud cheers from the appreciative crowd.

The evening ended with a special 'Dikir Barat' performance, jointly performed by the young engineers of IEM G&S Section and IEM Secretariats. Overall, it was a truly amazing and marvelous 13th YEAFEO and we are proud to have hosted the event.

Till we meet again in the 14th edition of YEAFEO 2007 in Cebu City, Philippines. ■

“THE YOUNG... THE VIBRANT... THE FUTURE OF ENGINEERING...”

The Chairman of IEM's Graduate & Student (G&S) Section and Chairman for 13th YEAFEO – Engr. Yau Chau Fong summed up the event: -

“I am proud to be the Chairman of 13th YEAFEO and the success of the event is a tribute to the professional caliber of the

delegates, organising committees and volunteers. This year highlighted the talent and breadth of knowledge that young engineers possess and their ability to meet in an open environment to discuss their experiences. It has been a pleasure to host 13th YEAFEO 2006.”

