



United Nations Industrial Development Organization

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Item 11 of the provisional agenda

**Matters related to intergovernmental, non-governmental,
governmental and other organizations**

Application from non-governmental organizations for consultative status

Note by the Director General

The present document provides information on the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO), a non-governmental organization applying for consultative status with UNIDO.

1. In accordance with Article 19.1 (b) of the Constitution of UNIDO and the Guidelines for the Relationship of UNIDO with intergovernmental, governmental, non-governmental and other organizations (decision GC.1/Dec.41), in particular paragraph 17 of the annex thereto, information on the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO), a non-governmental organization (NGO) seeking consultative status with UNIDO, is circulated to the members of the Board in the annex to the present document. More detailed information on the NGO is available with the Secretariat. WFEO was in consultative status with UNIDO from 1986 to 2011. It was among the 73 NGOs whose consultative status was discontinued upon the adoption of Board decision IDB.39/Dec.11. In February 2015, WFEO expressed interest in reapplying for consultative status.

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2. Paragraph 17 of the annex to the Guidelines stipulates that the Board shall establish appropriate procedures for reviewing applications from NGOs for consultative status. To facilitate and accelerate its work, the Board may wish to follow the practice established at previous sessions and request the Bureau of the Board to review the application of, and information on, the NGO referred to in the annex to the present document and to submit its recommendations to the Board for consideration at its current session.

Annex

World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO)

Historical background

WFEO was established in 1968 under the auspices of UNESCO to contribute with engineering expertise and sound, evidence-based solutions, to ensure access to among others sustainable, safe drinking water, energy, waste management, and food. It provides advice and guidance to governments and policymakers on what can be scientifically and technologically achieved based on existing knowledge and technological tools, including those being developed with potential success.

WFEO's headquarters are located at UNESCO, in Paris.

Statutes

Available

Structure of governing bodies and administration

- General Assembly
- Executive Council
- Executive Board
- Ten Standing Technical Committees.

Activities related to the work of UNIDO

WFEO's activities include identifying and facilitating the dissemination of information on best global practices in key engineering activities; and fostering socio-economic security, sustainable development and poverty alleviation in all countries of the world through the proper application of technology. WFEO cooperates with funding agencies such as development banks, and encourages public-private partnerships by including the engineering dimension.

WFEO's activities are developed through Standing Committees addressing specific national and international issues, in particular:

- Climate change and mitigation, environmental and sustainable engineering practices;
- Sustainable energy, renewables and bio energy;
- Engineering and agriculture, sustainability in mining;
- Innovative technologies: smart materials, bioengineering, sensor networks;
- Capacity-building in Africa;
- Engineering education for sustainable development.

Relations with the United Nations, other IGOs and NGOs

WFEO has been developing long-standing cooperation activities particularly in areas related to sustainable development with the following organizations and bodies: Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

It also signed Memorandums of Understanding with non-governmental organizations, in particular the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC), the International Network of Women Engineers and Scientists (INWES) and the World Energy Council (WEC).

Membership

Engineering societies from 90 countries and 10 International Engineering Member Organizations, representing about 20 million engineers worldwide.

Address of headquarters

Maison de l'UNESCO
1, rue Miollis
75015 Paris
France
Tel.: +33 1 45 68 48 46
Fax: +33 1 45 68 48 65
Internet: www.wfeo.net

Representative responsible for liaison with UNIDO:

Mrs. Tahani Youssef, Executive Director
E-mail: executivedirector@wfeo.net
Tel.: +33 (0)1 45 68 48 46
Fax: +33 (0)1 45 68 48 65
