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## ACEN NEWS CIRCULAR – SEPTEMBER 2019

### 1. ACEN OFFICE BEARERS FOR THE NEXT TERM

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### 2. ENGINEERING COUNCIL OF NAMIBIA (ECN)

Frikkie Holtzhausen and Derrick Langford act as ACEN representatives on the ECN Council.

The following ACEN related matters were dealt with in the ECN Council Meetings:

- **Request for Hourly Tariff increase** – None of the recent applications for the proposed new hourly tariff has been approved by the MWT. ECN will again be submitting a request for 2019.
- **Registration of Legal Entities under the Engineering Act 18 of 1986** - The draft Engineering Act requires registered professionals who want to do business as a Consulting Engineering Company to register with ECN. The current Council is however of opinion that this function should not resort under ECN and has recommended same to the Minister. Response is awaiting as a result of new Engineering Act.

### 3. DEPARTMENT OF WORKS (DoW)

ACEN is liaising with the DoW as frequently as possible, meetings is being held with the DoW where the following items is discussed:

- **Training on the Public Procurement Act and Contractual documentation** – ACEN has suggested that items of concern relating to the Procurement Act should be made clear by means of training session/s (workshops). This should be a joint effort involving role players such as ACEN, MWT, the Procurement Policy unit and other relevant entities.
- **Fee Claim Format** - The possibility of a uniformed fee claim format to be introduced for all Engineering disciplines is being debated.
- **Application for requested Hourly Tariff** – This is also being discussed and feedback from the ministry is pending.
- **VAT on Professional Fees** - This matter will also be readdressed with the Ministry of Finance again, MWT will keep ACEN informed about the outcome.

#### 4. PROCUREMENT ACT

Frikkie Holtzhausen and Derrick Langford represent ACEN on the joined Procurement Sub-Committee. The Procurement Sub-Committee is a CIF initiative with the purpose of coordinating with the Procurement Unit on Contractual agreements.

#### 5. NEW CONTRACTUAL DOCUMENTATION – PROCSA

An Executive Committee consisting of – Derrick Langford, Wolfgang Fischer, Herbert Lerch and Ronald Kubas, has met twice already to discuss the implementation procedures relating the PROCSA Agreement to be presented to ACEN Members.

The Committee is also in the process of adding the ACEN recommended Fee Scale Model to the PROCSA suite of Agreements, after which it will be distributed to Council for review.

PROCSA has agreed that ACEN could act as Voluntary Association selling the PROCSA Documents and Agreements to clients. ACEN will receive a 10% incentive commission on the sale of PROCSA Documents. ACEN will be required to assist in the promotion and marketing of PROCSA.

#### 6. ACEN Membership Awareness Strategy

ACEN has distributed a letter to the Regional Councils, enclosing a list of all ACEN Member Firms in order to create awareness to which firms are registered ACEN Member firms.

#### 7. INCENTIVE TO ACEN MEMBER FIRMS THAT ENGAGE IN APPOINTING INTERNS

An initiative was raised to consider the possibility of offering an incentive to ACEN Member firms that engage in appointing interns.

This initiative will be temporarily paused until the next financial year (2020/21).

#### 8. WORKSHOPS, COURSES AND PROJECTS

- An ACEN representative has attended the **NSFAF Consultative Workshop on Priority Fields of Study**, scheduled for the 18th of September 2019.

A list of comments received from the ACEN Members, relating to the workshop subject on shortages in the Engineering employment field has been forwarded to the NSFAF.

- Due to the emerging challenges on issues related to the 4th industrial revolution / Industry 4.0, the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (DCEE) at the Faculty of Engineering, **NUST, in partnership with Bergische Universität Wuppertal (BUW) in Wuppertal, Germany** is organizing a workshop on Building Information Modelling (BIM) and Augmented Reality in an effort to introduce these emerging technologies in teaching, research and construction industries in Namibia.