



INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY (GHANA)

MESSAGE ON THE OCCASION OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN IN ENGINEERING DAY 2020

The 23rd of June each year is celebrated as the International Women in Engineering Day. The day was first celebrated in the UK on 23rd June 2014 by the Women's Engineering Society (WES) to celebrate its 95th Anniversary. In 2016, the UNESCO adopted it and in 2017, the day became international for the first time due to the interest and enthusiasm developed by the international audience and participants in the previous years. Since then, that day has become one to create an international awareness and raise the profile of women in engineering and focus attention on the amazing career opportunities available to girls in this exciting industry. It also celebrates the outstanding achievements of women engineers throughout the world.

We are all aware that the Science, Technology and Engineering has been responsible for a huge amount of development in the way that we live today. Advancements in the fields of engineering and technology have given us the benefit of living easier lives, living in better homes with much comfort, and using better means of transport among many other benefits.

Even though to date, some still see the practice of engineering and technology as a male-dominated sector, the International Women in Engineering Day reminds us of that challenge and the need to take very proactive steps to bridge the gap. So today is all about the ladies taking part in the incredible achievements against all odds, all to prove that whatever men can do, women can also do and maybe even better.

Until the late 1990s, we in IET, were virtually a male institution. It was only in the mid-2000s that a few women began to join us. This grew marginally and by 2017, the number was beginning to inspire confidence. This increased and by last AGM, we had a good number of our ladies present as we launched our Women in Engineering division. Today, we boast of close to fifty Professional Engineers alone in their fold not to mention the Engineering Technologists, Engineering Technicians and Engineering Craftsmen.

Our women have undertaken a number of activities to promote the study of engineering by the girl child, promoting social causes, etc. I will use this opportunity to applaud the efforts of our Women-in Engineering led by Engr. Mrs Miriam Eduful, one of our two Vice Presidents, the first in the history in IET-Ghana. I also wish to encourage all our ladies to emulate the example of these illustrious ladies and get on board its activities.

The remark by Dr James Emman Kwegyir-Aggrey that if you educate a man, you educate an individual but if you educate a woman, you educate a nation, always comes to bear as we continually get inspired by the exploits of our ladies.

On this day, I, on behalf of the Council, Executive Committee, the Sectors and our Technical Divisions wish all our ladies, a very pleasant International Women-in Engineering Day. May this day be a catalyst to spur you on to greater heights in your engineering endeavours.

Long Live Women-in-Engineering

Long Live the practice of Engineering and Technology

Long Live IET (Ghana)

God bless us all.

Engr. Eric Atta-Sonno, F.PE.IET(GH)

PRESIDENT