

INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY (I.E.T.), GHANA
PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE DURING 2018 INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

By Engr. ERIC ATTA-SONNO, F.IET
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PREAMBLE

My Lord Justice of the Superior Court of Judicature, Members of the I.E.T. Council, colleagues from the Ghana Institution of Engineering (GhIE), Distinguished Invited Guests from VRA, GRIDCo, ECG and other allied organizations, colleague Members of I.E.T., members of the Media herein gathered, Ladies and Gentlemen;

On behalf of the I.E.T. Council, I am most grateful to the Almighty God for another opportunity to hold this Induction Ceremony.

INTRODUCTION

The I.E.T. was established some thirty-two years ago by a group made up of various classes of engineering and technology professionals who were collectively bound by a commitment for more dividend in their professional and career development. The institution has since then been preoccupied with the attainment of these, having metamorphosed from the then Ghana Institution of Technician Engineers into the Ghana Institution of Incorporated Engineers before assuming the name I.E.T. in 2014.

Having the opportunity to join the I.E.T. at this time gives you a unique opportunity to pick up the challenge by joining forces with the others to ensure the continued growth of the institution.

CURRENT STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Since the assumption to office, the current Council has since positioned itself towards the achievement of the following strategic objectives:

1. Enhancement of the professional capacity of all members.
2. Working in partnership with institutions towards the promotion of quality engineering practice.
3. Provision of responsible stewardship of the resources through the strengthening of institutional structures.
4. Influencing engineering and technology policy decisions at all levels of governance.

These objectives are aimed at ensuring that I.E.T. becomes that critical institution committed to the promotion of quality engineering and technology practice as a catalyst to national development.

ADDRESSING THE ISSUES INVOLVED

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, our national landscape is replete with all manner of engineering lapses that regularly pop-up to expose the insufficient training or the lack of it, inadequate exposure for engineering practitioners, failure in engineering design, and poor supervision of work or a combination of the above factors among others.

Thus, the collapse of buildings under construction, rampant market fires, fast deterioration of roads soon after construction, perennial floods that take lives and destroy valuable property, the never-ending challenges in dealing with sanitation, challenges within the utility sectors make the inefficiencies of our profession so obvious and indict the entire body of practitioners in the country.

In our bid to ensure that the mission objectives of I.E.T. are adequately met in the light of the challenges, the following issues as identified are receiving serious attention.

1) Required Partnership from all Stakeholders

The I.E.T. has had a long tortuous history which began with the bulk of its members coming from the public utility sector. Decades down the line, the bulk of our members are now from our public utilities and Local Government Service with a third chunk from the private sector. The Council intends to deepen its engagement with key stakeholders in these sectors to ensure that our members are able to obtain the full benefit of their membership in tandem with their employment, Continuous Professional Development programmes, career progression, etc.

Being a national institution with members in all corners of the country, we shall endeavor to do whatever is possible to take the institution to the doorstep of members. To this end, efforts are currently ongoing to make the website a one-stop platform with multiple uses and becoming much more user-friendly and relevant while exploiting the use of newer systems such as the Webinar.

2) Call to effective partnership between leadership and members

As much as possible, the institution is being administered in a manner that is absolutely consistent with both the spirit and the letter of our Constitution. The Council is taking all necessary steps to put at the disposal of members everything required to enable them become truly professional irrespective of their classes and levels. It is however important that as new members you sign up to that partnership where leadership through the Council shall truly lead with policies, programmes, directives and supervision within the framework of our Constitution, while you as members shall be required to ensure strict adherence to their responsibilities i.e. the payment of our subscriptions by a certain time, improvement in the participation of Continuous Professional Development programmes among others. If I.E.T. is to meet the upcoming challenges of a post-modern professional institution, this is a partnership that should not just happen but must be made to happen.

3) Collaborative partnership with our sister institution

Together with its collaborative partners, the I.E.T. continues to endeavor building effective bridges on matters of mutual concern. These have included the harmonization of various policies as well as the development of the enabling draft Legislative Instrument under the aegis of the Engineering Council, to give effect to the Engineering Council Act 818 (2011). These discussions have so far been mutually beneficial.

Externally, we shall explore the possibility of establishing similar relationships with sister institutions as was the case some years back.

4) Enhancing our role on the Engineering Council

Within the ambit of the Engineering Council, I.E.T. continues to play an active role in ensuring that engineering and technology practitioners operating under the Engineering Council Act 819 of 2011, continue to do so with the highest possible standards in their professional practice of engineering and technology. This, we shall continue to undertake, with much stricter adherence to the I.E.T.'s Code of

Professional Practice on members while tightening our scrutiny in the admission process for new members and upgrading of current members.

5) Strengthening our membership structure

One significance of today's ceremony is the dawn of a new beginning in the categorization of our members. As part of this Council's strategic objective, a commitment was made to have the membership re-categorized to conform to the provisions of the Engineering Council Act. The process, which began in April 2018 has been approved by Council and I am happy to announce that our new members to be inducted today will have their membership fully conforming to the new arrangement.

All existing members already been requested to submit their Curriculum Vitae to enable the Council re-categorize all members within the membership structure and divisions. Subsequent to this, all previously issued I.E.T. certificates and professional stamps shall be declared void of effect and re-issued to all members in good standing. I wish to appeal to members to co-operate to make this exercise smooth and successful.

CONCLUSION

On this note, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I wish to reiterate to all of you being inducted this morning that membership of I.E.T. is a call to responsibility. You would shortly be called upon to take the professional oath in which you'd be required to affirm your commitment to the highest level of professional practice for the dignity of the profession and ultimate good of humanity. It is expected that you will take the charge very seriously and discharge it diligently by being active in the Sectors, Divisions and Committees.

We are hopeful that you would use your membership to enhance your professional career, promote the role of engineering in your endeavours as well as be a catalyst to the development of our country.

You are now highly placed and we would be counting on you for your support continually. Keep the suggestions coming in and let's join forces to keep I.E.T. flying towards its destination.

Long Live I.E.T.!

Long Live the professional practice of Engineering and Technology!

Long Live Ghana!

God bless us all!