

## **Presentation by Session Chair 1: Mr. Gregs Thomopulos, President Elect/FIDIC**

Thank you, John. I had written a paper that was going to last 7 minutes according to the schedule. Now you have just cut it short by two minutes. But I will do my best. Working session number one was country presentations by five countries: Bangladesh, China, India, Malaysia and Nepal. The papers generally focused on the conference theme 'Making Globalization Work – the role of consultants' with different perspective on the status of consulting engineering industry in their respective countries. The Bangladesh paper was presented by Dr. Abdul Shaboo who outlined the need for labour playing field for consultants in the least developed countries, the LDCs. Bangladesh is one of the mostly dense populated countries in the world with over 150 millions inhabitants half of whom live below the poverty line. He expressed the concerns of LDCs over globalization on the unfulfilled commitments of the developed countries and indicated that the interested of the LDCs have been ignored. Before I said that LDCs support for capacity building to enable them take full advantage of globalization with technical assistance, technology transfer there to relief human resource development. He concluded by saying that Bangladesh has surplus of knowledge based professional in engineering and other professional fields and why globalization has opened the opportunities in many areas but its huge expertise and manpower remain under utilized and unemployed. According to him the globalization trend has left the station and cannot be stopped and the challenge is to make globalization an instrument of opportunity and inclusion instead of fear and insecurity.

The paper from China was written by Mrs Tang Peng and presented by Mr. Sun Yo Jing, Assistant Division Chief of CNEEC. Mrs Peng gave an overview of this tremulous measures by the Chinese government to mitigate the affects of the current global financial crisis. Well, let me cut that short on the Chinese. I say that in Chinese language it is said that Crisis consist of two cartage, meaning danger and opportunities and that we all have a lot of opportunities.

The Indian paper was presented by Dr. AS Roy of the Ministry of Science and Technology on improving quality of life with globalization. He highlighted the Indian experiences as well as the capacity of the Indian consulting industry with special emphasis on education, vocational training, sustainable technology, low cost housing.

The Malaysia paper was presented by Engineer Mr. IR Ahmad Asri B. Abdul Hamd, and discussed the establishment of PSDC which is a Professional Services Development Corporation by the Malaysian government primarily trying to enhance the status of consulting industries and to help in exporting the expertise from Malaysia.

Finally, the paper from Nepal, the consulting industry in Nepal working in globalized world was presented by Mr. Amatya, President of SCAEF and draws on the historic development of the consulting industry in Nepal particularly with establishment of SCAEF in 1990. The paper concluded by stating that the development of consulting sector in Nepal is the indicator of the level of overall development in the country, positive and legislative support needs to be identified, formulated and implemented and learning from this example the domestic consulting industry on the leadership of SCAEF needs to be supported from all quarter in its endeavors to sculpture a professional that all may look up to in appreciate and confidence. Thank you.