

Record Attendance at 2011 Council Meeting

By Mark Blacklock, IGU magazine

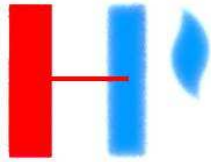
A hotly-contested election for the 2015-18 Presidency, the accession of nine new members and interesting guest presentations were the highlights of IGU's 2011 Council meeting, which was the best-attended in the Union's 80-year history.

The meeting was held in the Excelsior Hotel in Dubrovnik on October 6, following an advocacy workshop and sessions of the Coordination Committee and Executive Committee on October 4-5. The whole event was hosted by Charter Member the Croatian Gas Association and was attended by 225 delegates and 45 accompanying persons.



The day's business was opened by IGU's President, Datuk (Dr) Abdul Rahim Hashim, who asked delegates to approve the minutes of the previous Council meeting, which had been held in Doha in October 2010. Secretary General Torstein Indrebø then gave delegates an overview of the Secretariat's work and activities over the past year.

The Secretary General's presentation included reports on the second IEF-IGU Ministerial Forum and the advocacy programme; and he reminded delegates about the materials available for download from the Gas Advocacy folder of the IGU website. He also announced that in addition to the regular gas event during the



annual UN Climate Change Conference, the Secretariat was working with a number of other organisations to stage a gas event in Brussels in early 2012 to discuss the European Energy Roadmap 2050, which will be released in December 2011, with EU policymakers and improve the position of gas in the discussions. This initiative underlines the increased focus of IGU on international energy policy issues.

Next up was Jay Copan, Executive Director of the LNG17 National Organising Committee, who gave an update on preparations for this important triennial conference and exhibition – co-sponsored by IGU, GTI and IIR – which will be held in Houston, USA, April 16-19, 2013.

The Council then approved new members to the Executive Committee to represent Algeria (Nordine Cherouati), Canada (Timothy Egan), Norway (Runar Tjersland), the UK (Colin Lyle), the USA (Dave McCurdy) and Associate Member BP Gas, Power & Renewables (Andrew Lane).

Immediate Past President Ernesto López Anadón took the podium to give a final update on IGRC2011, which took place two weeks after the Council meeting in Seoul, Korea. He also briefed delegates on the organisational structure for future IGRCs, which sees the creation of a new Programme Committee (PGC F – R&D) to take over the responsibilities of the Technical Programme Committee while those of the Policy Committee will be transferred to the Executive Committee and PGC F.

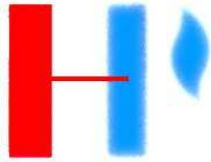
New members

Applicants for IGU membership always have the opportunity of addressing the Council and the President first invited the prospective Charter Members to speak.

Pascoal Mahikete Mocumbi of Mozambique's Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos EP (ENH) and Shokir Fayzullaev, Chairman of Uzbekneftegaz Holding Company of Uzbekistan gave presentations on their companies, while Daniel Paccoud of the French Gas Association said a few words on behalf of Morocco's Fédération de l'Énergie de la Confédération Générale des Entreprises du Maroc (CGEM) which could not send a representative. Mongolia's Baganuur Joint Stock Company also sent apologies.

For the prospective Associate Members OMV Gas & Power's Luca Della Gatta and Woodside's Roger Martin gave presentations, while the latter also said a few words about the Australian Petroleum Production & Exploration Association (APPEA) of which Woodside is a member. KEMA Nederland BV (The Netherlands) and Wintershall (Germany) could not send representatives.

Delegates then approved all nine applications. As IZGAS has not renewed its membership given that parent company GDF SUEZ is an Associate Member (IZGAS



joined before GDF SUEZ acquired its majority shareholding), IGU will from 2012 have a total of 117 members (78 Charter and 39 Associate) from 77 countries.

The Secretariat continues its efforts to increase membership under IGU's marketing plan, which has identified a number of countries and companies of particular interest.

WGC2012

Ho Sook Wah, Chairman of the Coordination Committee, gave an update on the Triennial Work Programme (TWP), the results of which will be presented at the 25th World Gas Conference. He announced that there had been 694 paper submissions from 50 countries for WGC2012, which is a new record for IGU, along with 247 submissions for the Best Practices Award and 145 for the Social Gas Award.

Zahariah (Liza) Abdul Rahman, CEO of WGC2012, followed with an update on preparations for the conference and exhibition, which will be held in the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, June 4-8.

French Triennium

Jérôme Ferrier, Vice President, and Georges Liens, Vice Chairman of the Coordination Committee, presented the TWP for 2012-15 and announced that the theme of the French Triennium would be "Growing together to a friendly planet".

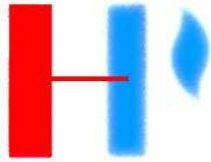
The existing structure of the Technical Committees will be maintained apart from the creation of PGC F and the widening of PGC E's remit to include communications. The countries chairing the committees will be those currently providing the vice chairs. Datuk Rahim and Jeanet van Dellen, Advisor to the Secretary General, separately presented the selection of countries providing the vice chairs for 2012-15 (*see table*).

In addition, there will be three Task Forces dealing with Human Resources (including encouraging young people to join the industry which is the subject of a separate Task Force in the current Triennium), Gas Advocacy and Geopolitics.

New logo

The IGU Management Team has reviewed strategic issues related to the future development of IGU and recommended that the logo be modernised to enhance the visibility and promotion of the Union to external stakeholders. Delegates were given a preview of the new logo selected by the Executive Committee, which will be launched on the last day of WGC2012.

Other business



Delegates approved IGU's accounts for 2010, the budget for 2012 and the offer of Statoil to host the Secretariat for a further three years until the end of October 2016. Following the latter vote, Statoil's Runar Tjersland was invited to address the meeting. There was a presentation on IGU's communications strategy by Sjur Bøyum, Communication Manager & Webmaster in the Secretariat, while Datuk Rahim urged delegates to make use of the current Strategic Statement "Natural Gas for a Sustainable Energy Future".

Afternoon session

Following lunch the election for the 2015-2018 Presidency of IGU and host of the 27th World Gas Conference was held. Datuk Rahim explained the procedure and noted that, "There were four bids initially, but Brazil subsequently withdrew". This left Korea, Qatar and the USA to contest the election. The candidates for President, Kang Soo Choo, President & CEO of KOGAS, Alaa Abujbara, COO of Qatargas Shipping & Trading and David Carroll, President & CEO of the Gas Technology Institute each gave a 15-minute presentation including a video.

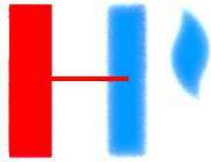


While the votes of the 55 Charter Members present were being counted by Hans Riddervold, Director of the Secretariat, Honorary Secretary General Peter Storm and Honorary Member Roberto Brandt, delegates listened to reports from two visiting organisations. Eric Dam, President of the Energy Delta Institute, an organisation affiliated to IGU,

gave a presentation on EDI and announced that he had welcomed two new Associate Partners, Eneco and TAQA Abu Dhabi National Energy Company. Pierce Riemer, Director General of the World Petroleum Council (WPC) gave an update on final preparations for the 20th World Petroleum Congress, which was held in Doha two months after the Council meeting.

Datuk Rahim then announced the election would go to a second round as no candidate had achieved an overall majority. He thanked Qatar for its efforts and asked Korea and the USA to make final 3-minute presentations.

While the tellers counted the second round of votes, diplomas were presented to Erik Gonder, the former Senior Advisor & Press Contact who had left the Secretariat in July 2011 to take up a position as Investor Relations Officer with Statoil, and Jeanet van Dellen, who left a month after the Council meeting to become an account manager with Gasunie Engineering. Both Erik and Jeanet were invited to address the Council. Datuk Rahim thanked Gasunie for seconding Jeanet and presented a further diploma to Eric Dam as a representative of Gasunie, who urged other companies to participate in the secondment programme. Torstein Indrebø went on



to thank Åse Nicolaysen, who had left the Secretariat in September 2011 and was not present at the Council, for her services since November 2007. Åse will receive her diploma in Oslo.

Datuk Rahim then received the result of the second ballot and announced that the USA had won, whereupon David Carroll returned to the podium to say a few words. "We are honoured, humbled and energised to serve in this role," he declared.

After the coffee break delegates listened to a presentation on the gas industry in Croatia. First up was Dr Miljenko Sunić, President of the Croatian Gas Association followed by Davorka Tancer, Director of Prirodni Plin and Jerko Jelić-Balta, Managing Director of Plinacro.

Then there were presentations by Andree Böhling of Greenpeace Germany and Maria van der Hoeven, Executive Director of the International Energy Agency (IEA).

Although Greenpeace is against carbon capture and storage and fracking, and sees gas as a bridge to a 100% renewable energy system rather than a long-term complement, Andree Böhling's presentation showed that there is some common ground with the industry. "We need natural gas to fight climate change," he declared. He also urged the industry to improve its advocacy, observing that during the energy debate in Germany following the Fukushima nuclear disaster, "the voice of the gas industry was not there when it was needed".

Maria van der Hoeven reviewed the IEA's report *Are We Entering a Golden Age of Gas?*, which sees gas playing a greater role in the global energy mix, and affirmed that gas will be needed in the long term as a balancing fuel. She also urged the industry to up its advocacy game. "We need to tell the world that gas has the power to make renewable energy successful," she said.

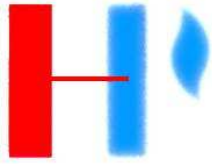
Datuk Rahim asked Hans Jørgen Rasmusen, as the most senior honorary official present, to close the proceedings and ask for a vote of thanks for the host. The day was rounded off with a farewell dinner and display of Croatian folk dancing on the terrace of the Excelsior.

Mark Blacklock is the Editor of the IGU magazine International Gas.

Table

LEADERSHIP OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES 2012-2015

Committee	Country Chair	Country Vice Chair
WOC 1 Exploration & Production	Brazil	Malaysia
WOC 2 Storage	Slovak Republic	Russia
WOC 3 Transmission	Argentina	Czech Republic



WOC 4 Distribution
WOC 5 Utilisation
PGC A Sustainability
PGC B Strategy
PGC C Gas Markets
PGC D LNG
PGC E Marketing & Communications
PGC F R&D & Innovation

Germany
Russia
Japan
Algeria
Korea
The Netherlands
Spain
USA

Spain
Iran
Argentina
The Netherlands
Algeria
Japan
Argentina
Germany