

“
The IESL had been granted Provisional Membership of the (EMF) in Hong Kong in June 2005.
”

IESL engineers get international recognition

AT the International Engineering Meetings held in Washington DC, USA recently, the Institution of Engineers (IESL) was granted Full Membership of the Engineers Mobility Forum (EMF).

The IESL had been granted Provisional Membership of the (EMF) in Hong Kong in June 2005.

The IESL was also granted Provisional Membership of the Washington Accord at the meeting in June 2007 in Washington.

The EMF is an agreement that facilitates cross-border practice by experienced professional

engineers. In general this means that a professional engineer who satisfies EMF requirements will be able to practise in another EMF member country.

The current EMF signatory countries are USA, Canada, U.K., Ireland, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia and South Korea. Sri Lanka is the only country in South Asia to obtain such a recognition.

The requirements to obtain a P.Eng. qualification under EMF criteria is to have a four year

accredited engineering degree by a Washington Accord signatory country, seven years minimum post qualifying experience with at least two years responsible experience, been assessed within the country as eligible for independent practice i.e. be a Chartered Engineer or a Professional Engineer, maintenance of a satisfactory level of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) annually and been assessed through a competency based assessment scheme.

The Washington Accord

is an agreement whereby the signatory countries mutually recognize the engineering academic qualifications of each other. Currently all the EMF signatory countries except Malaysia have obtained full signatory status.

The IESL becoming a Provisional Membership of Washington Accord indicates the acceptance by the international body of the IESL's accreditation procedure for four year full time B.Sc. Engineering degree programmes.

The IESL intends to

apply for Full Membership of Washington Accord in June 2009 and if successful, this will pave the way for international acceptance of Sri Lankan engineering degree programmes.

Becoming a full member of these two groups is beneficial to Sri Lankan engineers, as this will ensure international acceptance of both their academic and professional qualifications.

The President of IESL D.L. Taldena led the delegation along with Past President Eng. (Prof) L.L. Ratnayake and Executive

Secretary Eng. Russel de Zilwa at the International Engineering Meetings held in Washington D.C, USA in June 2007.

“It is indeed a great honour for the IESL to be admitted as a member of the EMF when we are now in the 102 year of our existence.

As you are aware, we celebrated our 100th anniversary on January 6, 2006. We are the oldest body for professional engineers in South Asia. The Institution of Engineers, India is very much younger to us,” Taldena said.