



**Activities**

[FIDIC conference hailed as a great success](#)  
 FIDIC 2005 featured over 1000 participants, extensive recognition by government authorities and leading speakers from major banks.

[China laid out a red carpet for the world's consulting engineers](#)  
 FIDIC conference testified to the growing importance of consulting engineers.

[General Assembly hears of new members and a new focus](#)  
 The 2005 General Assembly elected Executive Committee members from China, India and the UK, and Dr Jorge Díaz Padilla as President.

[Young professionals take centre stage](#)  
 The consolidation of young professional activities at the FIDIC 2005 Beijing conference will be carried forward in a revamped forum.

**Events**

[Silvia Fossati, FIDIC's new Event Manager](#)  
 Silvia Fossati described to the FIDIC 2005 General Assembly how the federation aims to meet the growing global demand for its seminars and training courses.

[Forthcoming visits and meetings](#)  
 The year end takes FIDIC to Trinidad, Tanzania and Sweden.

**Contracts**

[Contract translations hailed](#)  
 Publication in Estonian of FIDIC's main works contracts signals their growing importance as global benchmarks available online through FIDIC's Bookshop.

[Proposed key elements of DBO contract discussed](#)  
 Participants at a FIDIC 2005 Design-Build-Operate Contract Workshop commented on key proposals for FIDIC's new DBO contract.

**Representation**

[Tunisia agreement covers workshops, capacity building and bank representation](#)  
 FIDIC to organize a procurement and contracts workshop with ANBEIC-Tunisia during a major North African business services exhibition.

**Business development**

[Bank to support business integrity workshop](#)  
 The African Development Bank's anticorruption initiatives are to support a Business Integrity Management workshop at the FIDIC 2006 GAMA meeting.

[Joint initiatives planned following bank visit](#)  
 African Development Bank agrees on joint initiatives for consultant selection, capacity building and combatting corruption.

**Image**

[World Bank head acknowledges FIDIC role](#)  
 Incoming World Bank President indicates strong support for continued input from FIDIC on sound procurement practice and policies.

[Steep increase in business integrity system uptake](#)  
 Fifty firms report that they have implemented, or will shortly implement, a Business Integrity Management System.

**Notices to Member Associations**

[MA Notices: Oct 2005](#)

**Activities**

**FIDIC conference hailed as a great success** [\[full item: 71Ac\]](#)

With over 1000 participants from more than 60 countries, the FIDIC 2005 Conference (Beijing; 8-11 September 2005). broke all records. Dr Jorge Díaz Padilla, who was elected as the 26th and first Latin American President of FIDIC at the FIDIC General Assembly Meeting during the conference, echoed the participants' wishes in congratulating CNAEC-China and its Chairman, She Jianming, for the tremendous efforts in working closely with FIDIC to achieve a spectacular conference.



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## China laid out a red carpet for the world's consulting engineers

[full item: 74Ac]

In the few short years since CNAEC-China gained FIDIC membership, the FIDIC brand has gained major recognition. Police escorts for conference events through peak traffic testified to the importance placed on the presence of the world's leading consulting engineers. The conference was opened with a flourish by Zeng Peiyan, China's Vice-Premier (see photo). He applauded the consulting engineering industry and its challenging goal of global leadership in sustainability.



China's rapid economic growth was providing challenges, with a scientific approach being adopted to give greater consideration of the people and the application of sustainability principles. Consulting engineers were seen as leaders who develop innovative approaches to infrastructure investment. The Vice-Premier offered support and commitment to working with the industry to achieve its objectives. Later in the week, Wang Quishan, Beijing's Mayor, hosted a special banquet, and invited participants to visit the city's magnificent sites.

Ma Kei, China's Minister of the National Planning and Reform Commission, also signalled full support for the participation of consulting engineers in the delivery of vital infrastructure. Shengman Zhang, World Bank Managing Director, and Liqun Jin, Asian Development Bank Vice-President, both emphasized FIDIC's fruitful dialogue with the multilateral development banks. As invited keynote presenters they, together with Richard Burrett, ABN-Amro Director, and Marcus Lee, Millenium Ecosystem Assessment Director, set the conference theme by reviewing key issues impacting on the sustainability of infrastructure investments.

The speakers' perspectives converged: the demand for infrastructure far exceeds the combined resources of public and private financing, so increased local input is envisaged. Meanwhile, the world's ecosystems remain extremely fragile, requiring increased collaboration between financiers and implementing agencies, with the involvement of independent advisors from FIDIC member firms becoming more critical. While the challenges are many, the opportunities have never been greater. However, skills need continuous improvement and all parties must become responsible for ensuring sustainable development. Conference reports are available at [FIDIC.org/conference/2005/talks](http://FIDIC.org/conference/2005/talks).

## General Assembly hears of new members and a new focus [full item: 72Ac]

The FIDIC 2005 General Assembly Meeting saw the election of Xie Shaozhang (China), Subhash Mehrotra (India) and Geoff French (UK) to the Executive Committee and farewells to the FIDIC President, Richard Kell (Australia), Axel Jaeger (Germany) and Yumio Ishii (Japan). Dick Kell's enormous contribution to the industry and to FIDIC during his term in office has been widely hailed as extraordinary, with visits to all corners of the world opening numerous doors. Dr Jorge Díaz Padilla, FIDIC's new President (see photo), accepted the challenge to build on the strong platform established by his predecessors, highlighting how far FIDIC had come and how it had evolved to meet shifting market demands. Dr John Boyd from Canada was elected Vice-President.



Two new Member Associations were elected - National Engineering Consulting Society of Azerbaijan (NECSA) and the Association of Consulting Engineers of Bosnia-Herzegovina (ACEBH) - with the ACEBH President giving a short presentation of the association's recent origin and its role in consolidating FIDIC in the western Balkans. The assembly then recognised Professional Services Development Corporation, Malaysia, and Formosan Brothers, Attorneys at Law, China-Taipei, as new Affiliate Members, and Kenana Engineering and Technical Services, Sudan, as a new Sustaining Member.

The meeting that took place at the FIDIC 2005 Conference venue in Beijing on 7 September 2005 gave FIDIC's Managing Director, Enrico Vink, the opportunity to highlight the end of his first year with FIDIC with the keyword "communication": "Visibility is critical - people need to know what FIDIC is doing, otherwise efforts have limited value". He emphasised through examples the many areas in which FIDIC is now being more proactive so as to raise awareness with member firms and international audiences. "Much has still to be done, and it will be done in collaboration with members."

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### Young professionals take centre stage [full item: 73Ac]

Young professionals, the future leaders of this industry, featured strongly at the FIDIC 2005 Conference in Beijing, with a number of groups coming together. The 23 participants in the 2005 FIDIC Young Professionals Management Training Programme (YPMTP) completed their course, and shared their findings with other conference participants at a workshop. The recommendations to FIDIC (available in the conference [talks](#)) highlighted the need for a stronger "brand" recognition of FIDIC, Member Associations and firms since brand recognition implies a client's awareness of the consulting engineering industry's long-term commitment to supply quality services. YPMTP 2006 was launched at the conference, with online registration and information at [FIDIC.org/ypmtp](http://FIDIC.org/ypmtp).

The YPMTP young professionals and groups from the FIDIC and CNAEC-China Young Professionals Forums (YPF) reported in plenary session, offering a refreshing perspective on the conference outcomes and a view for the way forward. Reports are in the conference [FIDIC.org/conference/2005/talks](http://FIDIC.org/conference/2005/talks).

Young professionals will continue to share their experience and expertise through a revamped FIDIC YPF based on [FIDIC.org/ypf](http://FIDIC.org/ypf). The aim is that they become more closely involved in FIDIC and Member Association activities, adding value in both directions and to their own professional development. The programme will be sustainable and attractive to participants and their sponsoring firms, and serve as a guide for the associations.

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### Events

#### Silvia Fossati, FIDIC's new Event Manager [full item: 44Ev]

Dr Silvia Fossati, FIDIC's new Events Manager, described at the FIDIC 2005 General Assembly Meeting (Beijing; 7 September 2005) how the FIDIC Secretariat is now able to handle the growing demand for capacity building training workshops and courses, and for FIDIC facilitated or endorsed seminars. The demand is global and reflects the importance of FIDIC contract documents, procurement policies and business practice manuals and guidelines. A brochure summarising how FIDIC organizes events with Member Associations and partner organizations is available in [PDF](#).



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#### Forthcoming visits and meetings [full item: 32Ev]

FIDIC-JCC-ECV Dispute Resolution [Course](#), Trinidad 8-9 Nov 2005  
UNCITRAL Procurement [Working Group](#), Vienna, 7-11 Nov 2005  
FIDIC-CEAI-CDC-ITC Contracts [Course](#), New Delhi 10-11 Nov 2005  
Arbitration and ADR in Construction [Conference](#), Dubai, 13-14 Nov 2005  
FIDIC-Cornerstone Contracts [Workshop](#), Dubai 15-16 Nov 2005  
STD-Sweden Seminar, Stockholm, 16 Nov 2005  
EFCA Directors & Secretaries, Brussels, 18 Nov 2005  
FIDIC-ECV Contracts [Course](#), Brussels, 28-29 Nov 2005  
FIDIC-Infoma Contracts [Seminar](#), London 8-9 Dec 2005  
FIDIC Contract [Course](#), Zagreb, 8-9 Dec 2005  
FIDIC-ESCON-ERCICA Contracts [Seminar](#), Cairo, Dec 2005  
ACET-Tanzania Capacity Building seminar, Dar es Salaam, Feb 2006

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### Contracts

#### Contract translations hailed [full item: 49Co]

Estonian translations of FIDIC's main works contracts were launched recently by EAACE-Estonia at a press conference in Tallinn, with several ministries recognising the documents as the international benchmarks for infrastructure development. EAACE also joins a growing list of organizations with resale agreements that allow FIDIC to offer electronic versions through [FIDIC.org/bookshop](http://FIDIC.org/bookshop). This provides a vital service for users who increasingly need convenient access to translations, either as guides for use with the English version or in working contracts. The translations service also allows FIDIC to monitor licences and the quality of translations, for while FIDIC does not authorize translations published under licence, it makes every effort to ensure their accuracy.





### Proposed key elements of DBO contract discussed [full item: 50Co]

The response to an invitation to participants at the Design-Build-Operate (DBO) Contract Workshop held during the FIDIC 2005 Conference (Beijing; 8-11 September 2005) to comment on key proposals for FIDIC's new DBO contract was lively and informative. Axel Jaeger, a member of the drafting task force chaired by Michael Mortimer-Hawkins, explained that the new contract will be harmonised with FIDIC's 1999 suite of works contracts (Short Form; Construction; Plant and DB; EPC/Turnkey). It also aims to build upon the advantages of the DBO approach that combines design, construction and long-term plant and facility operation and maintenance into a single contract with one legal entity, known as the Contractor. The potential advantages for a client (e.g., more predictable time schedules; financial compliance; single point of responsibility; appropriate risk allocation) are widely acknowledged. From the discussion it was clear that FIDIC is entering new and exciting territory with the new contract, and that the drafting task force is making remarkable progress in responding to the challenge.

Axel first described the envisaged typical sequence of principal events for a green-field scenario, where a facility is designed and built and then operated. They involve the letter of acceptance, the commencement date, site access, construction, the commissioning certificate, the retention period, return of the performance security for the DB period, joint inspection, and the completion certificate. The questions for the participants covered some of the more important and relatively new concepts that are being proposed. Those interested should consult the workshop presentation and a summary of the proposals at [FIDIC.org/news](http://FIDIC.org/news).

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### Representation

#### Tunisia agreement covers workshops, capacity building and bank representation [full item: 39Re]

During a visit to Tunis in late-August 2005 (see the front page of Tunisia's *Le Temps*), by the then FIDIC President, Richard Kell, the ANBEIC-Tunisia President, Nabil Chater, agreed on the details of an agreement whereby FIDIC will help organize a workshop at the major government-sponsored *Salon International des Services*, Tunis, 8 - 9 June 2006. Meanwhile ANBEIC undertakes to help develop FIDIC Member Associations in neighbouring countries and provide support to FIDIC in contacts with the African Development Bank that is based in Tunis. The forum will provide a major opportunity for firms to learn about business opportunities in North Africa while the workshop, that will focus on procurement and the role of FIDIC contracts, will help FIDIC disseminate best practices.



FIDIC is preparing for the event by engaging francophone Member Associations in translations of the main FIDIC works contracts. The aim is to make training courses and training materials on the contracts available in French, a language that is largely missing in FIDIC's extensive programme of training events (some 15 in 2006 on contracts).



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### Business development

#### Bank to support business integrity workshop [full item: 43De]

During a visit to the African Development Bank (AFDB) in August 2005, it was agreed with a FIDIC delegation that the bank would support a FIDIC *Business Integrity Management System* workshop planned for the 2006 annual meeting of the FIDIC Group of African Member Associations (Tanzania, March 2006), see [FIDIC.org/gama](http://FIDIC.org/gama). A bank focus group on combating corruption by developing policies and procedures has drafted *Guidelines for Preventing and Combating Corruption in Bank Operations* and recommended an Anti-Corruption and Fraud Unit, an Oversight Committee for Corruption and Fraud, and a "whistle blower" programme. Sanctioning will be adopted, and there was debate over naming firms. FIDIC cautioned against blacklisting for poor performance or a lack of quality without a thorough investigation (the bank saw poor performance as linked to fraud). The delegation pointed out that selection based on quality greatly alleviated the lack of quality and its link to corruption.

## Joint initiatives planned following bank visit [\[full item: 42De\]](#)

A FIDIC delegation comprising the then President, Richard Kell, Bayo Adeola, FIDIC Executive Committee member, and Nabil Chater, ANBEIC-Tunisia President, visited the African Development Bank (AFDB) headquarters in Tunis in late-August 2005. Bayo is seen in the photo with Axel Jaeger, left, and Yumio Ishii, centre, whose terms of office on the committee ended in September 2005. John Mensah-Quainoo, head of procurement, pointed out that the AFDB now spends USD 2.5 billion annually, mostly via grants, loans and cofinancing. About 50% is for infrastructure with extensive use of the FIDIC Construction and Short Form contracts, and licensing of the new MDB Harmonised Construction Contract envisaged.



Following discussions it was agreed that FIDIC would announce project opportunities and comment on draft revisions to the bank's consultant selection guidelines. The FIDIC delegation pushed strongly for a significant involvement by national consultants, with the bank recognizing that it needed several new policies in the area.

The bank provided extensive training for borrowers through the African Training Institute, and its Director, Karim Millett, pointed out that the quality of project supervision remained a concern. It was agreed that FIDIC would submit a proposal for a partnership with the bank's *Business Opportunities Seminar* to develop private-sector capacity building, which was missing.

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## Image

### World Bank head acknowledges FIDIC role [\[full item: 25Im\]](#)

World Bank Vice-President, James Adams, in responding on behalf of the bank's incoming President, Paul Wolfowitz, to a letter from Richard Kell, then FIDIC President, acknowledged the importance of the close working relationship. He referred explicitly to the publication of the bank harmonised Construction Contract for bank-financed projects, the biennial BIMILACI meeting that brings issues to the fore, and visits and reports by FIDIC to brief bank officials on sound procurement practices.



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### Steep increase in business integrity system uptake [\[full item: 26Im\]](#)

There has been a steep increase in the number of firms with a *Business Integrity Management System* (BIMS). FIDIC's Integrity Management Task Force chaired by Felipe Ochoa reported at a FIDIC 2005 Conference workshop that a survey undertaken during July 2005 had indicated that of the 90 respondents, 50 firms based in 17 countries had implemented, or were shortly to implement, a BIMS according to the FIDIC guidelines. Some 80% of the respondents from firms without a BIMS were unaware of the requirements so FIDIC and its Member Associations are taking steps to boost awareness. See [FIDIC.org/bims](http://FIDIC.org/bims) for full details.

## Notices to Member Associations

**Meetings:** see [Events](#)  
FIDIC 2005 Beijing [Presentations](#)

**Surveys**  
FIDIC Business Integrity Management [Results](#)  
FIDIC GAMA [Survey](#)

**MA Letters**  
17/05: GAM 2005 Minutes [PDF](#)

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