



International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering

# CIGR

## Newsletter Quarterly

**Newsletter No. 100**  
**December 2013**

*Since 1930*  
*83 Years of CIGR*

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***Commission Internationale du Génie Rural (CIGR)***

CIGR Website: <http://www.cigr.org/>

# 1. CIGR NEWS

## CIGR Events, Efficient Ways to Promote and Publicize Our Profession - Message from the President



Prof. Da-Wen Sun

As other learned societies, CIGR organizes different events each year. The events organized by CIGR can be categorized as follows: World Congresses, International Conferences, Symposia and Workshops.

CIGR World Congresses are the traditional event organized by CIGR all Technical Sections. This is the biggest event in the field of agricultural and biosystems engineering in the world. The history of CIGR World Congress can be dated back as early as 1930, when the 1st World Congress was held in Liège, Belgium and then it was held irregularly until the 6th one in Lausanne, Switzerland in 1964. Since then the World Congress began a regular event of CIGR, which was held every five years. From the 12th Congress in Milan, Italy in 1994, the regularity of the World Congress was changed to every four years, except the special World Congress (14th) held in 2000 in Tsukuba, Japan, in order to celebrate the new millennium. The next World Congress (18th) will be held on 16-19 September 2014 in Beijing, China, and I would welcome you to take part in this exciting event. In addition, the 19th World Congress has been decided to be in Turkey in 2018.

CIGR also organizes International Conferences. The CIGR International Conference series was introduced in 2004 in order to accommodate high demand in holding CIGR World Congress. CIGR Conference is held every four years in between of the World Congresses. Unlike World Congresses which require the participation of all CIGR Technical Sections, CIGR Conference only requires that at least two Technical Sections are involved. This is the only distinction between the World Congress and the International Conference. However in fact since the 1st Conference held in Beijing, China in 2004, all the Technical Sections took part in the last three Conferences, and therefore CIGR International Conference is an event as important as CIGR World Congress, attracting similar number of participants as the World Congress. In particular, the 3rd International Conference held in Valencia, Spain last year had an attendance of about 1,800 people. The 4th CIGR International Conference will be held on 26-29 June 2016 in Aarhus, Denmark.

CIGR has seven Technical Sections. Each Technical Section organizes its own event, which is defined as CIGR International Symposium. The keyword "Symposium" is used to identify an event that is organized by a Technical Section. CIGR rule is that a Technical Section event can only be named as "Symposium", it can be neither called Congress nor Conference which is reserved for event organized by CIGR as a whole. CIGR Technical

Symposium has become one of the most successful specialized events in relevant discipline. Taking Section VI in food processing engineering as an example, CIGR Section VI International Symposium started in 2004, and since then seven symposiums has been successfully organized across the world. The 7th Symposium held in South Africa last year attracted 374 participants from 56 countries and regions. The next (8th) Symposium will be held in China later this year, and it is expected that about 400 people will be attending.

In addition, CIGR also have 11 Working Groups. The Working Group is established to carry out studies on specific subjects of international importance and interest. CIGR Working Groups also organize their own events, which are named as CIGR International Workshop. Again, CIGR uses the keyword "Workshop" to identify an event that is organized by a Working Group. Therefore, a Working Group event cannot be called "Congress", "Conference" or "Symposium". Taking "Image Analysis for Agricultural Products and Processes" Working Group established in 2009 as an example, it has already organized four workshops, with the next one to be held in Canada in 2014.

It should be pointed out that the organization of a CIGR event, no matter big or small, is only possible with the dedication of many colleagues and in particular through active collaboration between local organizers and CIGR. On behalf of CIGR, I would therefore like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to many volunteers of our CIGR community, who have made significant contributions to making these CIGR events truly successful. These events provide excellent platforms for the participants to stimulate meaningful debate, enable in-depth technical discussions, exchange new and exciting findings of research, and generate good ideas. Therefore the CIGR events are one of the most efficient ways to promote and publicize our profession, and I would like to encourage every one of you to actively get involved in these activities.

*Prof. Da-Wen Sun  
President of CIGR*

## Announcements and Farewell Message from the Secretary General

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to send you CIGR Newsletter No. 100 ordinary version. Almost simultaneously No. 100 Special issue is going to be published.

### Digested reports of CIGR Business Meetings in 2013

We had CIGR Business Meeting of Presidium (PM), Executive Board (EB) and Technical Board (TB) during the 5th International Conference Trends in Agriculture Engineering 2013 held in Prague, Czech Republic from 3 to 6, September 2013. This



Prof. Toshinori Kimura

conference was a CIGR Supported Event. First of all, I congratulate the great success of the conference. I was deeply impressed by the well-organized program and their hospitality that we PM received. The detailed report of the conference is likely to be posted by the Chair of the Organizing Committee accordingly. For your reference, I placed two photos which show CIGR President, Prof. Da-Wen Sun making a remark and brief presentation on the outline of CIGR at the opening ceremony and audiences in the scientific program respectively.

As you know, we have the XVIII World CIGR Congress 2014, 15-19 September, in Beijing, China, where the 53rd CIGR General Assembly will take place. There many important issues such as nominations of CIGR Officers including next Incoming President, Executive Board members and Technical Section Board members and so on will be discussed and authorized.

So, there were a lot of matters to be discussed in the business meetings at Prague prior to the World Congress 2014. I would like to pick up some important items among them and to report the summary.

### 1) CIGR Election 2014

There is a common recognition among current Presidium members that all the CIGR operations should be administrated transparently and fairly as much as possible under CIGR Statutes. As the first step, Presidium established a search committee for CIGR presidential election 2014 and its operation guidelines for the nomination of the next Incoming President. The composition and role of the committee are as below;

- **Next Incoming President from 2015:** For the nomination, a search committee will be appointed. The President heads the committee. Profs. Axel Munack and Bill Stout are members of the committee.

Role of the search committee is to propose and identify suitable candidates based on the criteria in the guidelines. The Secretary General will make an open call. The chair will develop the procedure, including dates and requirements.

- **Executive Board members 2015-2018:** Candidates must be regionally distributed. Countries represented in the Presidium are not eligible. The members can only serve two terms according to the CIGR Statutes.

- **Members of Section Board I-VII 2015-2018:** By the same process as above, Sections will be asked to provide replacements.



The open call of the election and its detailed information are available on CIGR Webpage (<http://www.cigr.org>).

### 2) Awards & Prizes

- **CIGR Awards and Prizes for the year 2014:** The Incoming President reported that inducing letters prepared by the Secretariat have been sent to the members. A reminder needs to be sent to the technical sessions as well as member organizations. Final awards should be into the Secretary General two months at latest before the ceremony.

The types of award & prize, their criteria and nomination schedule are also available on the webpage.

### 3) CIGR Initiative

The Presidium recognizes that influence and presence of CIGR is being improved and that profession of agricultural & biosystems engineering in the global scene is also one of our greatest concerned issue. We have joined various international meetings and showed the flag of CIGR such as in FAO Conference at Rome, ASABE Global Challenge Forum at Kansas City and Trends of Agricultural Engineering 2013 at Prague. We also sent Presidium members to the events organized by CIGR National Members such as India, China, Indonesia and so forth.

- **ASABE Global Challenges Forum in Kansas held in July 2013:** The Past President and Secretary General attended this forum. The document was assembled in last September. Next Forum will be in Canada, being organized now. We should start a task force to represent CIGR. The Past President will lead this matter and will suggest some people. We also need to increase influence of CIGR in FAO and other international organizations.

- **International Academy of IAABE:** The proposal of the establishment of international academy on the agricultural and biosystems engineering was submitted by the President. The Presidium approved presenting the proposal to the Executive and Technical Boards where the proposal was approved.

### 4) CIGR Information and Communication System

CIGR has promoted several free access services utilizing on-lined communication system in recent years. In the PM, EB and TB meetings at Prague, the expansion of the coverage of this service into E-textbook and Newsletter was approved.

- **Current operation report of CIGR Journal:** Minutes of the meetings with the editor were sent to the Presidium. According to it, peer review system and publication were



remarkably improved. However performances of some section editors are not satisfactory.

**- CIGR Newsletter:** We have reached No. 100 issue of CIGR Newsletter at this time. Presidium decided CIGR Newsletter to move from printed one to electronic one on this occasion, and EB also approved this decision. In the last Presidium Meeting through Skype on 4th December, 2013, it was decided to redesign CIGR website (<http://www.cigr.org>) to accommodate the Newsletter on-line service. Past President will take care of this matter.

### 5) CIGR Bodies

Indonesia was approved its membership as CIGR National Member by EB held on 3rd of September, 2013 at Prague. Although authorization of the membership will be done at the 53rd General Assembly, Indonesia can participate in various CIGR activities from above date.

### 6) Taking over the General Secretariat from Hokkaido University to Kyoto University, Japan

The General Secretariat is going to transfer from Hokkaido University to Kyoto University on 1st January, 2014. The next Secretary General is Prof. Mikio Umeda who is introduced in this Newsletter.

### Farewell from current Secretary General

Now, my duty as Secretary General of CIGR is going to finish on the 31st, December, 2013. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to all the CIGR colleagues for the understanding and kind support that they have provided me with over the past four years.

When I look back, it was a big surprise for me to be appointed as CIGR Secretary General at the General Assembly in the 2nd CIGR World Conference at Iguassu Falls, Brazil in 2008 despite the fact that I had a few experiences of CIGR Congresses. I had attended XI World Congress, Dublin, 1989 and served as a member of the local organizing committee for XIV World Congress, Tsukuba, 2000. To tell the truth, the task of Secretary General was not easy for me because I had primary role as a university professor, sometimes a chair of research group or department head in the Research Faculty of Agriculture, Hokkaido University, Japan in the first 3 years during my 4- year duty.

I have to say I had the privilege of working with perfect colleagues in the Presidium, Past Presidents Prof. Irenilza Naas, Prof. Søren Pedersen and Prof. Fedro Zazueta, Current President Prof. Da-Wen Sun and Incoming President Prof. Tadeusz Juliszewski. Together with their assistance and cooperation I was committed to the transparent and fair operation of CIGR body under CIGR Statutes and relating bylaws, furthermore, to setting up CIGR's presence in the global scene.

As for the management and operation in the General Secretariat (CIGR HQ), we could achieve quite stable roles by the consolidation of CIGR website and documentation works, and positive earnings in the account. I am sure such a good achievement in the operation did not happen without the dedicated help of a tremendous team in the faculty members of Research Group of Bioproduction Engineering, Hokkaido University. It made personnel and materials contribution as well as financial support amounting to around 10,000 Euros every year to the

Secretariat. In addition, we are obliged to the Sub-committee on CIGR Affairs (Chair: Professor Noboru Noguchi, Hokkaido University) in Science Council of Japan for providing many useful suggestions to me and sending members to section boards and auditor.

Above all, I would like to express my greatest appreciation to Ms. Yukari Tanaka, my secretary in the General Secretariat Office, for her dedicated efforts to various works of CIGR operation. It is a fruit of her coordinated and tireless efforts that my four years duty is coming off successfully with no real problems. And allow me to express my appreciation to my wife, Yukiko Kimura, for the encouragement and patient support to me.

Lastly, I do wish worldwide recognition of agricultural & biosystems engineering profession and CIGR's prosperous future because present global-issues seeking well-harmonization of food production, environment, energy resource and population growth keenly need appropriate technologies of agricultural & biosystems engineering more than ever before.

Once again thank you very much for your kind cooperation and support.

With best regards,

*Prof. Toshinori Kimura  
Secretary General of CIGR*

## Tentative Schedule of 2014 CIGR

### Business Meetings

**during the 18th CIGR World Congress 2014,  
China National Convention Center (CNCC),  
Beijing, China**

#### 15 September (Mon), 2014

9:00-13:30 CIGR Presidium meeting  
14:00-17:00 CIGR Executive Board meeting

#### 16 September (Tue), 2014

10:00-12:00 CIGR Working Group meetings \*  
14:00-16:00 CIGR Section Board I - VII meetings \*  
16:30-19:30 CIGR Technical Board meeting

\*Depending on request:

#### 17 September (Wed), 2014

17:00-17:50 CIGR Award ceremony  
18:00-19:30 CIGR General Assembly

## Minutes of the 67th Executive Board Meeting

**On Saturday, 7 July, 2012, from 15:00 to 18:10  
Melia Meeting 2, Hotel Melia Valencia  
Valencia, Spain**

**Presented:** President Fedro Zazueta, Incoming President Da-Wen Sun, Secretary-General Toshinori Kimura, Prof. John K. Schueller (ASABE), Prof. Shujun Li (AAAE), Prof. Jerzy Weres (Poland), Prof. Tomas Banhazi (Technical Board), Mr. Yoshisuke Kishida (Co-opted), Prof. Peter Schulze Lammers (Co-opted), Prof. Daniel Berckmans (Co-opted), Prof. Jose M. Tarjuelo (Co-opted), Prof. Lanfang Zhang (CIGR Journal), Prof. Taichi Maki (Auditor),

**Observer:** Prof. Mikio Umeda (Next Secretary General), Prof. Bill Stout (Honorary President), Prof. Claus Soerensen (Section V), Dr. Morten Dam Rasmussen (Denmark), Dr. Elisabeth Quendler (Section V), Prof. Florentino Juste (EurAgEng)

**Excused:** Past President Søren Pedersen, Prof. Daniele De Wrachien (EurAgEng), Dr. Stephane Godbout (Canada), Mr. Emmanuel Hugo (France), Prof. Adolf Rybka (Czech), Prof. Josse De Baerdemaeker (Auditor), Prof. Vilas M. Salokhe (Auditor),

**Absent:** Prof. Omar Ulloa (ALIA), Prof. Oleg Marchenko (EAAAE), Prof. Nicolay Mihailov (AAESEE),

## 1. Welcome and Roll Call

The CIGR President welcomed the members and thanked them for attending the meeting.

Prof. Florentino Juste gave a brief report on the Conference. President expressed appreciation for the great efforts that people related to this conference have made.

## 2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted unanimously.

## 3. Approval of minutes of the 66th Executive Board Meeting of CIGR

Minutes of the 66th Executive Board Meeting of CIGR were approved.

## 4. Elections

Voting results were reported.

Ninety seven votes out of 102 were in favor of Prof. Tadeusz Juliszewski and abstentions (5 votes) were the ones who didn't reply. The result of the next Incoming President was unanimous.

For the candidate of the next Secretary General, Prof. Mikio Umeda who was present at the EB meeting, the result was the same as the next Incoming President, 97 votes in favor out of 102.

Both candidates (the next Incoming President and the next Secretary General) were ratified by the Executive Board.

## 5. Activity reports from Presidium members:

### a) The President

#### - CIGR Journal

Senior editor of CIGR Journal was replaced by Prof. Lanfang Zhang. She has been carrying out as a manager very efficiently and actively. This year, up until this point (July, 2012), over 60 papers have been published. The staffs have been making efforts to move the publications quickly.

President suggested following issues.

- The participation of the Section editors.  
We should encourage the Section editors and if necessary add the Section editors.
- The quality of the publications which goes with Section editors  
The role of senior editor is to eliminate papers that are not related to agricultural and biosystems engineering, as well as papers that are so poorly written that it's obvious that the author did not spend appropriate amount of time for checking. On the other hand, the role of Section editor is to reject the papers from the standpoint of technical or scientific content. This is not senior editor's

level. Section editor should be keenly aware of this. Section editor is responsible for the quality of the publications.

- Use of open journal system (OJS).

Some people find it somewhat difficult to use the OJS system. So, in the CIGR Journal meeting (8 July), there will be a small training to use the OJS system.

#### - CIGR proceeding

The site of [cigr.proceeding.org](http://cigr.proceeding.org) is now fully operated. Its purpose is to provide the permanent venue for the materials developed in CIGR events, which are not in conflict with the mission of the journal. We've been able to simplify the process to a level where all we need are the PDF files and the spread sheet containing names of the file, the authors, and the papers.

Executive Board discussed about the plagiarism.

They confirmed that developing the paper based on one's own proceeding presented for the conference is not plagiarism. Plagiarism is the act of using other's paper. The problem lies in the people that are engaged in that behaviour. But, if we have a good reviewer and good reviewing process, most of the plagiarism can be identified and excluded.

#### - Handbook

Income generated by the CIGR Handbook came down to almost zero. At present, CIGR Handbooks are available with no cost in digital form at CIGR website.

President offered an idea of producing e-text, pointing out the merits such as CIGR's capability to provide very high quality e-texts at very low cost, to translate into several languages and to generate income by entrusting the company to market e-texts electronically. Also, this will put the name of CIGR in front of many students

To this idea, following suggestions were given;

- We should make a (sub) committee.
- We need somebody who will engage himself to look after this business.
- The outline should be made as a first step and then we should place the appropriate writer (expert) for each article.
- Exploring the pilot book would be preferable. Then, we can see how it works and learn some lessons from that before it expands across the Sections.

Section I (Prof. Jose M. Tarjuelo) accepted to produce a pilot version of the e-text.

#### - Protection of the name and logo of CIGR

President reported as follows;

Recently, some entities in China tried to use the name of CIGR. We have been using this name (CIGR) since 1930s. So we are actually entitled to use this name. But, as preventive measure for the future to avoid legal argument, we took the procedure to register the text CIGR in the US.

Prof. Lanfang Zhang suggested that, other than that, we need to register all the domain names related to cigr (ex, [cigr.com](http://cigr.com), [cigr.net](http://cigr.net), etc) in China, because cases are different in China.

### b) The Secretary General

The Secretary General Toshinori Kimura reported that CIGR Newsletters, No. 95 had already been dispatched,

and he will work on No. 96 immediately after going back to Japan from this conference.

#### **c) The Past President**

As Past President Søren Pedersen couldn't attend the meeting, the President reported the recipient list of the awards and prizes.

#### **d) The Incoming President**

The Incoming President Da-Wen Sun reported regarding the governance of Journal editing system as follows; Official name of the journal is now CIGR Journal. So we no longer use E-journal.

We should have the rigid tool for pre-screening system. If senior editor confirmed that the format and English is all right, then manuscript will be sent to Section editors. These Section editors should take another pre-screening looking at whether quality of the paper is good enough to be published or not. If the quality of the paper is not appropriate to publish, he should not assign it to reviewers. The pre-screening by the Section editor is very important.

Also, from the ISI index point of view, quality is the most important factor. So, we should set a high value in the quality rather than emphasize too much on how many papers we published each year.

China. CAAMS is giving financial support to the journal for five years. When five years' commitment is over and China concludes it cannot provide financial support for the journal, we have to find something else as a solution. One possible solution is to find professional publisher to run the journal. Of course, from the technical standpoint, the journal will still be in the CIGR.

As the president of CAAMS, Prof. Shujun Li confirmed that China will continue to support journal until at least five years' term is over.

Mr. Kishida suggested the idea that we should research how ASABE foundation is functioning, because there is a possibility that we build a similar system like CIGR foundation.

Prof. Lnfang Zhang made a report as Editor-in-Chief of CIGR Journal.

She has served as Editor-in-Chief of CIGR Journal since the beginning of this year. After six months' work, she concluded that editorial team made very good achievement with time management, role allotment and speedy processing. She reported the process of editing papers. She also mentioned several issues such as shortage of Section editors especially Section III and IV, the way to improve the database of reviewers, and the way to improve the quality of the papers especially the ones submitted from developing countries.

To encourage the reviewer's support, the idea to publish reviewers' name and identify their work was suggested.

#### **6 Accounts and Budgets**

##### **a) Report of CIGR 2011 working account-result and 2013 budget**

The SG made the financial reports for 2011 and explained the budget for 2013.

He pointed several problems such as non-payment of several members and income loss due to exchange rate,

while financial assistance from SG's university contributed to the reduction of expenditure.

##### **b) Approval of Auditors report on 2011 working account and their comment to CIGR activities**

Prof. Taichi Maki made an auditing report and approved the accounting of 2011.

The SG reported that two other auditors also had approved the accounting of 2011.

#### **7. CIGR Bodies**

##### **a) National and Regional Member Societies**

The SG presented the updated list of the National and Regional Member Societies.

##### **b) New Corporate member**

The UNAPCAEM (United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery) which is a part of the United Nations was approved to become a corporate member of CIGR.

##### **c) Sections & Working Groups**

The Incoming President reported regarding two new working groups. One was Logistics which would have a meeting during this conference and the other was Precision Aerial Application Working Group which had already held two or three workshops so far.

President recommended EB members to encourage the Section chairs to submit activity report to the SG.

President reported that ANITA (African Network of Information Technology of Agriculture) is in the process of establishment.

#### **8. CIGR Information and Communication System**

##### **a) CIGR Website**

Mr. Kishida suggested the idea to introduce the searching box in CIGR website to make searching in the site easy.

#### **9. CIGR Congresses and Conferences**

##### **a) Current report of the 3rd CIGR International Conference 2012, 8-12 July, Valencia, Spain (by Chair of Local Organiser)**

##### **b) The XVIII CIGR World Congress 2014, 16-19 September, Beijing, China**

Prof. Lanfang Zhang made a presentation on CIGR World Congress 2014. The venue will be China National Convention Center that is the top convention center in China and was the venue of Olympic 2008. She reported that Second run announcement had been completed and handed out the pamphlets.

President suggested that we shouldn't make the total cost (including hotels, transportation, registration fee, etc) too high for the participants, so we should be careful when setting the registration fee.

##### **c) The 4th CIGR International Conference 2016, 26-29 June, Aarhus, Denmark**

Prof. Claus Gron Soerensen gave an announcement of the 4th CIGR International Conference. The Conference will be held at University of Aarhus, 26-29 June 2016 as a joint event between CIGR and EurAgEng and cosponsored by NJF (Nordic Association of Agricultural Scientists) and Aarhus University.

##### **d) Candidate for the XIX CIGR World Congress 2018**

India and Turkey applied for a host of CIGR World Congress 2018. The SG proposed the idea that after Presidium listening to the presentation from both countries in the morning of 9 July, PM would submit one chosen candidate to the General Assembly which will be held in the afternoon of 9 July. The EB accepted this proposal.

#### 10. Miscellaneous

- Newly approved CIGR Supported events are as follows;  
The 41st International Symposium "Actual Tasks on Agricultural Engineering", 19-22 February 2013, Opatija, Croatia

The 5th International Conference; Trends in Agricultural Engineering 2013, 3-6 September 2013, Prague, Czech Republic

#### 11. Candidate events for next CIGR business meetings and General Assembly

##### a) Presidium, EB, TB, and SB meetings

The 5th International Conference; Trends in Agricultural Engineering 2013, 3-6 September 2013, Prague, Czech Republic

##### b) General Assembly

The XVIII CIGR World Congress 2014, 16-19 September, Beijing, China

The meeting ended at 18:10.

*Prof. Fedro Zazueta, President of CIGR 2011-2012*  
*Prof. Toshinori Kimura, Secretary General of CIGR*

## Handing over of the CIGR Secretary General from 1 January 2014



Prof. Mikio Umeda over from Prof. Toshinori Kimura, Hokkaido University, to Prof. Mikio Umeda, Kyoto University, Japan. Prof. Mikio Umeda's tenure will last 4 years, from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2017.

**Secretary General:** Prof. Dr. Mikio Umeda

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#### **New General Secretariat:**

Lab. Field Robotics,

Graduate School of Agriculture, Kyoto University

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Email: [cigr-gs2014@elam.kais.kyoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:cigr-gs2014@elam.kais.kyoto-u.ac.jp)

## CIGR World Congresses and International Conferences, 2014–2020

### The XVIII CIGR World Congress 2014 Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering - Upgrading Our Quality of Life Beijing, China, 16-19 September 2014

The 18<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the International Commission of Agriculture and Biosystems Engineering (CIGR) will be held in Beijing, China on 16 to 19 September, 2014. Under the energetic guide of the General Assembly of CIGR, this Congress will remain faithful to the pattern established in past CIGR World Congresses, while incorporating innovative new elements to promote exchange and collaboration among agricultural engineers, and to offer a unique opportunity to present the results of research and to discuss important issues from a global perspective.

For global agricultural engineering scientists, engineers and other professionals seeking to expand their knowledge of the field and learn about the most up-to-date advancements and discoveries, the 18<sup>th</sup> World Congress of CIGR cannot be missed. The special social and tour programs will also be arranged, it will give participants a wonderful taste of unique Chinese culture to entertain you and your family during and after the Congress. With tremendous support from CIGR, the Chinese Society for Agricultural Machinery (CSAM), the Chinese Society of Agricultural Engineering (CSAE), and many local, regional and international

associations, the Organizing Committee will deliver the most dynamic and invigorating Congress to all of you.

The preparation has started smoothly and the Organizing Committee hereby is pleased to invite you and your association to join in this big event as much as you could. It is sincerely hoped that the 18<sup>th</sup> World Congress of CIGR in Beijing will bring all of participants together to share in the common goal of advancing and developing the field of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, and to provide a discussion forum on how to promote scientific and technological innovations in agricultural engineering into the new millennium.

#### **SPONSORS**

International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (CIGR)

Chinese Society for Agricultural Machinery (CSAM)

Chinese Society of Agricultural Engineering (CSAE)

#### **CO-SPONSORS**

Asian Association for Agricultural Engineering (AAAE)

Agricultural Engineers Association (AEA) (England)

German Agricultural Society (Deutsche Landwirtschafts-Gesellschaft, DLG)

Association of Overseas Chinese Agricultural Biological Food Engineers (AOCABFE-AOC)

United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (UNAPCAEM)

Additional societies and institutions will be available through the website: [www.cigr2014.org](http://www.cigr2014.org)

**ORGANIZERS**

Chinese Academy of Agricultural Mechanization Sciences (CAAMS)

Chinese Academy of Agricultural Engineering (CAAE)

China Agricultural University (CAU)

**Theme**

Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering – Upgrading Our Quality of Life

**Time**

16 (Tue)-19 (Fri) September, 2014

**Venue**

China National Convention Center

**Congress Languages**

English, Chinese

**IMPORTANT DATES**

On-line registration opens:	1 Sept. 2013
Abstract submission opens	1 Sept. 2013
Abstract submission deadline	1 Mar. 2014
Notification of abstract acceptance	15 Apr. 2014
Early bird registration	31 May 2014
Full paper submission	1 Jun. 2014
Information to authors on website	1 Jul. 2014
Hotel reservation and tour deposits	1 Aug. 2014

**PROGRAM AT A GLANCE**

Date	Morning		Mid-noon	Afternoon		Evening
15 Sept.	Registration					
16 Sept.	Opening Ceremony	Plenary Sessions with Invited Speakers	Working Lunch	Plenary Sessions with Invited Speakers		Welcome Reception
17 Sept.	Oral Session		Working Lunch	Oral Session		
	Poster Session / Exhibition			Poster Session / Exhibition		
18 Sept.	Oral Session		Working Lunch	Oral Session	Closing Ceremony	Banquet
	Poster Session / Exhibition			Poster Session / Exhibition		
19 Sept.	Technical Tour					

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

The Congress welcomes abstracts relevant to the preliminary topics. A person intending to give an oral presentation (15 - 20 minutes) or a poster at the Congress is requested to submit a one-page abstract (A4 size, approximately 500 words) to the Academic Committee no later than 1 **April, 2014**. An abstract should be well written, clear and informative by describing the work with emphasis on objectives and factual results. An abstract should include keywords related to the Congress Preliminary Topics. Notification of acceptance or rejection of abstract will be given by 15 **April, 2014**. Authors are invited to prepare a

full-length paper after the acceptance. Abstracts and full papers should be submitted online using the templates provided.

**Preliminary Topics**

Full list of the detailed main topics will be available at [www.cigr2014.org](http://www.cigr2014.org)

1. Land and Water Systems Engineering
2. Machinery Engineering for Plant Production
3. Bioprocessing System Engineering
4. Information Systems and Precision Farming
5. Rural Electricity and Renewable Energy



6. Farming Buildings and Livestock Environmental Engineering
7. Management, Ergonomics and System Engineering

### Oral and Poster Presentation

In the registration system, authors are asked to indicate their preference for an oral presentation or a poster on the website. The Scientific Committee will try to satisfy each author's first choice. The final decision will come along with the notification of abstract acceptance.

### Proceedings

The full proceedings of the Congress will be published in CD-ROM and provided to the delegates and students at the registration desk during the Congress.

Please visit the Congress Website at [www.cigr2014.org](http://www.cigr2014.org) for detailed information regarding abstract guideline,

submission instruction, presentation options and other related information.

### Accommodation

Participants who request hotel accommodation should register on the website at [www.cigr2014.org](http://www.cigr2014.org), and submit the decision and pay the registration fee. A sufficient number of rooms will be provided at hotels near the Congress Venue. If your room request is unavailable, you will be assigned a room in another hotel as close as possible to your choice.

### Registration

On-line registration will open on 1 **September, 2013** at [www.cigr2014.org](http://www.cigr2014.org) and ways of payment will be announced on the website later.

**Registration fee (in US Dollars)**

Registration Type	Early Bird Registration by 31 May, 2014	Regular Registration After 1 Jun., 2014	Desk Rate
Delegates except LIC & LMIC <sup>[1]</sup>	\$700.00 <sup>[2]</sup> /\$750.00	\$800.00 <sup>[2]</sup> /\$850.00	\$850.00 <sup>[2]</sup> /\$900.00
Delegates from LIC & LMIC	\$500.00	\$550.00	\$600.00
Students <sup>[3]</sup>	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$450.00
Accompanying person	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$350.00
One-day admission <sup>[4]</sup>			\$400.00
Banquet <sup>[5]</sup>	\$80.00		

[1] LIC and LMIC: The list of low income and low-middle income countries is from the World Bank. [2] CIGR members. [3] Students: Please attach a copy of your student identification card to your registration form. [4] One-day admissions will only be sold the same day at the registration desk. [5] Banquet: A buffet style banquet will be held at 19:00 on 18 Sept., 2014. The fee of the banquet is not included in the registration. Participants who wish to attend the banquet should make reservation (USD80/person) together with your registration.

### Additional information

Additional information on the Congress news, maps, and updates on our programs will be available through the website: [www.cigr2014.org](http://www.cigr2014.org)

### Contact information

Address: Room B206, No. 31 Building, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Mechanization Sciences (CAAMS), No. 1 Beishatan, Deshengmen Wai, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100083, China  
 Phone: 0086-10-64882358  
 Fax: 0086-10-64883508  
 Email: [cigrwc2014@yahoo.com](mailto:cigrwc2014@yahoo.com)  
 Website: [www.cigr2014.org](http://www.cigr2014.org)

## The 4th CIGR International Conference - AgEng Conference-2016 Robotics, Environment and Food Safety 26-29 June 2016, Aarhus, Denmark

The Conference will be held at University of Aarhus 26-29 June 2016 as a joint event between CIGR (International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering) and EurAgEng (European Society of Agricultural Engineering) and cosponsored by NJF (Nordic Association of Agricultural Scientists) and Aarhus University.

Preparations for this event are progressing with the Organising Committee making the preliminary preparations.

Contact: Prof. Søren Pedersen  
 Email: [soeren.pedersen@agrsci.dk](mailto:soeren.pedersen@agrsci.dk)

## The XIX CIGR World Congress 22-26 April 2018, Antalya, Turkey

In CIGR General Assembly which was held in Valencia, Spain on 9 July 2012, Turkey was approved to host the XIX CIGR World Congress. The Congress will be held on 22-26 April, 2018 in Antalya, Turkey. Preparations for this event are progressing with the Organising Committee.

Contact: Prof. Can Ertekin  
 Email: [ertekin@akdeniz.edu.tr](mailto:ertekin@akdeniz.edu.tr)

## Call for Candidate Site for the 5th CIGR International Conference in 2020

The CIGR International Conference, which is the biggest event next to CIGR World Congress among the CIGR activities, is held every four years to convene agricultural and biosystems engineers and associated professionals from all parts of the world.

CIGR Presidium is calling for letters of interest by the parties interested in hosting the 5th CIGR International Conference in 2020.

National or Regional Member of CIGR which fulfills the responsibilities of CIGR (payment of the membership dues,

for example) can propose to host this significant event by presenting the hosting city.

Please direct the proposal or inquiry to the General Secretariat of CIGR

cigr-gs2014@elam.kais.kyoto-u.ac.jp

## 2. NEWS FROM REGIONAL AND NATIONAL SOCIETIES

### CIGR Corporate Member The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

The Food and Agriculture

Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations. The FAO mandate is to improve nutrition, increase agricultural

productivity, raise the standard of living in rural populations and contribute to global economic growth. Achieving food security for all is at the heart of FAO's efforts – to make sure people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives. The new Strategic Framework of FAO sets three global goals for the FAO, namely:

1. Eradicating hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition
2. Elimination of poverty through economic and social progress for all
3. Sustainable management and utilization of natural resources

The technical programs related to sustainable agricultural mechanization and agro-industries are located in the Agricultural and Consumer Protection Department, more precisely in the Plant production and Protection Division and the Agro-Food Industries Group within the Rural Infrastructure and Agro-industries Division.

FAO's Plant Production and Protection Division (AGP) promotes Sustainable Intensification of Crop Production. This approach requires the integration and harmonization of all appropriate crop production policies and practices aimed at increasing crop productivity in a sustainable manner, thereby working toward the key millennium development goals of reducing hunger and preserving natural resources and the environment for future use. The main focus of the activities of the AGP Division related to sustainable agricultural mechanization are to develop and strengthen:

- Effective and strategic decisions that increase crop production using an ecosystem approach, including strategies for sustainable agricultural mechanization.
- Policies and technologies appropriate to the needs of a country and/or region to reduce the negative impact of pesticides



Mr. Divine Njie; Leader,  
Agri-Food Industry Group, Rural  
Infrastructure and  
Agro-industries Division, FAO



Mr. Josef Kienzle, Agricultural  
Engineer, Plant Production and  
Protection Division, FAO

Over the past decade emphasis was put on supporting member countries in the development of sustainable agricultural mechanization strategies, - mainly in Africa and in part Asia. Thereby it is recognized that farm mechanization is a

crucial input for improving agricultural production. Without farm power and the appropriate tools, implements and machines that can support the production of marketable surpluses, farmers would struggle to emerge from subsistence farming. With increasing demand for food and agricultural products being exerted on the planet's natural capital base, the essential role for sustainable mechanization in production systems development becomes increasingly obvious.

In this context sustainable intensification necessarily means that the protection of natural resources and the production of ecosystem services go hand-in-hand with intensified production practices and methodologies. Thus, farm mechanization becomes an inseparable one part of the implementation of sustainable crop production intensification approaches.

FAO's Agro-Food Industries Group reinforces the capacity of public sector to work with the private sector to develop competitive agro-food industries and augment their contribution to increased productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural sector and rural development through value addition and increased employment. The Group serves as the global reference unit within FAO for knowledge on agro-food industries and value addition. It generates, assembles and provides data and information on the agro-food industry trends and value addition, including diagnostic analysis and benchmarking. Key areas of support of the Agro-Food Industries Group include:

- Appraisal of opportunities to improve value addition and profitability, including potential of agro-food processing technologies and systems;
- Design, selection, operation and management of post-production facilities and services, including investment planning and appraisal;
- Strategies and practices to foster product and process innovation in order to increase value addition, and develop new and differentiated products;

- Improvements in agro-food industry technical and operational efficiency, including through logistics, packaging, and cold stores;
- Food industry quality management systems and technologies, GHP, GMP and HACCP systems;
- Best practices and cost-effective technologies for small and medium-scale agro-processing enterprises for the

handling, processing, preserving, transporting, and marketing of food and other agricultural products;

*Mr. Josef Kienzle  
Agricultural Engineer, Plant Production and Protection  
Division, FAO*

### 3. NEWS FROM SECTIONS AND WORKING GROUPS

#### CIGR Section I: Land and Water Environment

##### Mission statement

The mission statement of CIGR Section I: Land and Water Engineering is:

“... to promote the advance of the engineering science in the area of land and water use in agriculture and in rural areas, giving special attention to the conservation of resources, the preservation and re-establishment of environmental balances, and the social and economic impacts of applications in order to realize sustainable development for both urban and rural societies ...”

##### Objectives

The mission statement of Section I implies a range of objectives that contribute to the promotion of engineering science in land and water use in agriculture. These are:

- Improving the knowledge on processes leading to or affecting the quality of land and water resources;
- Developing and applying technologies for land use planning, including forecasting land use changes, and assessing land use impacts;
- Improving the knowledge of hydrological processes as affected by land use and agricultural practices;
- Enhancing knowledge of water contamination by fertilizers and agro-chemicals, and other agricultural sources, as well as assessing control measures;
- Improving technologies for higher performances in irrigation and drainage;
- Assessing environmental impacts of land and water use in agriculture;
- Developing technologies, standards and monitoring systems for wastewater treatment and reuse, and use of low quality water in agriculture.

##### Scope

Considering the objectives defined as above, the scope of CIGR-Section I refers to the following main subject areas:

- Soil management and soil technologies;
- Soil and water conservation and soil erosion assessment;
- Agricultural and rural watershed hydrology;
- Land use planning and management;
- Rural roads and related supporting infrastructures;
- Irrigation scheduling and on-farm irrigation systems;
- Surface and sub-surface drainage systems;
- Irrigation water supply, conveyance and distribution systems;
- Non-point and point source contamination assessment and control;
- Integrated soil and water use planning;

- Integrated impact assessment of land and water development projects;
- Modern technologies in land and water engineering, including modelling, information systems, remote sensing, decision support and expert systems.

The Section co-operates with three Working Groups:

- the Working Group on “Sustainable Land Use and Landscape Planning”, chaired by Gerrit J. Carsjens;
- the Working Group on “Water Management and Information Systems”, chaired by José Fernando Ortega;
- the Working Group on “Earth Observation for Land and Water Engineering”, chaired by Guido D’Urso.

##### Activities

To achieve the objectives, several activities shall be developed by CIGR-Section I. These comprise:

- Organisation, sponsoring and co-sponsoring of seminars, workshops and conferences;
- oriented to the objectives and scope of CIGR-Section I;
- Co-organisation of thematic special sessions, workshops or seminars on occasions of CIGR congresses;
  - Collaboration in scientific committees of general themes of CIGR Congresses;
  - Contributing to the CIGR Journal, both with papers and paper reviews, as well as to other publications of CIGR;
  - Supporting the specialised working groups of CIGR of which themes fall in the domain of the Section, the respective Chair Persons becoming members of the Section Board;
  - Establishing special relationships with other international societies of which field is common to that of Section I, namely the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage and the European Society for Soil Conservation, of which representatives are ex-officio members of the Board of Section I;
  - Developing relations with the regional Agricultural Engineering Societies for implementing common actions. At present one Vice-President of EurAgEng is ex-officio member of the Board of Section I;
  - Implementing inter-sections activities;
  - Promoting exchanges of scientific information with professionals, such as through the FAO Agricultural Engineering sites.

All activities referred above require improved effectiveness from contributions of the Board members but some need particular inputs from the CIGR Bureau. This is the case for:

- Better clarification of relationships between Congress organizing and scientific committees and the CIGR-Section Boards for more effectively achieving common objectives and improving the quality of Congress papers and publications;

- Re-examining the contributions of CIGR Sections to the CIGR Journal of CIGR, probably considering specialized editorial boards relative to each Section domain, such as for the Transactions of ASABE;
- Providing better information and diffusion of the CIGR Journal of CIGR to increase its circulation and its recognition by the scientific and engineering community;
- Promoting the links of the regional Agricultural Engineering Societies with the CIGR Sections; a representative of each of these societies should become either member or ex-office member of each Section Board for improved co-operation;

### **Inter-Regional Conferences on Land and Water Challenges**

In 2012 the board of CIGR Section I decided to close the Inter-Regional conference on Environment-Water series and to organize a new series with a new name. The umbrella title of the new series is: Inter-Regional conference on Land and Water Challenges.

- 1st Inter-Regional Conference on Land and Water Challenges will be held in Bari, Italy, 10-15 September, 2013.

The next Inter-regional conferences are planned for:

- 2nd Inter-Regional Conference on Land and Water Challenges, as a part of the CIGR World Congress, will be held in China, 2014
- 3rd Inter-Regional Conference on Land and Water Challenges will be held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, 2015.

### **Sponsored and/or Co-sponsored activities**

- CIGR International Conference of Agricultural Engineering CIGR-AgEng2012, Valencia, 8-12 July 2012, Valencia, Spain
- Co-sponsor of the conference on green landscapes in Inner Mongolia
- Forthcoming Sponsored and/or Co-sponsored Conferences
- The first Inter-Regional Conference on Land and Water Challenges, Bari, Italy, 10-14 September 2013

CIGR-FAO Global Network on Agricultural Engineering Activities of the Section I: Land and Water can be joined by participating in the workshops or, by subscribing to the CIGR-FAO Global Network on Agricultural Engineering. This global network is a joint activity of the International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (CIGR) and the Agricultural Engineering Branch (AGSE) of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO). The network consists of six e-mail discussion groups corresponding to the six sections of CIGR.

The e-mail discussion groups of CIGR-FAO-LanWat-L, covers the technical area of the CIGR Section I, "Land and Water Engineering", which is in particular Agricultural Engineering as applied to soil and water management such as: soil protection, improvement and conservation, drainage and irrigation systems; to land improvement and land reclamation, to rural planning and management and to rural roads and infrastructure. Contributions about new activities, workshops, information exchange, Question-and-Answer-Services, etc. are welcome.

If you want to subscribe to the list, send a message to [mailserv@mailserv.fao.org](mailto:mailserv@mailserv.fao.org) leaving the subject blank and entering the one-line message:

SUBSCRIBE CIGR-FAO-LanWat-L.

*Dr. Guanhua Huang  
Chair of CIGR Section I*

## **First CIGR Section I Inter-Regional Conference on Land and Water Challenges**

The 1st CIGR Inter-Regional Conference on Land and Water Challenges, initiated by CIGR Section I Land and Water, was held from 10 until 15 September, 2013, in Bari, Italy. The host organization was the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (MAIB), part of the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM). The title of the conference was: Water, environment and agriculture: Challenges for sustainable development. The objective of the conference was to present and discuss the latest achievements in the field of sustainable use of natural resources at different scales and to promote a better development of agriculture in the future. The conference themes were:

1. Water use performance and water productivity
2. Conservation agriculture and water saving
3. Sustainability of groundwater exploitation for agriculture
4. Decision support systems and modelling tools
5. Innovative data-acquisition and information and communication technologies
6. Irrigation technologies and management practices for environmental upgrading
7. Use of treated and low quality water in agriculture
8. Climate change: adaptation and mitigation
9. Drought/Flood risk management
10. Socio-economic aspects of land and water management
11. Policies, governance and institutional development
12. Water-food-energy nexus, eco-efficiency and ecological footprint

The conference program included 96 oral presentations, 36 poster presentations and 135 full papers, involving 500 authors from almost 50 different countries. In total, 150 people were participating, including some very renowned keynote speakers. The keynote speakers and eight young scientists who contributed to the conference were granted free access to the conference. The editors of the conference proceedings are N. Lamaddalena, M. Todorovic and L.S. Pereira. The proceedings include an abstract book (300 printed copies) and full papers at a memory card and USB stick.

During the conference the CIGR Section I board held its yearly board meeting. An important issue that was discussed were the coming two editions of Inter-Regional conference: in September 2014 in Beijing as a part of the CIGR World Congress and in 2015 in Punta del Este in Uruguay. Other issues on the agenda were the minutes of the board meeting in Valencia 2012, the Report of Section I 2012, the Section I nominations for CIGR Awards and

prices, and the upcoming changes of the Section I board in 2014-2017.

*Dr. Gerrit J. Carsjens*  
Secretary of CIGR Section I

## The Minutes of CIGR Section IV Board Meeting

The Technical Board Meeting of CIGR Section IV “*Energy in Agriculture*” was started at 14:00 and concluded to 15:00 on 17 September 2013 at Agricultural University in Cracow, Faculty of Production and Power Engineering, 116b Balicka Street, 30-199 Cracow, POLAND, room No 100 as a Parallel Session during 34th International Symposium of the Section IV of CIGR, 16-18 September 2013.

### Participants of The Board Meeting

17 September 2013

Cracow - Poland

#### Participants:

President: Prof. Dr. Janusz Piechocki (PL)  
Vice-President: Prof. Dr. R.Cengiz Akdeniz (TR)  
Secretary: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Karoly Petróczki (HU)  
Hon. Chair: Prof. Dr. Zoltan Sibalszky (HU)  
Guests: Prof. Dr. Mikio Umeda (JP),  
Next General Secretary of CIGR (2014-2017)  
Prof. Dr. Tadeusz Juliszewski (PL),  
Member of Scientific Committee,  
Symposium Secretary, Incoming CIGR President  
Prof. Dr. Slawomir Kurpaska (PL),  
Dean, Chairman of the Organizing Committee and the Scientific Committee

1. Prof. Dr. Janusz Piechocki - president greeted the participants and the guest of the board meeting especially Honorary Chairs - Prof. Mikio Umeda and Prof. Sibalszky and next he gave short information about meeting in Prague and informed the participants of the meeting for proposal on the next board members in period 2014-2017:

President: Prof. Dr. R.Cengiz Akdeniz (TR)  
Vice-President: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Karoly Petróczki (HU)  
Secretary: Guangnan Chen (AU)

He informed about Section IV activity in the year 2013:

- Technical Board Meeting of CIGR, Prague, Thursday, 5 September, 2013 from 17:00 to 19:00 at Faculty of Agricultural Engineering, Czech University of Life Sciences (CULS), Prague, Czech Republic (Participants: Prof. Dr. Janusz Piechocki, Prof. Dr. Mikio Umeda).
- Conference on CIGR-Energy and Agriculture and ISPARTEK 2013. Brokerage Event (TR), 14-19 May, 2013. (Participants: Prof. Dr. R.Cengiz Akdeniz, Prof. Dr. Zoltan Sibalszky)
- 34th International Symposium of the Section IV of CIGR 16-18 September 2013. Cracow, Poland
- Synergy 2013. International Conference - Engineering, Agriculture, Waste Management and Green Industry Innovation. Gödöllő, Hungary, 13-19 October, 2013. Szent István University, Faculty of Mechanical

Engineering. III. International Conference of CIGR Hungarian National Committee and Szent István University, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering.

2. Prof. Dr. Slawomir Kurpaska told, that his University and Prague University wanted to organise this kind of Symposium together with Szent István University yearly one after the other in different universities. They started to publish papers of the Symposium on Web of Science. He proposed to join to initiation.
3. Prof. Dr. Tadeusz Juliszewski proposed to negotiate on the Skype, it is a simple, cheap and world-wide available possibility. He told about the activity of CIGR Section V.
4. Prof. Dr. Janusz Piechocki, Prof. Dr. Zoltan Sibalszky, Prof. Dr. Tadeusz Juliszewski, Prof. Dr. R.Cengiz Akdeniz spoke about the activity of the members of the sections. The sections need active members and must involve people from a wider area. What does it mean: active member of the section? Participating on conferences, writing papers, organising conference? Supporting people means active members. Proposals to increase the activity are e-mail and/or Skype activity.
5. Prof. Dr. Janusz Piechocki announced, that the next, 35th conference of IV Section of CIGR will be held in China on the next year during the CIGR Congress. He proposed to present 1 person/year for the CIGR Award.
6. Prof. Dr. Tadeusz Juliszewski expressed his thank for the activity and the experiences.
7. Prof. Dr. Mikio Umeda proposed, that active members are required and to send proposals (ca. 5 members) to Prof. Dr. Janusz Piechocki. The activity of proposed members must be checked by active members of the Board.
8. Prof. Janusz Piechocki closed the meeting.

## 34th International Symposium of the Section IV of CIGR

### “Bioenergy and Other Renewable Energy Technologies and Systems” Cracow (Poland), 16-18 September 2013

This edition of the symposium continued successful exchange of information and experience in bioenergy and renewable technologies from the past symposiums. The new challenges and opportunities made this conference an ideal place to share new ideas and solutions for renewable energy.

The organizers of the conference were: IV Section of CIGR, Faculty of Production and Power Engineering of Agricultural University in Cracow (Poland), Committee of Agricultural Engineering of Polish Academy of Science.

The leading topics covered during this Symposium included:

- carbon tax,
- nuclear energy,
- biomass gasification,
- sustainable energy in agriculture,
- biodiversity of energy plants.

There were 52 participants at the Symposium and 18 persons were from Turkey, USA, Sweden, Hungary, Czech Republic, Latvia and Japan.

Prof. Dr. Slawomir Kurpaska was the Chairman of the Organizing Committee made welcome all participants and formal open of the Symposium made Prof. Dr. Janusz Piechocki – actual Chair of IV Section of CIGR. The short speech was made by Incoming President of CIGR – Prof. Dr. Tadeusz Juliszewski.

There were two plenary sessions, two oral presentation sessions and poster session. There were presented 17 presentations by guests from Ege University - Faculty of Agriculture in Izmir (Turkey), Royal Institute of Technology in Sweden, Kyoto University in Japan, Concordia University of Wisconsin in USA, Szent István University in Gödöllő (Hungary), Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague (Czech Republic), Latvian State Institute of Agrarian Economics, University in Rzeszow (Poland), Agricultural Engineering Institute in Poznan (Poland), University of Agriculture and Biotechnology in Warsaw (Poland), Technical University in Cracow (Poland), and Agricultural University in Cracow (Poland).

Special workshop on bio-energy and bio-fuels and their impact on the global economy was organized during the Symposium. The results of investigations from bioenergy were presented in on-line system by participants from Concordia University of Wisconsin (USA).

The main topics were following:

- Cellulose and non-cellulosic ethanol – costs, benefits and obstacles (technical, policy etc.) to further development;
- Algal capture of CO<sub>2</sub> to produce of biodiesel and other fuels;
- Plant based chemical feedstock and high value precursors;
- Capture of energy from livestock and urban waste (sewerage, compostable household refuse etc.)
- Impact of government policy, legislation and regulations on employing bio renewables.

Participants of the Symposium have visited laboratories of the Faculty of Production and Power Engineering of Agricultural University in Cracow e.g. laboratory of biofuels, laboratory of conventional and renewable energy, laboratory of biogas.

The tour destination last day of the Symposium was the world's largest power plant fired with biomass only, located in Polaniec about 150 km from Cracow.

In addition to the tour, we have booked a sightseeing of an underground museum in Cracow. This was a rare occasion to visit such unique place with many modern features like holograms and sounds.

## Summary of CIGR Working Group Activities

The CIGR Working Groups are important building blocks of the CIGR organisation. In order to further enhance the important role of the WG in CIGR, CIGR Working Groups are encouraged to:

- Increase their visibility and functionality in CIGR;
- Establish more close links with CIGR Sections;
- Sponsor or co-organise relevant CIGR Section Symposiums;

- Organise WG national or international workshops;
- Publish CIGR Booklets/Handbook on WG area of interests;
- Organise Special Issue in your WG area for CIGR Journal; and
- Conduct actively other relevant activities.



A/Prof. Thomas Banhazi

Currently, there are 11 Working Groups in CIGR and their activities are summarised below.

### 1. Earth Observation for Land and Water Engineering Working Group

The International Commission of Agricultural Engineering (CIGR) has decided to start the Working Group on “Earth Observation for Land and Water Engineering” during the XVI World Congress, held in Bonn, Germany, in September 2006. Guido D’Urso, University of Naples Federico II, Dept. Agriculture, was elected as Chairman. The activities of the WG are summarized below:

- Mailing list of potentially interested CIGR member and non-members, regularly updated
- Web site, available at link: [http://digilander.libero.it/WG\\_CIGR\\_EO/index.htm](http://digilander.libero.it/WG_CIGR_EO/index.htm)
- Organisation of an Expert Workshop, Lima, March 13th 2008, with 11 invited presentations ([http://digilander.libero.it/WG\\_CIGR\\_EO/index\\_file/page0003.htm](http://digilander.libero.it/WG_CIGR_EO/index_file/page0003.htm))
- Solicitation of a dedicated session within the Remote Sensing and Hydrology 2010 Symposium, Jackson Hole (WY), in September 2010; but given the limited attendance the session was not organised
- Summer school organization: two different attempts have been made to organize a summer school on the topic of “Remote sensing for Evapotranspiration and Irrigation”, but the limited response from possible participants and the organization costs has determined the failure of the initiative
- Organization of local seminars at the Agriculture Faculty of Naples in 2011 and 2012
- The Working Group has not been active during the past two years not only for other Chair’s commitments, but also because of the limited response of CIGR members to the topic of this WG, which instead finds many interested people in different contexts (hydrological and “purely” remote sensing scientific communities). This point has been confirmed by the limited contributions on remote sensing presented at the recent EFITA Conference (Sustainable Agriculture through ICT innovation) organized by CIGR in Turin in June 2013, to which the Chairman has also participated. A possible action to be taken for a revitalization of the WG could be found in establishing a small group of interested CIGR members to support the activities.

### 2. Animal Housing in Hot Climate Working Group Activities:

Different workshops have been conducted by the Hot Climate Working Group:

- Catania in Italy hosted by Prof. Giovanni Gascone, June 2005;
- Cairo in Egypt hosted by Prof. Mohammed Hatem, April 2007;
- Member meeting was conducted in Iguassu, Brazil in 2008.
- Chongqing in China hosted by Prof. Boaming Li, 2009
- Member meeting was conducted in Valencia, Spain, July, 2012,

The Hot Climate Working Group CIGR Section II is a worldwide group of experts interested solving problems related to managing livestock under hot climate conditions.

Translation of glossary terms on animal housing to other languages.

English language is considered as the international language in science and the Hot Climate WG lead the initiative to develop a glossary of terms related to animal housing and management.

The CIGR-Section II Hot Climate WG has lead and organised a number of interesting workshops all over the world. However, the intention of the WG is to generate project opportunities based on funding available in countries that are faced with hot climate problem. The group might create visibility in the EU, America (North and South) and China to submit proposals for funding and generate some focused research to find implementable solutions.

### 3. Rural Development and the Preservation of Cultural Heritages Working Group

- During 2011, the WG made a test enquiry concept titled "Agricultural and bio-systems engineering as a factor of rural development and the preservation of cultural heritages". Enquiry was planned to carry out with AgEng colleagues in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Turkey.
- Results were presented at 40th International symposium "Actual tasks on Agricultural Engineering", 21–24 February 2012 and printed in Proceedings as a paper titled "Rural areas and agricultural engineering"
- Further activity is sending proposed forms of this enquiry to Secretary General for approval and after suggestions and corrections initiate new enquiry with wider range of European countries.

### 4. Cattle Housing Working Group

In June 2012 the CIGR Section II, Working Group n 14 "Cattle Housing" has met at the University of Bologna (Italy) from 4 to 7 June. For 2 days the WG members had technical discussions and during 1 day a technical tour : visit of 3 commercial dairy farms and of the University of Bologna Research Centre for dairy cows. During the meeting it was decided that due to the retirement of Josi Flaba (who was the President of the group since 1999):

- Joop Lensink (France) will be the new President
- Heiko Georg (Germany) will act as Vice President
- Suzy Van Gansbeke (Belgium) will be the Belgian representative within the group
- Paolo Liberaty (Italy) will attend the next meetings and he will replace Paolo Zappavigna

- Bob Graves (USA) will leave the group in the near future and he will propose a new representative from USA

The next meeting will take place in Ireland in 2014, week 29, from 15 to 18 June

In 2015, the meeting will be organized in Sweden and Michael Ventorp is going to leave the group this year.

### 5. Water Management & Information Systems Working Group

The WG met in Quebec, Canada, on the occasion of the 13th Inter-Regional Conference on Land, Water and Environment (EnviroWater 2010) in conjunction with the XVIIth World Congress of CIGR, on 13 June, 2010. It was decided that the WG would be chaired from January 2011 by Dr. José Fernando Ortega Alvarez. Therefore, discussions on further activities and relationship with and Land Use and Landscape Planning WG (chaired by Hubert van Lier) should be postponed to the next meeting. The WG will focus on the following activities:

- To help and contribute to the EnviroWater Conferences sponsored by CIGR Section I. It was stated that in this era of collaborative planning and design, the integrated topics of land and water use planning and supporting information systems should be a repeating theme in all future EnviroWater conferences.
- The WG members should use their networks to identify relevant scientists and practitioners working in these areas, and that should be invited to participate in the EnviroWater conferences.
- A general objective of the WG will be to identify knowledge gaps in these areas.
- Licensing was suggested as a potential tool to strengthen the position of the CIGR Section II board and the WG.
- To create an internet forum to discuss on these themes.
- The WG will discuss and evaluate its Mission Statement, Objectives and Scope during the next Meeting.
- The WG will organize an evaluation and discussion session at the end of each EnviroWater conference to identify interesting new research and conference themes.

Prof. Antonio Brasa Ramos has finished his 4 years term as the WG Chair and Dr. Jose Fernando Ortega Alvarez has replaced him to become the Chair from January 2011.

### 6. Agricultural Engineering University Curricula Harmonization Working Group

In 2010 the activities of the WG were carried out through ERABEE (Education and Research in Biosystems Engineering in Europe) Thematic Network (<http://www.erabee.aua.gr>). This network was established in 2007 by the same partners of USAEE-TN (University Studies of Agricultural Engineering in Europe) and others, in order to develop the results achieved by this network. ERABEE-TN comprises 35 institutions of 27 Erasmus Countries, of which are 33 Higher Education Area institutions and 2 Student Associations, and is co-funded by the EU, under the umbrella of Lifelong Learning Programme. The main objectives of ERABEE-TN project are to:

- promote the critical and inevitable transition from the traditional Agricultural Engineering discipline to the emerging Biosystems Engineering one;

- enhance compatibility between the new European study programmes in Biosystems Engineering, in order to promote their recognition and accreditation at European and international level, in line with EUR-ACE;
- improve the image of the European study programmes in Biosystems Engineering;
- promote the mobility of skilled personnel, professors, researchers and students.

The Working Group 4 of ERABEE-TN also developed a web database of the European study programmes in Biosystems Engineering, established in the framework of USAEE-TN, so that it will be continuously updated (<http://sunfire.aua.gr:8080/ects/Welcome.do>). During the 3-year lifetime of the ERABEE project (01/10/2007-30/09/2010) some remarkable developments in the emerging field of Biosystems Engineering have taken place with the establishment of new study programmes in Biosystems Engineering in Europe.

Based on the previous experience carried out within USAEE-TN, ERABEE-TN partners have developed accreditation criteria for the Bachelor's study programmes in Biosystems or Agricultural and Biological Engineering. During the ERABEE project EurAgEng (European Association of Agricultural Engineers) has included, within its objectives, the promotion of the profession of "Biosystems Engineering" at the same level as that of "Agricultural Engineering", so that now it includes the following areas in the professional activity of Agricultural/Biosystems Engineers: Power Systems and Machinery; Information and Electronics; Safety and Ergonomics; Energy; Natural Resources; Greenhouse and Nursery; Structures and Physical Environment.

On the other side of the Atlantic, in the US, ASABE (American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers) includes the following areas: Biological Engineering; Natural Resources; Power Systems and Machinery Design; Structures and Environment; Food and Bioprocess; Information and Electrical Technologies; Forest Engineering; Energy; Aquaculture Engineering; Nursery & Greenhouse Engineering; Safety and Health. However, although the concepts of Biosystems or Agricultural/Biological disciplines are very similar in Europe and US, significant differences remain. Therefore co-ordinated networking activities such as those carried out by ERABEE-TN are very important, in order to harmonise criteria and to promote the international recognition of the study programmes in Agricultural/Biosystems Engineering and the mobility of skilled personnel, professors, researchers and students. Currently the activities of ERABEE-TN are continuing through the ERABEE Network, established by the partner institutions of this TN.

## **7. Rural Landscape Protection and Valorisation Working Group**

Landscape is about the relationship between people and land. Human impact on the land has changed the landscape. In the past, the rural landscape has been mostly influenced by farmers and landowners. In these days, the landscape has more urban influences. The rural cultural landscape which is a product of environmental conditions and land use is vanishing. Rural landscape protection and valorization are needed. The Rural landscape protection

and valorization should integrate natural conservation, farmland retention, historic preservation and so on. The Rural landscape protection and valorization should be linked to the social and economic needs of the people on the land. The Rural landscape protection and valorization should be sustainable. The mission of this working group is having intensive discussions on the question how research might support rural landscape protection and valorization. The common understanding that can be shared and generalize the issue of the development of future rural landscapes is expected.

### **Objectives**

The objectives of this working group are to promote rural landscape protection, to lead the cultural diversity in rural landscape and to valorize rural landscape. To organize international co-operation on rural landscape issues is also envisaged.

### **Scope**

This working group concerns ordinary rural landscapes as well as outstanding rural landscapes.

## **8. Image Analysis for Agricultural Processes and Products Working Group**

### **Objectives**

- To meet recent demands on process monitoring in agricultural production, during storage and processing of raw material
- To develop objective, sensitive, and reliable optical tools for receiving analytical data in a non-destructive way.

### **Expected outcomes**

- Capture the state-of-the-art of image analyses applications in agronomy
- Enhance collaboration between industry and academia
- Publication of an outline of recent trends and future needs of industry, including the proceedings of the workshops on the internet
- Promote a list of useful references and links (with key words) for WG members
- Propose gold standards and methods for imaging and spectral calibration

The major event organized by the WG in 2012 was the 4th International Workshop on Computer Image Analysis in Agriculture. The workshop was held in Valencia, Spain, on 9-11 July 2012 sponsored by CIGR, EurAgEng, ASABE, SEA, Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias (IVIA, Spain), Leibniz-Institut für Agrartechnik Potsdam Bornim (ATB, Germany) and University of Southern Queensland (USQI, Australia).

Communications are available through the WG homepage (<http://www.atb-potsdam.de/CIGR-ImageAnalysis>). During the assembly and conclusions of the workshop it was reported that the WG has around 150 registered members from 12 countries and 4 continents, and the participation in CIGR Congress in Quebec was encouraged. Dr. Jose Blasco of Spain was elected coordinator of CIGR Working Group on Image Analysis for Agricultural Products and Processes, provides a new governance committee including Bosoon Park, who was invited to host the next Workshop, this being in Montreal (Canada), together with the conference of the ASABE. This has been recently approved by the Meeting Council of ASABE and therefore the V



Workshop will be held in Montreal during 12-13 July 2014 (<http://www2.atb-potsdam.de/cigr-imageanalysis/workshop14.htm>).

As a result of the 4th workshop in Valencia, selected contributions were invited to expand their work and to present them to a Special Issue of Biosystems Engineering on Image processing in Agriculture. This issue is currently under edition and it expected to be published in 2013 with about 11 to 13 articles authored by members of the WG.

### 9. Food Safety Working Group

FSWG was formally launched during the CIGR World Congress in June 2010 in Quebec City, Canada. CIGR Working Groups are appointed by the Executive Board to carry out studies on specific subjects of international importance and interest.

#### Mission Statements

- Improve understanding of hazards and their risks at different steps in the food chain, i.e. creating the knowledge base needed to support the rational application of control measures and the development of new methods, monitoring and management systems related to the incidence and prevention of risk and hazards in foods;
- Improve the knowledge to strengthen the food chain, e.g. the development and improvement of systems and technologies (emerging preservation technologies and optimization of traditional ones) for continuously improving the safe production and supply of foods;
- Understand the human factor, i.e. consumer perception of risks and the need for communication between industry, government and academic organizations.

#### Aims and Objectives

The general objective of FSWG is to identify researchers specialized in all the fields related to Food Safety, aiming at presenting new achievements and trends in the Area, as well as identifying necessities and opportunities of joint research for providing scientific information and technical advances in order to satisfy the demands and necessities of consumers and manufactures' along the food chains worldwide.

1. Gathering, generating and disseminating information on predicting and monitoring the behaviour and fate of emerging biological and chemical hazard;
2. Divulging advances on risk assessment and risk-benefit evaluation;
3. Disseminating information on tools, preservation practices and processes to ensure safety along the food chain;
4. Understanding and addressing consumer concerns with food safety issues.

#### Expected outcomes

- Description of the microorganisms responsible to the various environmental stimuli and stresses in food matrices; prediction of the effects and eventual consequences that the microorganisms might have on resistance and persistence;
- Description of the behaviour and virulence traits of food-borne pathogens and the mechanisms of emergence;

- Description of chemical contaminants in foods and identification of strategies for their reduction; generating and interpreting data on the fate of chemicals in the food chain and improving exposure assessments for key potential hazards, including the migration of chemicals from packaging materials into food;
- Description of measures to avoid biological and chemical contamination in agricultural production and to reduce formation of heat-induced contaminants by application of novel food preservation technologies;
- Identification of the needs for development and validation of quantitative risk assessment tools and models based on the generated data for those areas with the biggest impacts on reducing food-borne illnesses; refinement of data required for risk assessment of food allergens and tools to analyze such data;
- Information on processing technologies for reduction or elimination of hazards at the level of primary production, novel and traditional technologies for reduction or removal of chemical and biological hazards during processing;
- Knowledge of methodologies for tracking and tracing of microbes, contaminants and allergens;
- Logistic approaches for strengthening safe distribution of foods, including abuse detection and approaches for the prevention of food adulteration and bioterrorism;
- Identification and quantification of determinants of consumer trust and confidence in the food provision system for an understanding of consumer confidence and its changes over time (monitoring);
- Understanding consumers' perception of risk issues, particularly in the context of risk benefit trade-offs and the amplification of risk perceptions beyond the available scientific evidence;
- State of the art on information for an effective consumer communication strategies and messages on risk-related issues.

#### Working-Areas

- Biological Hazards
- Abiotic Hazards
- Developing and Technological Innovation
- Food Preservation
- Food Biotechnology
- Predictive Microbiology
- Risk Assessment
- Novel Foods and Risk Assessment

#### 2012 activities

Hosted by the Institute of Agrochemistry and Food Technology (Spanish Council of Scientific Research) the second edition of Food Safety Workshop was held in Valencia at 5-6 July. The event was organized by Food Safety Working Group of the CIGR in partnership with the Spanish Network for Food Security (SICURA).

Other joint ACTIVITY carried out during 2012 was related with a seminar on antibiotics in the food chain and resistances. This seminar was held in Zaragoza, Spain and was expensored by SICURA network.

**2013 activities**

This Year ACTIVITIES have been focused on the development of two joint seminars (SICURA and CIRG-FSWG). The first was an international seminar on quantitative microbiological risk assessment held in Cordoba, Spain and the second seminar dealt with the Listeria in meats and meat products. This last seminar was held in Girona, Spain.

Additionally the working group met regularly by video conferences in order to organise the third workshop on food safety and proceed to the preparation of his own web site.

**10. Logistics Working Group**

Logistic plays an important role in today agriculture, facing new challenges (GMO crops, Globalisation, Traceability, Local produce distribution, High capacity harvesting equipments, Increase in food quality concerns, Environmental impact, etc.) and new opportunities (biomass and bioenergy supply-chains, GPS technologies on tractors and trucks, e-commerce, new methods from operation research and industry, information technology, etc.). Some logistic techniques are available from industry domain, however there is a need for adaptation (handling and storage of perishable produce, seasonal production and demand, timeliness constraints, food safety constraints on transportation) and some methodologies should be implemented ex-novo.

**Objectives**

- To meet recent demands on machinery management in complex agricultural operations related to harvest, distribution and transport of produce (grain, biomass, slurry)
- To share the state-of-the art technology for the optimal management of on-farm, extra-farm and regional logistic operations
- To develop methods and tools to improve the efficiency of the logistic operations
- To set-up standard parameter for comparison of logistic operations
- To optimize, with a system approach, the performance of the working chains, under many viewpoints, considering technical, economic and environmental aspects.

**Expected outcomes**

- To organize within CIGR specific workshops on the topic
- To interact with other CIGR Working Groups and Sections
- To provide reports on state-of-the-art of the topics
- To develop a network among the people working on logistic topics within CIGR
- To Cooperate with CIGR Journal with papers on the topic and with a pool of expert reviewers for the subject

- To promote the activity among industry researchers and agriculture extension services specialists
- To develop contacts with similar international organizations

**11. Precision Aerial Application Working Group****Mission**

The mission of the Precision Aerial Application Working Group is to develop and implement new and improved precision aerial application equipment for safe, efficient, and sustainable crop production and protection.

**Objectives**

The overall objective of this group is to provide precision aerial application solutions for aerial applicators using cutting edge technologies. The first variable-rate aerial application system was developed about a decade ago in the USA and since then, precision aerial application has benefitted from these technologies. Many areas around the world rely on readily available agricultural airplanes or helicopters for pest management, and variable-rate aerial application provides a way of making effective and precise application of agrochemicals. In the context of precision aerial application, variable-rate control can simply mean terminating spray over field areas that do not require inputs, terminating spray near pre-defined buffer areas determined by Global Positioning, or applying multiple rates to meet the variable needs of the crop. Prescription maps for precision aerial application are developed using remote sensing, Global Positioning, and Geographic Information System technologies. Precision aerial application technology has the potential to benefit the agricultural aviation industry by saving operators and farmers time and money.

**Expected Outcome**

As the first International Precision Aerial Application Group, this new CIGR working group will serve as a valuable resource to the aerial application community. By coordinating research projects across multiple institutions, the role and impact of precision application will increase in aerial application situations.

**The first major event organized by the WG**

3rd International Workshop on Modern Agricultural Aviation in Nanjing, China on 10-11 November 2011.

**The second major event organized by the WG**

"The 3rd International Symposium on Precision Aerial Application" held in College Station, Texas 1-3 August, 2012.

*A/Prof. Thomas Banhazi  
CIGR Working Group Coordinator*

## 4. CIGR SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

### **XI Latin American and Caribbean Congress of Agricultural Engineering- CLIA 2014**

**6-10 October 2014, Cancún, México**

**<http://www.chapingo.mx/dima/clia2014/>**

The Latin American and Caribbean Association of Agricultural Engineering (ALIA), the Autonomus Chapingo University (UACH) and the Mexican Association of Agricultural Engineers (AMIA), are pleased to invite you to the XI Latin American and Caribbean Congress of

Agricultural Engineering (CLIA), to be held in Cancún, México, 6-10 October, 2014.

CLIA 2014 is aimed to researchers, academics, engineers, manufacturers, service providers in areas of agricultural and biological engineering, to promote the exchange of knowledge and new engineering solutions in agriculture, livestock and forestry to improve the quality of life of farmers and food producers, with sustainable systems that protect the environment.

#### Congress Venue

The congress will be held in Cancún, Quintana Roo, México. Cancun is located in the "Riviera Maya" region, with a very interesting archeological zone. The maximum temperature in October is 30°C, with a minimum of 22°C.

#### Language

The official language of the Congress is Spanish. Papers could be presented in Spanish, Portuguese and English.

#### Technical areas

1. Agricultural Machinery and Mechanization
2. Land and Water Engineering
3. Postharvest Technology and Process Engineering
4. Farm Buildings, Equipment, Structures and Environment
5. Biosystem Engineering and Energy
6. Information Systems, Automation and Precision Farming
7. Agricultural Engineering Education
8. Rural Development

#### Call for papers

Abstracts in Spanish, Portuguese or English not exceeding 200 words should be submitted by e-mail. Detailed instructions for submission will be published on the web site of the congress

#### Registration fees in US\$

	By 1 Aug. 2014	Until 1 Sept. 2014	On-site Registration
Members:	400	450	500
Non Members:	450	500	550
Students:	100	150	200

#### Social Events/ tours

Tourism activities will be organized through a specific office located in congress's hotel "Oasis Cancun"

#### Accommodations

We will book rooms at the hotels in Cancun: please visit our website

#### Important dates

Abstract submission opens	1 Dec. 2013
Abstract submission deadline	30 April 2014
Notification of acceptance	15 May 2014
Full paper submission	30 June 2014

#### Contact

Dr. Gilberto López, e-mail: alelopez10@hotmail.com

Dr. Samuel García, e-mail: samuelmx57@yahoo.com

Updated information about CLIA 2014:

[www.chapingo.mx/dima/clia2014/](http://www.chapingo.mx/dima/clia2014/)

## 5. PUBLICATIONS

### The CIGR Journal

#### Agricultural Engineering International

Prof. Lanfang Zhang, Editor-in-Chief

ISSN 1682-1130

Submit manuscripts for peer review to  
[www.CIGRjournal.org](http://www.CIGRjournal.org)

Since the implementation of Open Journal System (OJS) by the CIGR Journal, the numbers of manuscript submissions and registered users continues to increase. The table below shows the statistics of the CIGR Journal from 1 June 2013 to 30 September 2013 using OJS. With the increasing number of submissions, improving the quality of the papers to be published is the primary goal of the Journal. Authors, reviewers and Section Editors are the keys to upgrade the quality of CIGR Journal.

From 1 June 2013 to 30 September 2013, in total 94 manuscripts have been submitted, nearly 24 submissions per month on average. The average time to complete the reviewing process and publish a manuscript is more than 90 days. Among the 94 new submissions, 16.0% have been peer reviewed and 29.8% are in the review process with reviewers' comments. More new submissions were accepted by the Section Editors, accounting for 7.4% of the total submissions. Of 13 in editing manuscripts, 6 were submitted before 1 June 2013 as the editorial process normally lasts for more than 60 days. Some Section Editors need to make decisions based on reviewers' comments or assign the

manuscripts to more reviewers in order to speed up the editorial process. It is also notable that more newly submitted manuscripts were archived before peer reviewing



Prof. Lanfang Zhang

by the Editor-in-Chief, because of their incompatibility with the author's guideline, English level and duplication. It is Editor-in-Chief's responsibility to filter unqualified manuscripts, sustain and improve the quality of CIGR Journal. Two issues of CIGR Journal, Vol. 15, No. 2 and No. 3 with 61 manuscripts, were published at the end of June and September 2013. The Editorial

Team of CIGR Journal will continue its endeavor of maintaining the manuscript statistics and prompt communications with all the Section Editors.

By 9 October 2013, the total number of registered users in CIGR Journal through OJS reached 8526 with 201 new users compared to the statistics accounted last time on May 31st, 2013. Registered readers were 7614 with 105 new, and 1682 were registered as reviewers with 120 new compared to the database at the end of May, 2013. Also, owing to the incomplete registration information, particularly without clearly indicating the review areas of the reviewers, it is hard for the Section Editors to select proper reviewers. The CIGR Journal warmly welcomes the participation of its members as well as the scientists and engineers engaged in

agricultural and biosystems engineering worldwide. I appreciate your volunteer work and support for CIGR Journal as authors and reviewers. If you have not registered in CIGR Journal, please do so by going to the website and registering as an author and reviewer.

Right now, 171 manuscripts are being handled by CIGR Journal, of them 13 papers were accepted and are in editing, the rest are still in process--under review or revision.

Thank you!

*Prof. ZHANG Lanfang*  
*Editor-in-Chief of CIGR Journal*

### 2013 Statistics for the CIGR Journal (1 June 2013 –30 September 2013)

Issues (Vol.15, No.2, No.3, 2013)	Published 2 (Vol.15, No.2; Vol.15, No.3)
Items (Research papers)	31 in Vol.15, No.2 30 in Vol.15, No.3
Total new submissions	94
Peer reviewed	15 (16.0%)
Held by Section Editors	20 (21.3%)
In review with some review comments	28 (29.8%)
In review without review comments	26 (27.7%)
Accepted as new submissions	6 (6.4%)
Declined as new submissions	30 (31.9 %)
Resubmitted	18
Days from submission to complete review	Over 80
Days from submission to publication	Over 100

Note: Percentages for peer-reviewed submissions sometimes may not add up to 100% as items resubmitted are either accepted, declined or still in the process of review.

<b>CIGR Section Boards</b> (2011-2014 )	
<b>Section I:</b> <i>Land and Water</i>	(Chair: Guanhua Huang [China])
<b>Section II:</b> <i>Structures and Environment</i>	(Chair: Thomas Banhazi [Australia])
<b>Section III:</b> <i>Plant Production</i>	(Chair: John K. Schueller [USA])
<b>Section IV:</b> <i>Energy in Agriculture</i>	(Chair: Janusz Piechocki [Poland])
<b>Section V:</b> <i>System Management</i>	(Chair: Claus Gron Soerensen [Denmark])
<b>Section VI:</b> <i>Bioprocesses</i>	(Chair: Linus Opara [South Africa])
<b>Section VII:</b> <i>Information Technology</i>	(Chair: Seishi Ninomiya [Japan])

**All correspondence and information on forthcoming activities should be sent to:**

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