



## Press Release

Geneva, 28 March 2018

### **INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS (FIDIC) APPOINTS DR NELSON OGUNSHAKIN OBE AS NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**FIDIC has appointed Dr Nelson Ogunshakin OBE**, currently the President and Chief Executive Officer of **Association for Consultancy and Engineering in the UK**, as its new Chief Executive Officer after a year-long extensive search to find a successor for current Managing Director, **Enrico Vink** who will be retiring later this year.

**FIDIC**, the International Federation of Consulting Engineers, represents the global consulting engineering industry, responsible for promoting the business interests of global firms supplying technology-based intellectual services for the built and natural environment. FIDIC represents 104 member associations (MAs) across the globe.

**Dr Nelson Ogunshakin OBE** is a professional chartered engineer, an accomplished consulting engineering businessman and a lobbyist with more than 35 years of working experience gained in the UK and global arena. He was responsible for the transformation and repositioning of the **ACE** to be a leading business association representing the interests of over 450 consultancy and engineering companies employing over 90,000 professionals with annual turnover close to £90 billion.

Prior to his current role, Nelson had over 18 years of professional consultancy and eight years of contracting experience working with major players across the global market. He is currently a board member of Transport for London (TfL), UK with an annual turnover of £10.5 billion and Professor of Infrastructure Investment at Aston University in the UK. He was awarded Officer of the Order of British Empire (OBE) by the Queen in 2010 for his outstanding contribution to the UK consultancy and engineering industry.

*Current **President of FIDIC and Co-Chairman of Artelia of France, Alain Bentéjac** said: "The global consulting engineering industry is experiencing unprecedented major structural changes combined with emerging market drivers. FIDIC's Executive Committee and I are extremely delighted to have secured Dr Nelson Ogunshakin OBE, someone who is of high calibre and professionally qualified to drive forward FIDIC's vision for the industry.*

*"Nelson has successfully positioned ACE at the top table in the UK where it has been able to influence government, investor, developer and stakeholder decisions on infrastructure, ensuring a sustainable future for our industry.*

*"Nelson brings the combined blend of leadership, professional qualifications, collaborative and influencing skills, political astuteness, commercial and cultural agility, and organisation capabilities required to effect the changes urgently required within FIDIC. We recognised the significant contribution made by Nelson to the development of ACE and we are pleased to have the full support of the ACE Board towards Nelson move into his new role within FIDIC later this year.*



*“The entire FIDIC Executive Committee (Board) are looking forward, with eagerness, to work with Nelson and achieve a similar transformation within FIDIC to secure our future strategic goals and objectives.”*

**Dr Nelson Ogunshakin OBE** said:

*“FIDIC is a well-established global brand with diverse expectations from its stakeholders and urgently needs to respond to the emerging challenges facing the global consulting engineering industry.*

*“Our industry is currently faced with the challenges associated with the emergence of China’s economy, price volatility in the oil and energy markets, urbanization of cities, embracing digital technological innovation, market consolidation and blurring of boundaries and growing economic and political instability across the globe.*

*“My priority, as a change agent, will be to take a root and branch review of FIDIC’s activities, initially focusing on its core activities and deliver them very well. In the medium to long term, I will work with the Executive Committee to establish appropriate strategic objectives, effective governance structures, services proposition, closer membership engagement and the implementation of operational efficiencies to ensure we are responsive to the ever-changing market dynamics.*

*“I look forward to working with the FIDIC Executive Committee, Member Associations and wider stakeholders to ensure we re-engineer FIDIC’s mode of operandi to be fit for the future”.*

While FIDIC’s remit is global, Dr Nelson Ogunshakin OBE will operate from Geneva, Switzerland and have full responsibilities for all existing and newly formed strategic regional business units. Outgoing managing director Enrico Vink will officially step down later in the year and has committed to be adviser to the organisation during the transition, after his retirement.





## ANNEXE

### Notes to editors:

#### About FIDIC



**FIDIC, the International Federation of Consulting Engineers**, represents globally the consulting engineering industry. As such, the Federation promotes the business interests of firms supplying technology-based intellectual services for the built and natural environment. The FIDIC acronym stands for the French version of the name -Fédération Internationale des Ingénieurs-Conseils, established in 1913.

FIDIC represents the business interests of global professional consultancies and engineering companies operating in the social and economic infrastructure sectors. It has around 104 member associations across the globe.

More information available at [www.fidic.org](http://www.fidic.org)

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**Summary of Dr Nelson Ogunshakin OBE's Professional Qualifications and achievements during his tenure as chief executive of the Association for Consultancy and Engineering (ACE)**

#### Professional Qualifications

- **Royal Academy of Engineering Visiting Professor** of Infrastructure Investment at Aston University (2017)
- **DSc in Engineering and Science** – Aston University, Birmingham (2011)
- **Liveryman of Worshipful Company of the Constructors** of City of London (2010).
- **CMCIM** - Companion member of Chartered Institute of Management (2008)
- **Accredited Mediator** of the Centre for Dispute Resolution (CEDR) London (2006)
- **FICE** - Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers (2001)
- **MCI Arb** -Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (1996)
- **MCIM** –Member of the Chartered Institute of Marketing (1996)
- **MloD** – Member of the Institute of Directors (1995)
- **MBA Degree in Strategic management & Project Finance** at Aston Business School (1995);
- **CEng** – Chartered Engineer (1991)
- **MSc (Eng.)** in construction & project management – University of Birmingham (1988)
- **BSc (Hons)** Civil Engineering

#### Achievements during his tenure as chief executive of ACE

- Delivered a **strategic turnaround repositioning ACE**, while increasing turnover by 80% through membership acquisition and diversification into supplementary services.



- Designed, developed and delivered the **European CEO and CIO conferences** with over 100 CEOs/Chairmen/CIOs in attendance. Focusing on global market dynamics, corporate strategic plans, M&A, corporate operational, and financial performance, as well as the results of the **cross-industry benchmarking** programme. Delivered successful one-off events, the **FIDIC Global Infrastructure London 2009** and **ACE's Centenary Anniversary** in 2013.
- **Diversification** – Masterminded the acquisition and subsequent integration of the **Environmental Industry Commission (EIC)** into ACE. Oversaw the establishment of **Victoria Street Capital Limited**, the commercial arm of ACE. This included the development and roll out of industry magazine, **Infrastructure Intelligence** in 2013/14.
- **Co-chaired the National Infrastructure Plan Strategic Engagement Forum (NIPSEF)**, a stakeholder group responsible for working with HM Treasury to develop the UK's national infrastructure plans. Also developed behavioural change project, **Chartered**, which measured all Government departments on delivering value for money on infrastructure and construction capital projects.
- **Dubai crisis** – Played a significant role in the high-level strategic negotiations of £500 million sovereign debt management between **Nakheel Group** of Dubai and several UK consultancies and construction companies in the supply chain. This resulted in a syndicated high-profile bank settlement made up of 40% cash and 60% the issue of a five-year bond with 10% annual premium.
- **Advocacy** – Successfully lobbied Government departments and private and public-sector clients to create a better business environment for companies operating in the UK engineering and built and natural environment sector. Achieved strong market recognition for ACE in the UK and in the international construction and engineering arena.

#### Personal achievements:

- **Recognition** – Awarded an “**Officer of The Order of British Empire (OBE)**” by **HRM The Queen** in her Birthday honours for his contribution to the engineering and construction industry in June 2010, voted one of the top 100 Black influential business leaders in the UK and awarded an honorary doctorate of science & engineering by Aston University in 2011.
- **Non-executive appointments** – Appointed in 2015 as chair of the Investment Committee of the \$250 million **ARM-Harith** Infrastructure Investment Fund and Board member & Deputy Chairman of Programme and Investment Committee at **Transport for London (TfL)** with annual operating and investment budget of £10.3 billion.

