

CHARTER

1 Definition of Liaison Committee

The Liaison Committee is a body for contact between, and concertation of the activities of, the International Associations of Civil Engineering and Building. It brings together the Presidents and Secretaries of the Members Associations, or their representatives¹.

The possibility of Corresponding Associations exists.

2 Aims

The Liaison Committee aims:

- to promote the co-ordination of the Members' activities to achieve optimum efficiency;
- to arrange relevant joint activities, including joint Committees, Working Parties, and Task Groups;
- to ensure effective cover of the various fields of interest of each Association without unnecessary duplication;
- to harmonise its Members various activities and publications to achieve a greater impact and more awareness of the role of the Member Associations, and the work of their individual members, and thus, their significance to society.

3 Modus Operandi

The Liaison Committee has a formal meeting once a year, conducting the majority of its work through correspondence and direct contact between its Secretariat and those of the Member Associations. Special meetings are convened as necessary.

It is responsible for:

- (i) approving the overall Calendar of events - Congresses, Symposia, Colloquia, Workshops and other meetings - proposed by the Member Associations; it arranges for the publication and dissemination of this generally and through its Members. Advance consideration of the Calendar of Events affords the opportunity for arranging more jointly sponsored and co-ordinated events;

Adequate advance warning will be facilitated by the provision of a joint Calendar every three months to assist in planning. For major events, such as Congresses, at least four years advance warning is necessary;

- (ii) identifying topics or projects suitable for joint action and setting-up and supporting joint Task Groups or Working Parties as necessary;
- (iii) facilitating the exchange of publications between Member Associations and the provision of relevant news items for both internal and external distribution;

¹ The current Member Associations are CIB, ECCS, **fib**, IABSE, IASS, RILEM
Edition 2002 of the Liaison Committee Charter originally signed 1993 by CEB, CIB, ECCS, FIP, IABSE
and RILEM. This edition became necessary after CEB and FIP had merged into **fib**. No changes in text,
but now signed in November 2002 by CIB, ECCS, **fib**, IABSE, IASS and RILEM

- (iv) establishing and promoting contacts with regional and international groups, in both the technical and political sense, which affect, or impinge on, its Members' work; this should aid the better directing of the overall activities;
- (v) from time to time, setting up review procedures in developing areas to assist in distributing tasks between the various Member Associations. This is obviously a joint activity, of limited duration and with specific objectives.

The Liaison Committee operates on a consensus basis.*

The Liaison Committee aims in its work to minimise the operating costs of the Member Associations by considering the feasibility of more effective collaboration, for example in publishing.


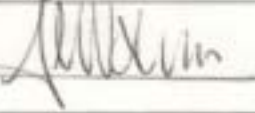

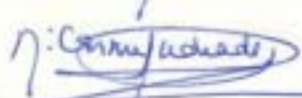
New Members and Corresponding Associations are admitted if approved by the Liaison Committee.

4 Chairman and Secretariat

The Chairman should, on appointment, be an incumbent President of one of the Member Associations with successive Chairmen being from the various Member Associations in sequence; the term of appointment is for 2 years and is not renewable.

The Secretariat is provided by one of the Member Associations, normally by the Secretary or Secretary-General of that body, on the nomination of the Liaison Committee. The term of office is for two years and is renewable.

Lausanne, 29 November 2002

Association	Represented by	Function	Signature
CIB	Wim Bakens	Secretary General	
ECCS	Allan F. Collins	Chairman of the Board	
<i>fib</i>	Joost Walraven	Immediate Past-President	
IABSE	Manabu Ito	President	
IASS	Rafael Astudillo	Vice-President	
RILEM	Carmen Andrade	President	

* *Footnote:* ISO gives the following definition of consensus. "General agreement, characterised by the absence of sustained opposition to substantial issues by any important part of the concerned interests and by a process that involves seeking to take into account the views of all parties concerned and to reconcile any conflicting arguments. *Note - Consensus need not imply unanimity*".