

ANNUAL REPORT

Governance

Annual Report of Title: Chairman of CIGRE SANC for

the year 2018-19

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document is an annual report compiled by the Chairman of CIGRE Southern Africa National Committee (CIGRE SANC) covering the year 2018-19.

CIGRE SANC, based in Johannesburg, South Africa, is part of the international CIGRE body, which is headquartered in Paris, France. CIGRE focuses on the sharing of information on best practices in the field of electricity generation, transmission and distribution. Its 9000 members come from more than 60 countries across the world.

1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions applicable to this document are provided in the table below.

Definition	Description	
Paris Sessions	The biennial CIGRE international conference and exhibition that is held in Paris, France	
Study Committee (SC)	A Study Committee is a permanent structure of CIGRE, governed by precise operating rules and active in a specific technical domain, that guides and oversees work done by its sub-structures such as Working Groups	
Working Group (WG)	A Working Group is part of a Study Committee set up to perform studies in line with its terms of reference and within a given timeframe	

1.2 ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations used in the document are explained in the table below.

Abbreviation	Description	
RAG	A Regional Activity Group is a local committee of experts in a specific technical domain that mirrors the activities of a Study Committee while taking the local context into account	
SAIEE	South African Institute of Electrical Engineers	
SAUPEC	Southern African Universities' Power and Energy Conference	

2. PARIS OFFICE ACTIVITY

Our interactions with the Paris office in 2018 centred around finalisation of technical papers and contributions for the 47th Paris Session. In addition, we had the regular interaction around the collection of fees and remittance. This is one area that requires closer attention so that we meet the end-of March deadline to avoid membership being suspended.

The NC also arranged Young Member and Woman in Engineering participation, where our representatives Khayakazi Dioka (A2), Sharon Mushaba (B2), Zoe Lincoln (C6) and Nduduzo Biyela (D2) were shining stars.

A new arrangement in 2018 was the introduction of Additional Member for SCs. SA NC was able to submit candidates for all SCs, which resulted in 10 out of 16 being accepted. This is a key milestone and should increase our contribution while addressing the technical challenges that our part of the world is experiencing. Not all NCs would have been this successful as the number of Additional members per SC was limited to about 8.

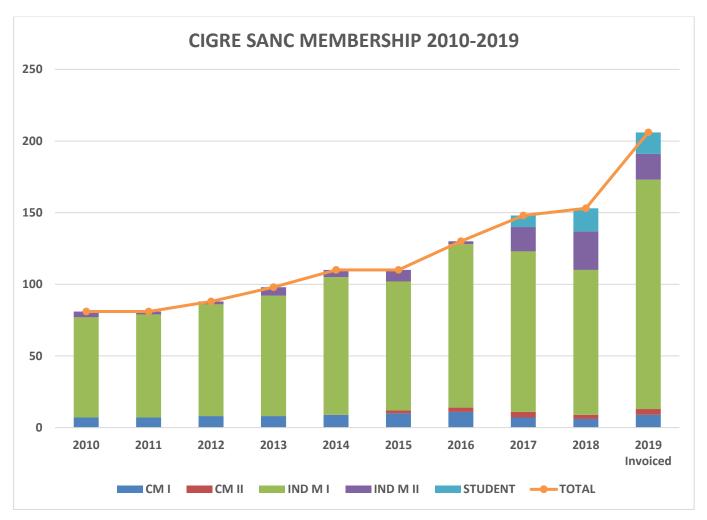
During the year, the SA NC had to vote for new NCs to be recognised and we responded accordingly.

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3. MEMBERSHIP

Similar to the parent organisation, CIGRE SANC derives its membership from individuals, corporates, academic institutions and research organisations.

The National Committee (NC) continued with its major drive to attract new members during the year. Amongst new Collective Members (CMs) is EDM of Mozambique. We are still in discussions with some potential CMs that were approached in the previous year. Our membership has grown from 153 at the end of the year to 206 members invoiced this year. This bodes well for the future of the NC and CIGRE.



Our participation in the annual SAUPEC Conferences continues to expose the body and its membership to young and upcoming engineers, thus also boosting membership of our Next Generation Network (NGN). NGN activities are covered elsewhere herein.

4. ANNUAL CALENDER EVENTS

Our Annual Calendar that is available on our website continues to evolve and guide us in meeting important due dates. During 2018, the major events on the calendar was the 47th Paris Session held in Paris in August and the Feedback Session that was held at the Eskom Academy of Learning in October.

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5. NGN

The CIGRE SANC NGN arranged one industry visit during 2018. This was a trip to CBI African Cables at their factory in Vereeniging, Vaal. The group, which included CIGRE women members, was taken through the factory and exposed to the industrial process of manufacturing cables up to 132kV.



6. CSI

CIGRE SANC continues to assist Pfuxani STEM Foundation in its efforts to spread the knowledge of Maths and Science subjects amongst senior phase leaners in Soweto and Ekurhuleni. The initiative supports five schools through an active tutorship program with 30 tutors and 500 learners participating. In its second year, the program is growing stronger and stronger.

7. FINANCES

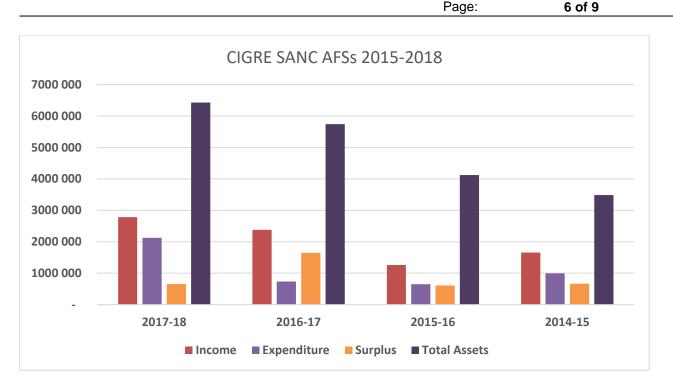
Our two-year cycle results in the odd-year (Regional Conference years) being relatively more profitable than the even year (Paris Session years). However, the late receipt of payments for events sometimes tampers this.

The NC reports its finances one year in arrears. Accordingly, the reports being tabled this year are for the year ended February 2018. It is the intention of the NC that in 2020 both the February 2019 and 2020 financials be presented in order to remain current. During the financial year being reported on, the NC made a profit of R655,430.00. This is similar to a 2015-16 comparison year of R611,148.00. The increased activity of 2015-16 is reflected in the 2016-17 year, which should be a low surplus year as we do not have a conference but received late payments of the combined CIGRE/IEC conference of 2015.

The NC continues to improve financial management and will in future maximise upfront payments for events in order to reduce the debtors book.

A concerted effort has been made to bring past events to financial close and accordingly, the symposium of 2015 and feedback session of 2016 have been closed.

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In line with promises made last year, Study Committee, RAG and Africa initiatives were expanded and budgeted for accordingly during the year 2018.

The NC was allocated NC Allocation Funding by the Paris office. A claim of actual expenses was submitted to Paris, being costs for financing the trip by the Chairman and Mr Zweli Mbebe of D2 to Kigali, Rwanda, to attend the 3rd Africa Smart grid Forum.

The Feedback Session and Gala Dinner events recovered their expenses.

8. 2017-18 HIGHLIGHTS

8.1 Paris Session

The SANC was once again fully represented at the Paris Session this year. There were at least 45 delegates from Southern Africa. It was an unusual year in that most SC Representatives could not secure funding from their employers to attend. Nine individuals, comprising SC Reps and past SC Reps, were assisted with Session registration fees to enable them to attend. This arrangement helped to ensure our participation in the discussion groups. Most of the people then assisted with presenting and answering questions at the Feedback Session in Johannesburg.

The diary for the Paris Session was a full one for everyone, but we still managed to host the traditional SA NC Wednesday dinner at our customary venue.

8.2 Feedback Session

The Feedback Session was held at the Eskom Academy of Learning on 18 October 2018. Attendance was very good at about 175 with 16 complimentary attendees. The event went very well and we are grateful to our usual sponsors ABB for arranging memory sticks with all papers and relevant presentations.

8.3 Gala Dinner

A Gala Dinner was held on 18 October 2018 at Moyo restaurant. This was very well attended with 142 people in attendance. The NC gave out Distinguished Member awards to Dr Wallace Vosloo (D1) and Dr John van Coller (C4) after a successful submission of their motivations to CIGRE.

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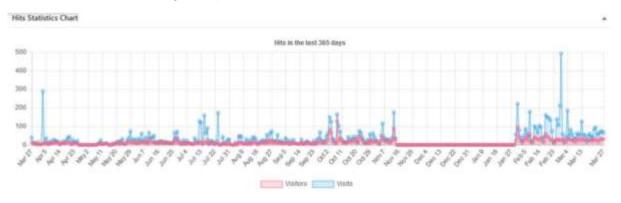
8.4 Branding

As part of the rebranding of CIGRE unveiled in Paris, a new CIGRE SANC logo was adopted. It was provided by CIGRE Paris using the CIGRE logo as a foundation. This is the new logo to be used in all our marketing material for conferences, the website and administration documentation.

Locally, we have set up Facebook (Cigre SA), LinkedIn (Cigre Southern Africa and Cigre SA NGN) and Twitter (@CigreSA) accounts. All members and interested parties are invited to follow, like and tag these handles in order to be kept abreast of developments and add content.

8.5 Website

The CIGRE SA NC website continues to be a hit. Whereas this time last year it had received 6700 unique visitors, that number has gone up to 16700.



It has been redesigned, using the template provided by the Paris marketing team and our existing website. The revised website has been commented on by members and is ready to be activated in the coming week.

8.6 KMS

A new KMS space was created for the NC and will be utilised for future meetings. All members of the Exec Board and Technical Board are requested to go into KMS and request access to their respective sites. Since an email request went out in Jan 2019 to Exec Board members, only Prince, Rob, Khaya, Kurt, Sidwell and Mashilo have registered.

8.7 CIGRE/World Bank Africa Initiative

The CIGRE World Bank Africa initiative continues to be shaped by the special Working group that was formed, led by the CIGRE President Dr Rob Stephen, Secretary General Mr Philippe Adam and chairman of the SC C1, Dr Konstantin Staschus.

8.8 RAG Meetings

The NC continues to participate actively in the core activities of CIGRE, in the form of SC meetings, SAG, TAG and WG meetings. Local RAGs continued to be established and so far, 12 of the 16 SC Reps have held RAG meetings. Only SCs B5 and C5 have not held any RAG meetings. We still have some way to go towards achieving our target of two RAG meetings per SC Representative per year. The summary is shown below:

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SC	RAG Meetings 2018	RAG Meetings 2017	WGs Activity	Other highlights
A1	-	3	4	4 WGs convened by SA
A2	2	2	6	
А3	2	1	4	
B1	1	2	12	
B2	1	0	12	2 new WGs will be convened by SA
В3	1	0	9	Held 1 RAG with Eskom people only
B4	1	0	4	RAG includes Mozambique and Namibia
B5	0	0	16	Most active RAG in WGs
C1	1	0	10	
C2	1	0	5	
C3	2	4	7	
C4	1	2	7	
C5	0	0	9	
C6	3	3	5	Most RAG meetings
D1	0	1	5	SA convenor for 2 WGs
D2	1	1	11	

8.5 Our partnerships

CIGRE SA NC continued to strengthen our partnerships, in particular with the SAIEE. CIGRE and SAIEE continue to convene the CIGRE SC A1 RAG and SAIEE Rotating Electrical Machines jointly. The SAIEE Telecommunications Section and the CIGRE D2 SC RAG collaborated on a webinar featuring international speakers and lastly our CIGRE B1 cable course was presented at SAIEE with benefits accruing to both bodies.

9. OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

Areas that need special attention in order to improve operations of CIGRE SANC are the following:

- Pastel financial package
 - The Executive Board finalised the rollout of the Pastel accounting package and it is the source of our monthly actual and planned financial reports. A small effort is required to further program the tool so that it can compile financial statements.
- Directorships & Vendor Registration
 - The NC has not been able to honour some transactions due to the incomplete changeover of directors. This is being attended to and will be finalised within the new year.

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10. 9TH REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The highlight for the coming year will be 9th Regional Conference, to be held on 1-4 October 2019 together with the SC B4 International Colloquium at Misty Hills, Muldersdrift, Johannesburg. All members are invited to register and attend this comprehensive program that will feature papers, exhibitions and tutorials.

11. CONCLUSION

2018 has been a very fruitful year for CIGRE SANC and we look forward to greater things. To everyone reading this report, continue to volunteer your time while enriching your professional and social experience in this exciting industry that never ceases to engage!

12. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to acknowledge members of the CIGRE SANC Executive and Technical Boards for inputs and comments received.