



## **NGN AGM and Elections**

# **Instructions for Voting**

**Dear NGN Member,**

This year there are three positions up for election:

- NGN Chairman
- NGN Vice-Chairman/ Information coordinator
- Secretary/Treasurer

Below you can find the description of the candidates for each position. Please note that there is only one candidate for the Secretary/Treasurer position.

To vote, please send an e-mail with your preferences to [agm@cigre-ngn-uk.org](mailto:agm@cigre-ngn-uk.org) no later than Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

In order to make possible the validation of your vote, please send your voting preference by using your e-mail registered with NGN (i.e. the e-mail where you receive all the NGN communications).

After 27<sup>th</sup> November, voting will still be possible by attending the AGM on the 30<sup>th</sup> November.

Results will be announced at the end of the AGM.

## **Candidates' Descriptions**

### **NGN Chairman**

**Dr. Yasir Ahmed, National Grid**

I would like to start this statement by acknowledging the founder members of CIGRÉ (UK) NGN who got us this far. Since the launch event in October 2007, NGN have seen a steady increase in membership from UK Universities and industry as well as an increased number of activities and

technical events. Continuing this successful trend and serving the members will require dedication and commitment from the new elected Chairman and the committee. I decided to step-up and propose myself for the Chairman's position as I'm confident that I have the qualities, experience and, above all, the drive to take this honourable responsibility.

I'm a Chartered Engineer currently working for National Grid as an Overhead lines Asset Engineer. National Grid is one of the main supporting organisations to NGN since its early days. Earlier this year I have attained my Engineering Doctorate degree from the University of Manchester associated with Diploma in Management from Manchester Business School.

I'm planning if elected to enhance the channels of communications between members, support the engagement of member into CIGRÉ's technical working groups, diversify the technical events, review the NGN activities and structure and work towards launching a technical conference. Thanks for your support.

**Dr. Beatrice Chong, National Grid**

To represent NGN UK as Chairperson would be an honour. As a founder member I am extremely proud to have contributed to its growth and success. I believe I have the necessary knowledge and experience from being Secretary/Treasurer in 2007/8 to continue to improve benefits for all members. My three priorities are:

- 1) increase Working Group involvement;
- 2) develop a long-term program of events;
- 3) build a knowledge transfer system for "paper writing skills" to increase NGN presence at CIGRÉ sessions and symposia.

My enthusiasm originates from personal experience; as a PhD student NGN membership gave me many opportunities to attend technical events, experience engineering from an industrial perspective and present my research at an important CIGRÉ conference, Paris Session in 2008. Now, working for National Grid I feel I'm in a stronger position to promote NGN, organise future events and understand the needs of all members from industry and academia. In essence, I would like to give back to NGN what it has given to me. This new phase in NGN's existence needs to concentrate on, improving the quality of benefits provided, having a clear long-term strategy and keeping an open door policy for all members to contribute.

**Ross Wilson, RWE npower**

I believe I am the best suited to be the next chair to lead the NGN for the next two years. I have been an active member attending the steering committees and I would like to continue developing the organisation. I am committed to moving the NGN forward and believe I have the skills necessary to do

this. I have the full support of my employer, RWE Npower to participate in all NGN related activities. I will focus on 2 crucial goals; the first being you, the member and what you want and get from the NGN as an organisation, the 2nd is getting people more involved, whether it be organising events or getting involved with working groups or asking other members for help. We all have something to offer and we all need help from time to time. I hope you will support me and keep the NGN moving forward.

## **NGN Vice-Chairman/Information Coordinator**

### **Muhammad Ashraf, AREVA**

I am seeking the position of Vice Chairperson/Information Coordinator and my interest in this position is embedded in the CIGRE-NGN mission to bring the fresh faces in ever ageing engineering industry. I have always admired and appreciated the work current Steering Committee members have done and would like to take that to one step further where we can expand the NGN beyond UK by engaging with young members of CIGRE from other countries and share experience, resources and knowledge with them.

Being the part of engineering industry for more than six years I would bring the commitment from the senior members of the CIGRE to transfer their valuable knowledge, experience and ideas to younger members in order to help them serve the industry better.

My main goal is to provide the unparalleled and unprecedented support to chairman to make the NGN well established, well run and well recognized organization which would act as a solid platform for young engineers to establish their credentials as academically and technically well equipped engineers ready to serve the senior CIGRE organization.

I like challenges and want to make a difference.

### **Dr Maria Brucoli, Arup**

I am the current NGN Vice-Chair/Information Coordinator. After spending five years at Imperial College as a PhD student and a research associate, I am now working for Arup in the London office.

I have been involved with the NGN since its very first meeting held at Imperial College. Over the following months I actively contributed to the birth of the NGN concept and group, designed its structure, discussed its aims and proposed activities.

I would like to take my commitment for the NGN forward and support the new Chairman. At the moment, I believe I am the most appropriate candidate for the role of Vice-Chairman/Information Coordinator as I have the required experience for the position. My knowledge of many NGN members developed over these years has given me a better understanding of the needs and interests of fresh

talented engineers. As a Vice-Chair I would work on making the NGN a stronger and more visible group of young power professional from industry and academia.

## **Secretary/Treasurer**

### **Sarah Follmann, Siemens**

I am the current Secretary / Treasurer and would like to continue my work for another term. I have been involved in the NGN from its very beginning and am very proud to see how far we have come already. I would like to continue to help driving the NGN's development and use my knowledge and understanding of the NGN to support the new chairperson in his/her role.

I am working as project engineer for Siemens Transmission and Distribution in Newcastle. My current role complements the knowledge and experience required for the secretary/ treasurer role and I have my employer's full support for my Cigre NGN involvement.