

## Professor M.A Sozen of Purdue University Representing ACI as Key Note Speaker at The First African Concrete Code Symposium Held in Tripoli, Libya 28-29 November 2005

Professor Mete A. Sozen Kettelhut Distinguished Professor of Structural Engineering, Purdue University was invited to attend the first African concrete code symposium held in Tripoli, Libya on 28-29 November 2005. Professor Sozen delivered a key note paper entitled, "The Faustian and the Magian in Building a Building Code". Professor J.V Walraven Honorary president of fib and chairman of fib Model code also gave a key note paper on the Euro code and the new model code for concrete structures. From the Asian concrete code committee, Professor Y. Loo of Griffith University spoke on the international committee on concrete model code for Asia. Professor Swamy of the University of Sheffield gave a key note lecture on durability design as a basis for the new code. In his opening paper Professor Ali S. Ngab founder and chairman of the symposium committee, outlined the objectives and future outlook of the African concrete code. Several papers were also presented reflecting international and regional experiences including the American code, European code, the Asian code, the Egyptian concrete code, the South African code and the Turkish code. These papers are published in the symposium proceedings. This was the first symposium to be held solely devoted to the idea of drafting a new code for the continent of Africa. The symposium was organized by a committee supported by the Libyan standards for specification and metrology and the Academy of Graduate Studies and under the auspices of the non-governmental association of the scientific society for engineers in Libya. In the final session, professor Ngab was selected to chair the new African concrete code committee. Ngab, who is a professor of structural engineering at El-Fateh University, Tripoli, Libya is an ACI member, and member of the ISO-TC71 committee. He is also a professor and co-chairman of the civil engineering department at the Academy of graduate Studies, Tripoli, Libya. He holds a BS from the University of Texas, Austin in 1972, MS from Pennsylvania State University in 1975 and a PhD in Structural Engineering from Cornell University in 1980.

The African Concrete Code Committee Members selected at the meeting are:

Prof Yunus Ballim, university of Witwatersrand, South Africa

Prof Nasser M. Darwish, Alexandria university, Egypt,

Prof. Mohammed Najib Abuzied, American university in Cairo, Egypt

Prof. Mucktar M. Aburawi, Almergib university Libya.

Prof. Jan Wium, university of Stellenbosch south Africa

Prof. A.C.Beye university of Cheikh Anta de Dakar, Singal.

Prof. G. Alade Ibadan university , Nigeria

Prof. Hocine Bendadouch, university of Bejaia, Algeria.

This steering committee will start the process of drafting a new code over a period of five years through additional technical subcommittees in Africa. The activities of this committee will include holding workshops, lectures, seminars and symposiums to serve the objective of the new code. The final output would be a code for the design and construction of concrete structures of all types in the region of Africa reflecting its special features. This new code when adopted by the local authorities in each country will serve as guide for the design of safe, durable and economical structures in this region. The new code would use the well established international codes such as ACI-318 and EC-2 as reference codes. When completed the new code will facilitate and accelerate economical and technological exchange in concrete engineering industry amidst the African region in particular and in relation to the international community in general.

An advisory committee was also established to help the ACC committee achieve its objectives and goals, the current committee members are.

Prof. Mete A Sozen, Purdue University .USA

Prof J.V Walraven, Delft University of technology, Netherlands

Prof R. N Swamy, University of Sheffield, UK

Prof. Yew-chaye Loo, Griffith University, Australia

Dr J.Knapton, Knapton consulting engineers, UK

Prof. M.N Haque, Kuwait University , Kuwait

Prof.T.P Tassios Technical University of Athens, Greece

Prof. T. Tankut, Middle East Technical University , Turkey

It was also decided during the final session of the symposium to hold the second African concrete code symposium on 28-29 November 2006 in Cape Town South Africa under the direction of ACC represented by Prof. Yunus Ballim and his colleagues.