

Business Session II

Session Chairman

Aldo Bolza

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Good morning ladies and gentlemen and welcome to Session II of the 20th ICF Congress. My name is Aldo Bolza and I will be your Chairman for this Session.

Our focus this morning will be on electrification, a topic, you will agree, is of great importance for our industry and more broadly for mankind as a whole. We have 4 speakers to address our chosen subject. Firstly, our keynote speaker Mr. Kannan Lakmeharan from Eskom South Africa, who will talk to us about the situation and the prospects of electric power generation in our host country South Africa. In addition to that, I have taken the liberty to ask Kannan to also say a few words about the efforts and results obtained by Eskom in the field of the electrification of the so-called informal urban settlements. Some people call them slums, but this is not the proper designation. I think Eskom has been a pioneer in this field and it is a great opportunity to hear from Kennan some testimonial on this fact. Kennan will be followed by Prof. Hans Püttgen of the Swiss Federal Polytechnical Institute of Lausanne, who will give us a broad overview of the future impacts of electricity in developed and developing regions. Then Sten Bergman of Stonepower in Sweden will talk to us about rural electrification in Africa. Finally, Ram Vinay Shahi of Energy Infratech in India will address issues related to rural electrification in India, the host country of our next ICF Congress.

I would now like to introduce our first speaker, Kennan Lakmeharan, who is an electrical engineer and the Managing Director of the Systems Operations and Planning Division of Eskom. He is also a very active member of CIGRE. Kennan, the floor is yours.