Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, and after a delay of 11 months, the World Renewable Energy Congress took place at the Department of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Instituto Superior Tecnico – Lisbon, Portugal. The Congress was run in two parallel forms: face-to-face and virtual. The face-to-face was set up in the main hall while the virtual sessions were run in halls one and two.

There were more than 80 participants in the main hall while the two virtual hall had more than 300 participants.

The Honorary President H E Portugal Minister of Environment Dr. João Pedro Matos Fernandes, opened the Congress on Monday 26 July 2021. The opening program was as listed below:

09:00 - 09:15 Chairman Welcome: Prof. Ali Sayigh Chairman of WREC & DG of WREN – Brighton, UK
09:15 - 09:20 WREC Lisbon Chairman Welcome: Prof. Manuel Correia Guedes Instituto Superior Tecnico – Lisbon, Portugal
09:20 - 09:25 Deputy Chairman of WREN: Lawrence L. Kazmerski, Renewable and Sustainable Energy Institute (RASEI), University of Colorado, USA
09:25 - 09:35 IST Welcome: Prof. Rogério Colaço, President of IST Instituto Superior Técnico – University of Lisbon, Portugal
09:35 - 10:00 World Renewable Energy Honorary Chairman: His Excellency the Minister of Environment Dr. João Pedro Matos Fernandes
10:00 - 10:30 Climate Change and Renewable Energy – 2021 Prof. Ali Sayigh Chairman of WREC & DG of WREN, Brighton, UK

After the opening ceremony, Prof Sayigh and Prof Guedes presented H E Minister of Environment with the WREN trophy.
A group photograph was taken with the Minister and President of the University.

A group photograph with the Minister and President of the University
On Monday several speakers presented their papers in the main theatre, among them were Prof Lawrence Kazmerski from USA, Rt. Hr. Hans Josef Fell, President Energy Watch Group, Berlin, Germany, Prof. Manuel Collares Pereira, University of Évora, Portugal, Dr. Paulo Partidário, Senior Researcher, IEA Hydrogen Technology Collaboration Programme National Delegate; DGEZ Directorate-General of Energy and Geology –Research & Renewables Division, Portugal, and Dr David Renne, Ex-President of International Solar Energy Society.

The main theatre with some participants at the IST establishment.

The programme was circulated to the participants indicating the time and location of the face-to-face presentations and the virtual presentations. There were 74 face-to-face and 95 virtual presentations, which given the circumstances of the pandemic and the
problems for presenters in preparing their work during lockdown, the number of presentations was a huge achievement. WREN colleagues were delighted to meet and reconnect with one of our esteemed participants from the 1990s, Prof Manuel Pereira a leading expert on solar thermal, who gave a presentation on concentrating solar power.

Tuesday’s programme was a mix of face-to-face and virtual presentations. Among the Speakers were: Prof Derya Oktay – Turkey, Dr Siaka Touré - Côte d'Ivoire, Dr Helder Goncalves – Portugal and Mr Miguel Veríssimo- Portugal.

In the evening 40 participants from 30 different countries were entertained at special dinner sponsored by WREN-Springer. Springer Nature was one of the main Congress
Sponsors and they are publishing WREC – 2020 Proceedings. Thanks to all the sponsors and particularly Springer Nature and EDP- Sciences.

The special dinner was held in the magnificent Moorish Casa do Alentego dating back to the 10th century. This environmental paradise was a delightful setting for this lovely occasion and was much appreciated by all.
Prof Manuel is welcoming the participants  Group of young participants, Egypt & Europe

Wednesday's programme was a mixture of face-to-face and virtual sessions. Among the speakers were Prof Despina Serghides, Cyprus, Mr Rainer Hinrichs – Rahlwes, Germany, Dr Judith A. Cherni, UK, Prof Winfried Hoffmann, Germany, and Dr Antonella Trombadore, Italy.

Among the virtual speakers were: Prof Robert Critoph, UK, Prof Datto Kamaruzzaman Sopian, Malaysia, Prof Liwei Wang, China, Prof Dorota Chwieduk, Poland, Prof Dr. DI. Amela Ajanovic, Austria, Dr Arthur Williams, UK, Prof Neil Hewitt, North Ireland,
On Wednesday Evening the Congress Gala Dinner was held in a Lisbon Old City restaurant. There were more than 50 participants, among them was the President of the University. As well as an excellent dinner there was wonderful Portuguese folk songs.
On Thursday all the presentations were virtual. WREN wishes to express special thanks to the Technical Committee who had made an excellent job in chairing all the Congress sessions, reviewing all the papers as well as presenting some of their own work, while the Organizing Committee successfully arranged the virtual and face-to-face presentations in difficult circumstances.

**Technical Committee**

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Prof Ali Sayigh Chairman</td>
<td>UK</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Mr Rainer Hinrichs-Rahlwes</td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Dr Antonella Trombador</td>
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<td>Dr Marta Szabo</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
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<td>Prof Riadh Al-Dabbagh</td>
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<td>Prof Mohsen Aboulnaga</td>
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<td>Dr David Goodfield</td>
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<td>Prof Robert Crtoph</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Prof Manuel Correia Guedes</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Prof Kamaruzzaman Sopian</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Mr Tony Book</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Dr Amina Batagarawa</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Dr Salam Darwish</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Prof Dr Dorota Chwieduk</td>
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<td>Dr Arthur Williams</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Prof Donald Swift-Hook</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Prof Anastasia Zabaniotou</td>
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**Organizing Committee**

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<td>1</td>
<td>Prof Manuel C. Guedes</td>
<td>Portugal – Chair</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Arch Hala A Abdulrazaq</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Prof Carlos Santos Silva</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Antonio Falcao Campos</td>
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EDP Commitment to the World Renewable Energy Congress

The International Journal of Renewable Energy and Environmental Sustainability (REES), published by Édition Diffusion Presse - Science, (EDP- Science), in Paris, France has sponsored a special issue “ Achieving zero carbon emission by 2030”, 59-papers were selected for this issue. Each paper was reviewed by a team of experts and selected for publication. EDP-Science also sponsored a dinner for 9 selected editors on Thursday 29 July 2021 in Lisbon.

On Friday the remaining presentations were made, then it was the closing session where all pioneers and life pioneers received their awards from WREN handed virtually by Prof Sayigh.

**WREN – PIONEERS 2020**

World Renewable Energy Network honoured the outstanding scientist, engineers and policy makers at the closing ceremony on Friday 30 July 2021, and bestows on them the title **WREN POINEERS**. They are:

- Prof Derya Oktay – Turkey
- Dr Ali Al-Alawi - Oman
- Prof Manuel Guedes - Portugal
- Prof Al-Bastaki, Bahrain
In 2020, WREN Organization created LIFE MEMBERS of WREN
Which is given to outstanding persons in renewable energy field and has been already member of WREN before. At the closing ceremony the 2020 WREC, Life Members received their award from Prof Ali Sayigh.
1- Prof Dr Dorota Chwieduk  
   - Poland

2- Prof Neil Hewitt  
   – Northern Ireland – UK

3- Dr Indra H. Singh  
   - TRINIDAD

4- Mr Rainer Hinrichs-Rahlwes  
   - Germany

5- Mr Pradeep Chaturvedi  
   – India

6- Prof Dr Waheed Alnaser  
   - Bahrain

7- Dr Kuruvilla Mathew - Australia

8- Prof Robert Critoph - UK

9- Prof Kamaruzzaman Sopian  
   – Malaysia

10- Dr Lawrence Kazmerski  
   - USA

Prof Donald Swift-Hook - UK
In the afternoon on Friday 30 July a special trip was arranged to visit to the Town of Obidos. It is a beautiful old town with an outstanding castle and architecture. A group photograph was taken by an old oleander tree.

Finally there was a student competition in Architecture. There were three prizes awarded to Mexico, UK and Egypt. Two Egyptian students received their award at the closing ceremony.

The second price was won by Egyptian student under the supervision of Prof Mohsen Aboulnaga, Cairo University.

Our Next Congress is World Renewable Energy Congress – 21, or WREC-2022 to be held at Murdoch University, Perth, AUSTRALIA: 4-9 December 2022. For more detail see: www.wrec2022.com

this report is prepared by Prof Ali Sayigh
Chairman of World Renewable Energy Congress, August 2021