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SPE AFRICA REGION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | APRIL 2026

Dear esteemed members of the SPE Africa Region,

April in Focus – From Preparation to Execution

The arrival of April marks the onset of the second quarter of 2026, a defining moment in our journey for the year. The first quarter demanded discipline, long hours, and careful coordination as we worked tirelessly to prepare for the major engagements ahead. Now, we step into a period where those efforts begin to take form and deliver tangible outcomes across the region.

March was particularly engaging, filled with meaningful stakeholder interactions and initiatives centered on advancing growth, especially among our young professionals. It was a month that reinforced the strength of our partnerships and the shared commitment to advancing Africa’s energy industry through knowledge, collaboration, and leadership.

As John Quincy Adams once said, **“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”** That spirit of leadership continues to guide our work across the region.

Strengthening Industry Collaboration – Engagement with NNPC Limited

One of the key highlights of March was a strategic courtesy visit to the Group Chief Executive Officer of the Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited, Mr. Bayo Ojulari. I joined the delegation led by the SPE Nigeria Council Chairman, Engr. Francis Nwaochei, alongside other leaders within the Society.

This high-level engagement provided a valuable platform to deepen collaboration between SPE and NNPC Limited, particularly in advancing technology, strengthening industry dialogue, and supporting the continued development of Nigeria’s energy sector. During the meeting, I formally extended an invitation to the GCEO to participate in the SPE Africa Technology Conference 2026 in Abidjan.

The discussions were forward-looking and practical, with a shared understanding of the importance of structured knowledge exchange and industry alignment. It was equally encouraging to witness the GCEO take time to engage and inspire the young professionals present, reminding them of the importance of continuous learning and commitment to excellence. Moments like these reinforce the bridge between leadership and the next generation.

GH-BISE 2026 – Accra Awaits

As we move further into the second quarter, attention now turns to one of the most anticipated gatherings on our calendar, the SPE Ghana Biennial International Summit and Exhibition, scheduled for 20th to 22nd May 2026 in Accra, Ghana.

Within this important event, we will host the SPE Africa Section Officers Workshop, alongside the Africa Young Professionals Workshop and the finals of the Young Professionals Debate. With just about a month to go, I strongly encourage all section officers and young professionals across the region to make plans to attend and actively participate.

This gathering will bring together leaders from across Africa and beyond, including members of the SPE International Board and the 2027 SPE International President, Susan Howes. It presents a unique opportunity to strengthen collaboration, exchange ideas, and build lasting professional connections.

Register for GH-BISE 2026: <https://www.speghana.com/gh-bise-2026>

Young Professionals in Action – Policy Rhetoric Takes Center Stage

I am particularly excited about the progress of the 2026 SPE Africa Young Professionals Debate, now rebranded as Policy Rhetoric. This initiative continues to grow as a platform for thoughtful, structured conversations on key energy issues affecting our continent.

This year, we have participation from about 15 sections across the region. The competition officially commenced on 28th March with an engaging opening round between the Douala Section and Lagos Section, with **Lagos emerging victorious**. The tournament will resume after the Easter break, and I encourage everyone to follow the discussions closely.

What makes this initiative special is its focus on moving beyond conversation to influence thinking and contribute meaningfully to industry discourse. The level of insight and confidence demonstrated by our young professionals continues to inspire great optimism for the future.

ATC 2026 – The Countdown to Abidjan

With April now underway, we are just about two months away from the SPE Africa Technology Conference 2026 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, scheduled for 16th to 18th June.

Preparations have entered their final stages, and the level of interest has been remarkable. We received a strong number of abstract submissions, which are currently under review by the technical committee. Successful authors will be notified in due course.

We are also welcoming exhibitors, sponsors, and partners to be part of this important platform. With over 500 delegates expected from across Africa, Europe, the United States, and the Middle East, ATC 2026 promises to be a truly global gathering of expertise, experience, and opportunity.

As Andrew Carnegie once said, **“Teamwork is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.”** ATC embodies that spirit, and I encourage every member and organization to find their place in it.

Learn more about ATC 2026: <https://www.speafricatechconference.org>

Looking Ahead – Nairobi on the Horizon

Beyond Abidjan, preparations continue steadily for our July engagements in Nairobi, Kenya. The SPE Africa Geothermal Workshop, scheduled for 20th to 21st July, will bring together industry leaders, policymakers, and technical experts to explore how geothermal resources can strengthen Africa’s energy security and long-term resilience.

Shortly after, the Africa Student Congress will convene from 22nd to 24th July, bringing together bright and passionate students from across the continent. This Congress remains a powerful platform for collaboration, knowledge exchange, and nurturing the next generation of energy professionals.

Find out more: <https://www.speafricageothermalworkshop.org>

Final Thoughts – The Work Continues

As we move deeper into the year, the message remains clear. We need all hands-on deck. The success of our programs and the strength of our region depend on the active involvement of every section officer, volunteer, and member.

Collaboration remains at the center of our vision, and our commitment to developing young professionals continues to guide our actions. Every engagement, every event, and every contribution brings us closer to our shared goals.

As an African proverb reminds us, **“If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”** Let us move forward together with purpose. The momentum is building.

#WeAreSPEAfrica

Warm regards,

Dr. Riverson Oppong

SPE Africa Regional Director
CEO - Chamber of Oil Marketing Companies, Ghana

April 2026



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AFRICA

AFRICA TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE 2026

Theme

Harnessing Innovation and
Technology for a Resilient and
Sustainable African Energy Sector



DATE: 16-18 June,
2026

LOCATION: Radisson Blu Hotel,
Abidjan Airport, Boulevard de
l'Aéroport, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

www.africatechnologyconference.com

SPE Africa Region



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SPE AFRICA GEOTHERMAL WORKSHOP 2026

Theme Harnessing Africa's Geothermal Potential
for a Sustainable Energy Future



Host

Riverson Oppong
SPE Africa Regional
Director



Keynote Speaker

Jennifer Miskimins
SPE President 2026



Keynote Speaker

Reza Khastoo
Geothermal Technical Section
Director 2025



Speaker

Elizabeth Rogo
SPE Africa Advisory Board
Member

Date: 20-21 July,
2026

Location: Fairmont
the Norfolk Hotel,
Nairobi, Kenya



Speaker

Sarah Kern
SPE Drilling Technical
Director



Speaker

Graham Mensa-Wilmot
Technical Director, XCIDRILL
Technology



Facilitator

Sarah Ali
SPE Kenya Section
Chairperson

SPE Africa Region



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GH-BISE Pre-Conference Training

Theme

Sustainable Energy for Africa:
Powering Growth, Innovation and
Inclusion



Scan To Register

18-19 May
2026
Accra, Ghana

REGISTRATION FEES

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Professional Members | GHC 500 |
| Non-SPE members | GHC 600 |
| Students | GHC 250 |

Package : Conference Materials, Feeding and Certification

www.speghana.com

SPE Ghana Section

Strengthening Industry Collaboration – Engagement with NNPC Limited





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