



## From Hony. Secretary General's Desk

I am pleased to inform you that the Institute's Council and Branch Office bearers met at a 3 hour workshop on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2008 to deliberate on and finalize a 5 year strategic plan for the Institute which was subsequently approved by the Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> November '08. The strategic plan is a culmination of the recommendations of the Technology Innovation Workshop organized in January 2008 at Chennai to suggest the role IIW India can play in the economic and scientific growth of welding in India. This is the first time in the history of IIW we have drawn up a long term 5 years Strategic plan to strengthen IIW. We hope, with all of your support, we will be able to implement the same as per plan.

It is a matter of great pride that most of our branches are more active during this year barring one or two. The Council has put all out efforts to activate all the branches to perform satisfactorily. The Annual General Meeting of the Institute was held on 15<sup>th</sup> November at Kolkata and just before the AGM the 5th Convocation for award of AMIIW degrees was held. Vice Chancellor BESU Mr. Nikhil Ranjan Banerjea delivered the Convocation address. A total of 13 students were awarded the AMIIW degree certificates in this ceremony.

We have also signed an MOU with the Centurion Group of Institutes regarding Certification of Welders under our IIW Welder Certification Scheme. Prof.(Dr.) Mukti K Misra Chairman of Centurion Group of Institutes and Mr. A K Mukherjee President & Mr. Parimal Biswas Hony Secretary General on behalf of IIW signed the MOU on the same day. This is a new era opened by IIW under the Welder Certification Program.

The Authorized National Body (ANB) in India is conducting Refresher Courses at different parts of the country so that a large number of professionals may obtain International Welding Diplomas. Welding professionals may obtain International Qualifications by joining various courses. I would request all our members to avail this opportunity and also give wide publicity to the respective Industries.

You are aware that we will be hosting the IIW Annual Assembly in India in 2011 from **17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> July** and the International Congress and Weld India 2011 (The International Welding Technology Exhibition) from **21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2011** at Chennai. After very successful conduct of the International Congresses in 2005 & 2008 we are confident that we will be able to organize the Assembly very successfully and it will be only possible if all of us put all out efforts collectively

We need to give more thrust for enrollments of new members. I urge upon all Branch Managing Committees to put their effort for revival of defaulting members as well as enrolling new members. Our G.P. Committee will shortly be announcing some attractive schemes to promote membership.

National Welding Seminar 2008 (NWS 2008) will be held at Mumbai from 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> February 2009 organized by Mumbai Branch. I would request all the members of the Institute to extend their fullest co-operation for successful conduct of the National event.

During the National Seminar at Mumbai, on 5<sup>th</sup> February'09, the fifth Annual Members Assembly will be held. I, on behalf of the Central Council, request all the members to participate in the discussions and express your valued opinion and suggestions for the growth of the Institute

Let us work together to take this Institute to greater heights. I look forward to meeting you at Mumbai during National Welding Seminar 2008

With warm regards

**Parimal Biswas**

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