

**AGENDA FOR THE TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE  
AFRICAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (AFRWG)  
New Delhi, India  
06 December 2009: 14.15-18.00 hours**

**Year of Establishment: 1994**

**Mandate:**

To promote links and networking among the African countries as well as regional and international institutions for enhancing cooperation and coordination, and to support integrated river basin development, training and research issues and information system for African needs.

**Members:** (1) Dr. Sizwe Mkhize, Chairman, 2007 (South Africa, 2001); (2) Dr. Adama Sangare, Vice Chairman (Mali, 2008); (3) Engr. D.B. Madu, Secretary (Nigeria, 2008); (4) Ms Raphaele Ducrot (France, 1999); (5) Mr. Mekonen Louseged (Ethiopia, 2007); (6) Morocco Representative; and (7) Secretary General, ICID.

**Permanent Observers/Observers:** (i) FAO Representative; (ii) IPTRID Representative; (iii) World Bank Representative; (iv) Mr. Jean S. Camara (Italy); (v) Mr. A. de Vito (Italy); (vi) Mr. Deric S. Mono (Zambia); (vii) Ms Felicity Chancellor (UK); (viii) ARID Representative; (ix) SARIA Representative and (x) AgWA representative

**Note:** Dr. Sizwe Mkhize, Chairman, AFRWG vide his e-mail of 14 September 2009 informed the Central Office that he may be relieved from the Chairmanship, owing to his intense engagement in the new job (**Annex 1**). In absence of the Chairman, Dr. Adama Sangare, Vice Chairman has agreed to Chair and conduct the proceedings of the meeting. Subsequently, the Group will elect/ nominate a new Chairman during the meeting.

**Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> meeting held at Lahore**

The minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Group held at Lahore in October 2008 will be confirmed.

**Item 2 : Review of membership of the group, permanent observers, and countries**

**2.1 Membership of the Group**

No new nominations were received for the membership of the Group.

Mr. Mekonen Louseged (Ethiopia) vide his e-mail of 13 April 2009 informed the Central Office that he had joined the African Development Bank (AfDB) and would like to continue contributing to the group's activities; but said that the Bank required an official request for the engagement of its member in other organization's activities. In response, Central Office asked Mr. Louseged to provide contact coordinates of the appropriate person in AfDB for correspondence. Response is awaited.

The works of ICID working groups of the activities relating to Africa are found to be of significant relevance by Agricultural Water for Africa (AgWA), a new initiative for water and energy related programmes. FAO, IPTRID, AfDB besides ICID were participants to this new initiative which came up with two key meetings in Tunis and Sirte respectively. Given their interest, in a reciprocal manner, membership to ICID workbodies have been extended to AgWA. Members may please note.

Attendance of the members during the meetings held at Lahore (2008) and at Sacramento (2007) will be circulated at the meeting.

## 2.2 Membership of African countries

At present, from Africa Region ICID has 8 active member countries, 15 deemed to be inactive countries, and 4 countries were admitted but no paid their subscription. The details are shown below:

| Active (Year of Joining)        | Deemed to be inactive<br>(Year of Joining)<br>(Year of becoming inactive) | Admitted but not paid<br>subscription<br>(Year of admission) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Egypt (ENCID) (1950)         | 1. Algeria (CNAID) (1965) (1999)  | 1. Burkina Faso(BURCID)(2000)                                |
| 2. Ethiopia (ETCID) (1976)      | 2. Angola (ANGCID) (1978) (1994)  | 2. Chad (ATID) (2003)  |
| 3. Mali (AMID)(2005)            | 3. Ghana (CHANCID) (1958) (1963)  | 3. Mauritius (MAUCID) (1992)                                 |
| 4. Morocco (ANAFIDE) (1959)     | 4. Ivory Coast (IVCID) (1969) (1982)                                      | 4. São Tomé and Príncipe (SAOCID) (1985)                     |
| 5. Niger (ANID) (2007)          | 5. Kenya (KENCID) (1977) (2003)   |  |
| 6. Nigeria (NINCID) (1970)      | 6. Libya (LICID) (1988) (2000)  |  |
| 7. South Africa (SANCID) (1993) | 7. Madagascar (MADCID) (1983) (1986)                                      |  |
| 8. Zambia (ZACID) (1966)        | 8. Malawi (MILCID) (1967) (2004)  |  |
|                                 | 9. Mozambique (MOCID) (1978) (2006)                                       |  |
|                                 | 10. Senegal (SENCID) (1966) (1992)  |  |
|                                 | 11. Sudan (SUCID) (1964) (2003)   |  |
|                                 | 12. Tanzania (TANCID) (2000) (2006)                                       |  |
|                                 | 13. Tunisia (TUNCID) (1960) (1993)  |  |
|                                 | 14. Uganda (UGCID) (1963)(1983)   |  |
|                                 | 15. Zimbabwe (ZICID) (1955)(2001)   |  |

At the Lahore meeting, it was observed that countries with established forums (i.e. ARID and SARIA, IPIA) should use the AFRWG platform to enhance their activeness and ICID membership. The group also requested Mr. Samuel K. Karongo from Kenya to follow up with KENCID to become active by paying membership subscription fee. The Central Office in April 2009 has requested Kenyan National Committee (KENCID) to make the payment of US\$ 1450 towards membership subscription for the current year and to attend the 60<sup>th</sup> IEC and 5<sup>th</sup> ARC to be held at New Delhi.

The Central Office has corresponded with the National Committees of Algeria (CNAID), Angola (ANGCID), Ghana (GHANCID), Kenya (KENCID), Libya (LICID), Madagascar (MADCID), Malawi (MILCID), Mozambique (MOCID), Senegal (SENCID), Sudan (SUCID), Tanzania (TANCID), Uganda (UGCID) and Zimbabwe (ZICID) for their reactivation.

The Central Office has also written to Botswana, Guinea, Mauritania, Togo, Namibia and Swaziland for new membership.

Countries of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mauritius, and São Tomé and Príncipe whose membership application had been accepted by IECs at previous meetings, have been requested to pay their membership subscription to formally effect their membership. The Central Office had apprised the VP in charge of the region of these efforts so as to facilitate 'follow-up' action from their side. Central Office had written to Cameroon for joining ICID membership. In response, Cameroon has shown interest and had sent an application for the membership in July 2009 which will be put for consideration at the 60<sup>th</sup> IEC meeting at New Delhi.

The Working Group may like to discuss way and means not only to reactivate/ bring in more African countries in ICID fold, but to push forward its agenda to give impetus to ICID's 'Preference for Africa'.

## A. CONTINUING ITEMS

### Item 3 : Progress on the implementation of the Action Program for Africa

#### 3.1. Report of the Southern African Regional Irrigation Association (SARIA) Workshop, February 2009

The annual workshop of the Southern African Regional Irrigation Association (SARIA) was held on the 4 and 5 February 2009 at Bloemfontein, South Africa. The two day workshop was preceded by a SARIA steering committee meeting on 3 February 2009.

The workshop entitled, “*Rainwater harvesting and conservation in the Eastern and Southern region of Africa*” was sponsored by the Water Research Commission (WRC) of South Africa and the National Department of Agriculture (DoA). Rainwater harvesting and conservation has been prioritized for research and extension in several Eastern and Southern African countries. The purpose of the workshop was to facilitate the exchange of ideas and practices between researchers and advisory agents involved in rainwater harvesting and conservation. A total of 39 delegates attended the workshop. Participants included SARIA members from 9 of the 14 SADC countries, as well as Kenya. Workshop participants discussed various biophysical and socio-economic issues relating to rainwater harvesting and conservation. The proceedings of the workshop have been recorded on a CD and distributed to all the workshop participants.

During the steering committee meeting, SARIA member countries discussed the final wording of the Memorandum of Agreement and representatives from each country who were signatories for the document. Member countries without National Committees on irrigation and drainage committed themselves to establish national interest groups in their countries which will eventually lead to the formation of National Committees that will join the ICID family. Currently, only the National Committees of South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia are the members of ICID.

The Central Office has received 3 CDs containing the proceedings of the workshop from Mr. Andrew Sanewe, Chairman, SARIA. Copies of the proceedings/ additional information may be requested from Mr. Sanewe at [Andrews@wrc.org.za](mailto:Andrews@wrc.org.za)

#### 3.2 60<sup>th</sup> IEC and 3<sup>rd</sup> African Regional Conference, October 2009, Abuja (since cancelled)

The Nigerian National Committee (NINCID) had offered to host the 60<sup>th</sup> IEC and 3<sup>rd</sup> African Regional Conference in October 2009 at Abuja. However, as there was no representative of NINCID available at Lahore, concern was expressed by some members and Workbody Chairs about the confirmation of hosting the event in Nigeria. The then President Peter Lee therefore, sent an urgent e-mail from Lahore to Secretary General, NINCID expressing the concern about the safety and security and lack of promotion for the event and asked if they were seriously following up the necessary actions. It was informed that if the country wishes to opt out (October 2008), the Management Board could moot a change the venue of the 60<sup>th</sup> IEC ( following the ICID By-law 5.7 to change the venue if the host Committee is unable for any reason to hold the IEC and withdraws their desire to convene IEC). NINCID could, it was clarified at that stage of interaction by emails, still host the 3<sup>rd</sup> African Regional Conference as planned. In response Engr. D.B. Madu, Secretary General, NINCID wrote to the then President Lee expressing apologies of NINCID for their absence at Lahore and inconveniences caused to the ICID community. NINCID also expressed their regret for not being able to host 60<sup>th</sup> IEC but indicated that they will continue with their preparations for the 3<sup>rd</sup> African Regional Conference.

Unfortunately, however, Engr. Madu subsequently informed vide his e-mail of 5 July 2009 to the Central Office about NINCID’s inability to host the 3<sup>rd</sup> African Regional Conference due to circumstances beyond their control and requested to circulate this information among ICID member countries. Accordingly, the Central Office had informed all concerned through News Update/ Newsletter/ website/ e-mail about cancellation of the hosting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ARC by NINCID in Nigeria hoping that one would have an event convened sooner than later by NINCID, when circumstances permit..

#### 3.3 4<sup>th</sup> African Regional Conference, Mali, 2011

During the Lahore IEC meeting, Dr. Adama Sangare, Vice Chairman, AFRWG and Secretary General, Mali National Committee (AMID) offered to host the 4<sup>th</sup> African Regional Conference in Mali in 2011. The then President Peter Lee said that the in the context of ICID’s ‘Preference to Africa’ voting for the AMID’s proposal is meaningful.

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He added that ARID headquarters is located in Mali, which is an added advantage. The proposal was unanimously approved by the 59<sup>th</sup> IEC.

In view of the cancellation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> African Regional Conference planned to be held in Nigeria in October 2009, the Mali Conference is now re-numbered as 3<sup>rd</sup> ARC. The Central Office has written to Dr. Sangare to inform the proposed theme, topics and sub-topics of the Conference, as well as its venue and dates keeping in view the dates of the 24<sup>th</sup> European Regional Conference in The Netherlands (May 2011) and 21<sup>st</sup> Congress in Tehran (15-23 October 2011).

Dr. Sangare will apprise developments in the preparation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ARC at the meeting.

#### **Item 4 : Three-year work plan of the Group**

During the previous meetings, the Group had proposed to present the revised three-year work plan after receiving inputs from ARID and SARIA. Engr. I K Musa, the erstwhile Chairman requested to ARID and SARIA representatives to provide their ideas/ activities to Dr. Sizwe Mkhize, Chairman so as to finalize the draft work plan of the group and circulate it among members for any input/ comments, well in advance of the meeting.

At Lahore meeting, the Group reported the following:

- WaterNet is a regional network of university departments and research and training institutes specialising in water. The network aims to build regional institutional and human capacity in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) through training, education, research and outreach by harnessing the complementary strengths of member institutions in the region and elsewhere. WaterNet member institutions have expertise in various aspects of water resources management and are based in Southern and East Africa. It was told that the Waternet do not receive proposals from SADC countries to finance research yet there are funds earmarked for this. More information on funding support through Waternet can be found at <http://www.waternetonline.ihe.nl>
- Though considerable work is going on in Africa, there was no corresponding documentation and this has a negative picture on the working group. All members were encouraged to play a more active role and contribute in preparing publications.
- New Partnership for Africa Development (NEPAD) and AfDB are doing works on irrigation and drainage. Hence members should prepare proposals for funding and submit to NEPAD/ AfDB through ICID.

The Chairman will present the revised/ updated work plan of the Group.

#### **Item 5 : Cooperation with other Working Groups and International Organizations**

##### **5.1 ICID Working Groups**

The decision about members to serve as liaison persons on related ICID workbodies for effective exchange of information and collaboration was deferred to New Delhi meeting due to very low attendance of the members at the Lahore meeting.

##### **5.2 Focus on Africa**

At Sacramento, the International Review Special Committee of PCSPOA had recommended “.....to strengthen ICID’s focus on Africa by increasing its share of activity in Africa (such as regional conferences) and by developing a real “Preference for Africa” programme, with the aim to increase its visibility and its added value to African professionals. This does not necessarily requires important changes in the constitution (such as changing rules for electing Vice Presidents), but an incentive that should regularly be reminded to workbodies and the Council by the Management Board and Office Bearers. An illustration of this “Preference for Africa” could be to appoint two Vice Presidents in charge of Africa, instead of one, in particular to link with regional initiatives and associations (Lake Chad, ARID, SARID, NEPAD, etc.)

Africa is covered by 2 Vice Presidents normally (and this should be maintained as much as possible). Their linkages with regional associations are of key importance. However, the Committee felt that there is a need to find different

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approaches to communicate and mobilize National Committees, especially with the new initiative 'Agricultural Water for Africa (AgWA)' taking off during the year..

The Group will deliberate on ways and means of communications to mobilize National Committees, and Regional Organizations for their active participation.

### **5.3 High Level Conference on “Water for Agriculture and Energy in Africa: The Challenges of Climate Change, Libya**

Director General, FAO had invited ICID to participate in the Ministerial Conference on "Water for Agriculture and Energy in Africa: The Challenges of Climate Change" held in Sirte, Libya from 15-17 December 2008. The purpose of the Conference was to address the water resources in Africa, taking into consideration the increased demand by the agricultural and energy sectors in the context of changing climatic conditions.

In the 59<sup>th</sup> IEC, Secretary General Gopalakrishnan was nominated to represent ICID at the Conference. The Secretary General wrote to the National Committees of Mali (AMID), Niger (ANID), Nigeria (NINCID), South Africa (SANCID) and Zambia (ZACID) about the Conference prior to the event and sought their perceptions on the issues to be discussed in the Conference. The Conference was attended by more than 400 participants, including 37 Ministers, from 48 African countries, and 10 representatives from six Organizations of the United Nations system. Many member countries of ICID participated in the Conference of whom several were ICID National Committee representatives also.

The Committee on the whole, examined the issues under the three themes, viz., (1) Prospects for food and energy demands by 2015 and projections for 2030-2050, (2) Assessing investment requirements: defining investment envelopes for water control in Africa, and (3 ) Financing mechanisms and implementation strategies.

While joining the new initiative AgWA (Agriculture Water Partnership): A New Partnership for Agricultural Water in Africa with other organizations (IPTRID, AfDB, FAO, IWMI etc.), Secretary General Gopalakrishnan agreed to extend assistance to AgWA and highlighted ICID's 'preference for Africa' as a new agenda. Utilizing the opportunity Secretary General made contacts with Libya National Committee (LICID) to explore the possibilities and revive their interest in ICID. Libya's great efforts to promote agriculture in a challenging environment are unique; this is so because water is being assured with 'man made rivers', modern technologies that ensures water saving in a most difficult environment.

The 'Sirte Declaration' and other documents of the Conference can be viewed at <http://www.sirtewaterandenergy.org>

### **5.4 Collaboration with the 'Improved Management of Agriculture Water in Eastern and Southern Africa (IMAWESA)'**

Prof. Dr. Bancy Mati, Project Manager, IMAWESA, Nairobi, Kenya based on his brief discussion with President Madramootoo at 5<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum, Istanbul wrote on exploring the ways for ICID and IMAWESA to work together in East Africa. The President conveyed ICID's willingness to be partner with IMAWESA and said that ICID depends on its National Committees and local partners on the ground to help deliver specific outcomes. President referring to various discussions at the 5<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum said that there is a need to implement innovative, small scale water management projects for small farmers in semi-arid regions, including East Africa. President informed Dr. Mati that ICID would be willing to contribute to small projects on water savings in agriculture which include value additions and market development, in order to achieve food security and reduce poverty through our focal points to the Eastern Countries.

As a follow-up, Secretary General M. Gopalakrishnan has written in April 2009 to National Committees of Ethiopia (ETCID), Mali (AMID), Nigeria (NINCID), Niger (ANID), Zambia (ZACID), Ghana (GHANCID), Ivory Coast (IVCID), Kenya (KENCID), Malawi (MLCID), Mozambique (MOCID), Senegal (SENCID), Tanzania (TANCID), Zimbabwe (ZICID) and Uganda (UGCID) requesting to participate in the IMAWESA Project as and when needed. The Secretary General also invited IMAWESA to join the upcoming New Delhi event to discuss further. Secretary General has also written to Mr. E.V. Jagannathan, Senior Water Resources Engineer, The World Bank based in Ethiopia to extend World Bank support to participants from East African countries to attend the New Delhi meeting.

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IMAWESA had collaboration with International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Mr. Lee Heng of the Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications of IAEA, Vienna informed to Central Office about their one-week regional training course on “Small scale irrigation technologies and management” for scientist in July 2009 at Benin. The objective of the training course was to provide basic knowledge of skills on the use of nuclear and related techniques for small scale irrigation and water management in semi-arid and arid areas” in collaboration with IMAWESA. The Central Office has widely disseminated information about this course to all National Committees of Africa for their possible participation. The Central Office on the request of Mr. Heng has sent a copy of the ICID Checklist to assist preparation of small scale irrigation projects in SSA countries.

### **5.5 AquaCrop Workshop, Burkina Faso**

The AquaCrop Team of the FAO had sent the information to Central Office about a AquaCrop Workshop on “Capacity Development for Farm Management Strategies to Improve Crop-Water Productivity using AquaCrop” to be held from 27-31 July 2009 at Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. The Central Office has circulated the information brochure to all African National Committees in May 2009 encouraging them to participate in the workshop.

### **5.6 African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN), Nairobi, Kenya**

The African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) held a Special Session on Climate Change from 25-29 May 2009 in Nairobi, Kenya. The event was attended by more than 363 delegates including African government delegates, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations. Prior to the AMCEN meeting, over 60 civil society organizations from Africa held a Pre-Conference on 22-24 May, organized by Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) to discuss climate change and strategies towards participation in the deliberations of the AMCEN. The Central Office circulated the information among National Committees in Africa region.

Members may like to provide their feedback of their participation/ collaborative activities with other related international organizations in the meeting.

### **Item 6 : Publicizing Working Group’s activities through a Newsletter and other international publications**

AFRWG has been discussing since long about bringing out its newsletter. However, due to lack of initiative and contribution from members, the idea could not be translated into action as yet. During the meeting at Lahore, it was observed that the Working Group could not bring out a single issue of the newsletter and suggested that a new impetus should be brought in with the new Chairmanship.

The Central Office has requested the Chairman to form an editorial team of 2-3 professionals who can volunteer to compile/ edit and prepare a newsletter on regular basis. The Central Office has offered its full assistance in bringing out the Newsletter.

The Group may like to discuss and take a view.

### **Item 7 : Webpage of the AFRWG**

The Group’s webpage <http://www.afrwg.icidonline.org/> is active and has a lot of information for members to make good use. Central Office has added some more information/ links of interest to WG activities to the webpage (**Annex 2**).

Members are encouraged to visit the links/ documents and also provide related documents to the Central Office for posting on the webpage.

### **Item 8 : Report of the Task Force for identifying priority issues for least developed countries (LDCs) in Africa**

The draft version of the report on TF-LDCsAF as prepared by Engr. Musa, Chairman was circulated at the meeting. Due to non attendance of Engr. Musa or his representative at Lahore, the report could not be discussed at the meeting. Mr. Felix Reinders also distributed a draft document prepared with the leadership of Chairman Dr. Mhkize. The Group had suggested to integrate these two documents into a single report and to circulate among TF

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members for their comments. Accordingly, the Central Office has prepared a consolidated draft document by merging these two documents and circulated among members of TF-LDCsAF for their comments.

The final version of the draft report will be tabled at the meeting.

**Item 9 : Any other business**

**MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM DR. MKHIZE SIZWE, CHAIRMAN, AFRWG**

**From:** Mkhize Sizwe [mailto:MkhizeS2@dwaf.gov.za]  
**Sent:** Mon 9/14/2009 1:13 PM  
**To:** ICID  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Annotated Agenda for the 20th meeting of Africa Regional Working Group (AFRWG)

Dear Dr Kulkarni

Thank you for the information on AFRWG and the up-coming meeting.

May I bring to your attention my long-term challenge in being part of the ICID family. I changed my job and moved offices. My new circumstances prohibit me from doing justice to ICID, particularly the Africa Working Group. It is indeed frustrating that I am distant from the subject of irrigation and drainage. I have shared this frustration with my colleagues at SANCID (South Africa), and I am sharing this with you now.

My request is to be relieved of my responsibilities within AFRWG (as Chairman) and ICID (as member). I will however continue to support SANCID. I wish ICID and AFRWG all the best into the future.

I am copying this message to my colleagues in South Africa, to whom my challenges have been communicated before.

Regards

Sizwe

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**AFRICAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ARWG)****New additions to the webpage**

- The total area of SSA is 24 million km<sup>2</sup>, about 18 percent of the world's landmass. The region is relatively well endowed with natural resources. Some 234 million ha are cultivated – about one-quarter of the cultivable area. In the region as a whole, the arid and semi-arid agro-ecological zones make up 43 percent of the land area. Agriculture accounts for 20 percent of the region's GDP, employs 67 percent of the total labour force. Annual precipitation in SSA is estimated at an average of 815 mm. Annual internal renewable water resources SSA amount to more than 3880 km<sup>3</sup>. A document on "Mapping Poverty, Water and Agriculture in sub-Saharan Africa" can be downloaded <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/010/i0132e/i0132e03a.pdf>
- Agricultural growth in Africa in general and sub-Saharan Africa in particular is vital to poverty reduction and achievement of the MDGs, as emphasized in the World Development Report 2008: Agriculture for Development. Despite its importance, investments in agricultural water have seen a continuous decline since the late 1980's, with a timid recovery in recent years. A briefing note on "The Initiative for Agricultural Water in Africa (AgWA) can be viewed at [http://www.agirn.org/documents/Agricultural\\_Water\\_in\\_Africa\\_AgWA.pdf](http://www.agirn.org/documents/Agricultural_Water_in_Africa_AgWA.pdf)
- A High-Level Meeting on African Agriculture in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – Meeting the Challenges, Making a Sustainable Green Revolution", was held on 9-10 February 2009 at Windhoek, Namibia. The ministerial-level meeting was a part of preparations for the 17<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), which took place in May 2009. The objective of the event was to consider how African governments and other stakeholders can meet those challenges and take forceful policy and practical measures, in cooperation with the international community and development partners, to revitalize African agriculture and the broader rural economies in ways that are economically, socially and environmentally sustainable. A brief note about the meeting can be accessed at <http://www.iisd.ca/africa/brief/briefing1801e.pdf>
- In the framework of the Conference on "Water for Agriculture and Energy in Africa: The Challenges of Climate Change", the African Development Bank, FAO, NEPAD and World Bank invited for the Third Partners Meeting on "Agricultural Water in Africa (AgWA)" on 15 December 2008 at Sirte, Libya. Further details of the conference can be seen at [http://www.sirtewaterandenergy.org/docs/2009/Sirte\\_2008\\_BAK\\_5.pdf](http://www.sirtewaterandenergy.org/docs/2009/Sirte_2008_BAK_5.pdf)
- Over the past century, the South African economy has been supported by a well planned and well managed water infrastructure. The challenge is to continue this into the next decade and beyond, while at the same time, ensuring that the benefits accrue to all South Africans. Water for Growth and development aims to put the country on a new path that recognizes the scarcity and value of water. 1<sup>st</sup> draft version of the Framework Document on "Water for Growth and Development", has been brought out by Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, Republic of South Africa in November 2008. This document presents an overview of how water can contribute towards sustained social development and economic growth and alleviate poverty. Executive Summary of the draft version 7 can be downloaded at <http://www.dwaf.gov.za/Masibambane/documents/watergrowth/WfGDv6Nov21.pdf>. A power point presentation on "Water for Growth and Development" by the Chairman Dr. Sizwe Mkhize can be viewed at [http://www.dwaf.gov.za/Masibambane/documents/watergrowth/DDG\\_PR-wfgd\\_roundtable-08Nov2008.pdf](http://www.dwaf.gov.za/Masibambane/documents/watergrowth/DDG_PR-wfgd_roundtable-08Nov2008.pdf)
- The amount of private finance currently being attracted to water projects in Africa is small. A two-day (26-27 November 2008) meeting in Dakar, Senegal, under the theme "Financing water for Growth in Africa" is being organized by the Infrastructure Consortium for Africa with a specific focus on enhancing private sector participation in the water sector in Africa. Millions of people in Africa still have to rely on unsafe water. Investment in water for commercial, agricultural and industrial activities is essential for growth. Achieving water MDGs and enabling economic growth in Africa require the construction, the maintenance and the management of a wide range of water infrastructure: from dams to irrigation systems, toilets to water treatment plants, well to distribution pipes and water management systems. Further details are available at [http://www.icafrica.org/fileadmin/documents/Water\\_Meeting\\_2008/ICA\\_water\\_meeting\\_-\\_announcement\\_EN.pdf](http://www.icafrica.org/fileadmin/documents/Water_Meeting_2008/ICA_water_meeting_-_announcement_EN.pdf)

- The Regional Association on Irrigation and Drainage (ARID) has been playing a leading role in the composition and the consolidation of the organizational landscape in the area of irrigation and drainage, an important factor of effective African participation in related international activities. The ARID had organized Second Edition of Living African Irrigation and Drainage (SAFID) from 5-10 February 2008, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. Details are available at <http://www.arid-afrique.org/>
  - “IWMI in Africa: Ongoing Research and Findings”, March 2008 can be accessed at <http://www.iwmi.cgiar.org/Publications/Other/PDF/AfDB%20Africa%20March-2008.pdf>
  - Improved Management of Agriculture Water in Eastern and Southern Africa (IMAWESA) is a knowledge management network for promoting agricultural water management with a goal to contribute to poverty reduction through improved policy, institutions, practices and performance of smallholder management of agricultural water in Africa. The IMAWESA covers 23 countries in eastern, central and southern Africa and it has brought out many interesting publications related to agricultural water management and can be viewed at the website <http://www.asareca.org/imawesa>
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