

Agenda for the Twenty Second Meeting of the
AFRICAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (AFRWG)
 Tehran, Iran
 17 October 2011: 09.00-12.30 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. Adama Sangare, Chairman (Mali, 2009); (2) Dr. Andrew Senewe, Vice Chairman (South Africa, 2009); (3) Engr. D.B. Madu, Secretary (Nigeria, 2008); (4) Ms. Raphaele Ducrot (France, 1999); (5). Dr. Makonnen Loulseged (Ethiopia, 2007); (6) Vice President Dr. Samia El-Guindy (Egypt, 2010), and (7) Secretary General, ICID

Observers: (i) FAO Representative; (ii) World Bank Representative; (iii) IPTRID Representative; (iv) Mr. Jean Syrognis, Camara (Italy); (v) Mr. Adriado de Vito (Italy); (vi) Dr. Ms. Felicity Chancellor (UK); (vii) ARID Representative; (viii) SARIA Representative; and (ix) AgWA Representative.

Website: <<http://www.afrwg.icidonline.org>>

Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 21st meeting of the Working Group

The minutes of the 21st meeting of the Working Group held at Yogyakarta in October 2010 will be confirmed.

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

2.1 Membership of the group

The Italian National Committee (ITAL-ICID) has nominated Ing. Adriano de Vito (Italy) for the membership of the group. CV of Ing. Vito is awaited. Ing. Vito is already representing ITAL-ICID as an Observer in the group. The group may like to decide about his membership at the meeting.

Attendance of the members during the meetings held at 2009 and 2010 will be tabled at the meeting.

2.2 Membership of African countries

At present, there are only 6 active member countries in the Africa region, 17 deemed to be inactive countries, and 5 countries were admitted but have not paid their subscription. The details are shown below:

Active (Year of Joining)	Deemed to be inactive (Year of Joining) (Year of becoming inactive)	Admitted but not paid subscription (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. Cameroon (2009)
3. Mali (AMID) (2005)	3. Ghana (CHANCID) (1958) (1982)	3. Chad (ATID) (2003)
4. Niger (ANID) (2007)	4. Ivory Coast (IVCID) (1969) (1982)	4. Mauritius (MAUCID) (1992)
5. Nigeria (NINCID) (1970)	5. Kenya (KENCID) (1977) (2003)	5. São Tomé and Príncipe (SAOCID) (1985)
6. South Africa (SANCID) (1993)	6. Libya (LICID) (1988) (2000)	
	7. Madagascar (MADCID) (1983) (1986)	
	8. Malawi (MILCID) (1967) (2004)	
	9. Morocco (ANAFIDE) (1959) (2010)	

Active (Year of Joining)	Deemed to be inactive (Year of Joining) (Year of becoming inactive)	Admitted but not paid subscription (Year of Admission)
	10. Mozambique (MOCID) (1978) (2006) 11. Senegal (SENCID) (1966) (1992) 12. Sudan (SUCID) (1964) (2003) 13. Tanzania (TANCID) (2000) (2006) 14. Tunisia (TUNCID) (1960) (1993) 15. Uganda (UGCID) (1963)(1983) 16. Zambia (ZACID) (1966) (2010) 17. Zimbabwe (ZICID) (1955) (2001)	

The Central Office had corresponded with the National Committee of Mozambique (MOCID) for their reactivation. Countries of Cameroon, Burkina Faso, and Chad whose membership application had been accepted by IECs at previous meetings, have been requested to pay their membership subscription to formally effect their membership.

Dr. Ir. Karim Shiati, Vice President (Hon.), ICID and Chairman, ICID's Asian Regional Working Group (ASRWG) visited Tanzania on 5 June 2011 and held discussions with Eng. Raphael Daluti, Director Irrigation and Technical Service Division, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security of P.R. of Tanzania regarding the reactivation of the Tanzanian National Committee (TANCID) and its active participation in the 21st ICID Congress / 62nd IEC meeting.

H.E. Aghatam AG Alhassane, Minister of Agriculture and Mr. Aliou Bamba, Technical Advisor of the Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Mali visited New Delhi in December 2010. Secretary General Gopalakrishnan met the Mali delegation and briefed about ICID activities in Africa Region. In particular, he apprised about the forthcoming 3rd African Regional Conference to be held in Mali. Mr. Bamba visited the Central Office on 16 December and held a meeting with the Secretary General and Professionals to review the preparations for the 3rd African Regional Conference. He informed that the Mali National Committee (AMID) was gearing up towards various preparations for hosting the event. He informed about the launch of special Conference website. Mr. Bamba collected some recent and past technical books (including some French versions) from the Central Office Technical Library.

CONTINUING ITEMS

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

3.1 Report of the SARIA Workshop, February 2011, Swaziland

The Southern African Regional Irrigation Association (SARIA) held a workshop and its steering committee meeting from 15-17 February 2011 at Maguga Lodge, Swaziland. SARIA's vision is to enhance communication, research, training and development of appropriate science and technologies in irrigation and drainage for gender balanced poverty eradication and economic development to improve the livelihoods of the inhabitants of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries. It is currently comprised of members from 13 (out of 15) SADC countries.

The theme of the workshop was *"Poverty reduction and household food security in SADC countries"* and its purpose was to facilitate the exchange of ideas and practices between researchers, advisory agents and government officials from the SADC countries. It also aimed to build a shared understanding of the necessary activities and priority areas for research and extension. Representatives from 11 SADC countries participated in the workshop. A technical visit to irrigation schemes in Swaziland which included a presentation by the Swaziland Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (SWADE) was organized. The annual SARIA Steering Committee meeting was held on 17 February. Dr. Andrew Senewe, Vice Chairman has sent two sets of the proceeding of the workshop (CD-ROM) to the Central Office Library.

The SARIA Chairman attended the AgWA Partners' Meeting held on 17-18 January 2011 at Johannesburg. The meeting was co-convened with NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA). The major formal outcome of the meeting was the endorsement of the governance arrangements that had been proposed by each of the two regions (Western and Central Africa -WCA, Eastern and Southern Africa -ESA), which include the formation of steering committees for each region.

3.2 3rd African Regional Conference, 29 November – 5 December 2011, Mali

The 3rd ICID African Regional Conference (3rdAfRC) will be held during 29th November to 5th December 2011 at Bamako, Mali. The theme of the Conference is '**Food security in Africa and climate change: Improve Irrigation and drainage contribution**'. The main objectives of the Conference are - (i) To share documented experiences and knowledge on climate change and how to scale up experiences; (ii) To suggest strategies for improving water productivity; and (iii) To advise policy makers on how irrigation could contribute to food security in Africa.

The sub-themes are- **Theme 1:** Effects of climate change on the development of irrigation and drainage in Africa, **Theme 2:** Policies and strategies to improve the contribution of irrigation and drainage to food security in Africa under climate change context, and **Theme 3:** Water use productivity in agriculture and the challenges of climate change.

ICID management has nominated VPH Dr. Mark Svendsen and Mr. Laurie Tollefson on the Scientific Committee of 3rd AfRC. The "first announcement" of the Conference was circulated by the Mali National Committee (AMID) as well as Central Office to all National Committees and international organizations and members of the group requesting their participation. For more information about the conference sub-themes, key dates etc. please visit the conference website <<http://www.amid-mali.org>>. Copies of the announcement will be distributed at the meeting.

In line with the spirit of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed at Yogyakarta in October 2010 between AMID, ICID and AFEID, the French National Committee (AFEID) extended its support in bringing the delegates from Africa to the 24th ERC held in March 2011. Secretary General has communicated with Chairman Dr. Sangare to explore in getting similar support a few participants of the West Africa for the 3rd AfRC. Secretary General M. Gopalakrishnan has sent an ICID invitation letter to H.E. Amadou Toumani Touré, President of the Republic of Mali for their active engagement and support in hosting the 3rd African Regional Conference (AfRC) by AMID.

In March 2011, President Prof. Chandra Madramootoo informed PH Prof. Dr. Bart Schultz that Isabelle Proulx of IDRC, Canada was exploring the possibility of hosting a special session on climate change in Africa at the 3rd African Regional Conference. In this session IDRC would like to promote the findings of some research which IDRC and DFID have been co-sponsoring and financing in Africa. President Madramootoo also envisages bringing out a special issue of ICID Journal with about 10 best papers from this special session.

Secretary General M. Gopalakrishnan was in Colombo to attend the Global Water Partnership (GWP) regional workshop on 'Climate change, food and water security for South Asia' held in February 2011, where he met VPH Dr. Ait Kadi (Morocco). During the discussion on ICID matters, VPH Dr. Kadi has expressed Morocco's desire to collaborate at the Government level with Mali National Committee (AMID) in organisation of the African Regional Conference. Dr. Kadi presently is Chair of GWP Technical Committee. Chairman Dr. Sangare was encouraged to contact VPH Dr. Ait Kadi at <aitkadi@sg.madrpm.gov.ma> for firming up the collaboration.

Chairman Dr. Sangare will apprise updates and progress in the Conference preparations at the meeting.

3.3 11th International Drainage Workshop (IDW), September 2012, Cairo

The 11th International Drainage Workshop (IDW) will be hosted by the Egyptian National Committee (ENCID) in Cairo from 23-27 September 2012. The main theme of the 11th IDW is "*Agricultural Drainage Needs and Future Priorities*" under which six topics and 27 subtopics will be addressed. The first Announcement and Call for Papers of the 11th IDW has been issued and widely circulated amongst ICID National Committees and International Organizations for further dissemination amongst potential participants. In May 2011, Chairman VP Dr. Vlotman circulated the announcement to all members with a request to circulate it amongst interested professionals outside the ICID network. The last date for receipt of abstracts of paper(s) at the workshop secretariat is **1 December 2011**. The workshop website <<http://www.encid.org.eg/idw11>> provides details on topic/sub-topics, call for papers, venue, exhibition, study tours, etc.

VPH Prof. Dr. M.H. Amer, or ENCID representative will provide updates at the meeting.

Item 4 : Three-year work plan of the group

At Yogyakarta, WG nominated a team comprising one representative each from ARID (Mr. Adama Ouedraogo), SARIA (Dr. Andrew Sanewe) and AMID (Dr. Adama Sangare) to submit contributions for the work plan for the next 3 years to the Central Office.

In April 2011, the Central Office requested the above professionals to prepare and provide a draft work plan (2011-2013) in liaison with the team members. Responses are awaited.

The team/ group will discuss and prepare a three year work plan (2011-2013) considering the ongoing activities and likely future tasks.

Item 5 : Cooperation with other working groups and international organizations

5.1 ICID working groups

WG noted that the meetings of Special Work Team on Lake Chad Basin (ST-LCB) were not held both at New Delhi (2009) and in Yogyakarta (2010) and suggested that the key items of the ST-LCB be included in the agenda of the AFRWG from the year 2011 onwards. During the Yogyakarta meeting, the Chairman Dr. Sangare volunteered to contact the Director General of Operations of the Lake Chad Basin Commission, Mr. Chaibou Mahaman and develop further action plan.

In April 2011, the Central Office has requested Dr. Sangare to initiate action and provide further feedback. Response is awaited.

Chairman will apprise the members the progress on the above at the meeting.

5.2 SANCID Symposium, November 2010

The South African National Committee (SANCID) celebrated its 17th year as a member of ICID by hosting a very successful 'The 2010 SANCID Symposium' from 16-18 November 2010 at the Desert Palace Hotel and Casino Resort in Ugington in the Northern Cape. The theme of the symposium was "Efficient water use for food production". The delegates had an opportunity to explore the theme of the symposium through 26 excellent papers that were presented. The sub-themes covered irrigation scheduling, soil nutrient management, irrigation strategies, water management at catchment scale, irrigation efficiency, water productivity and modeling water use. Dr. Richard Stirzaker was the keynote speaker and gave a very interesting presentation on "What does efficient irrigation really mean?" This was followed up with a presentation by Dr. Gerhard Backeberg on "Innovations for effective agricultural water management and efficient food production".

5.3 Focus on Africa

During the Yogyakarta meeting, the group suggested that the AFRWG to continue to reiterate the importance of reactivating the National Committees in African countries. The "Preference for Africa" programme needs to be enhanced and become more visible. The group also noted that the Central Office has been continuously communicated with inactive National Committees to reactivate their membership.

WG may like to come up with some practical proposal(s) to invigorate the 'Preference for Africa' programme.

5.4 Agricultural Water Partnership (AgWA)

During the Yogyakarta meeting, President Hon. Peter Lee encouraged the organizers of the 3rd AfRC to get in touch with Agricultural Water for Africa (AgWA) and ask them to conduct their next meeting on the sidelines of the conference. AgWA also in their program indicated that they would like to participate in the 3rd AfRC for presenting their experiences. In view of low membership status of AFRWG, it was suggested that AFRWG needs to focus on building and strengthening professionals beginning with the countries of Morocco, Mali, South Africa, Senegal, Kenya, Egypt, Ethiopia, Nigeria, and Tanzania. It was also suggested that the WG members will get in touch with international organizations like FAO, IWMI, AfDB, NEPAD etc. for getting the contact persons. ICID management also nominated Dr. Adama Sangare and Vice President Dr. Samia El-Guindy for the 'Oversight Committee of AgWA'.

In April 2011, the Central Office requested Chairman Dr. Adama Sangare to invite AgWA for participation either by way of holding a special session or making a presentation during the regional conference. In addition, the Central Office also requested Dr. Sangare to invite appropriate agency of the UNEP to participate in the conference so as to disseminate key findings/ recommendations of the document "Africa Water Atlas" among the delegates. Dr. Sangare was also requested to explore the possibility for sponsorships by contacting giant MNCs like Monsanto, DuPont, Syngenta as they have great interest in introducing their drought tolerant crop varieties (GM crops) in SSA. Response is awaited.

Chairman will apprise further developments at the meeting.

5.5 Other international announcements/ initiatives

- **Africa Water Atlas**

The Atlas, compiled by UNEP at the request of the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) shows how the challenges of water scarcity in Africa are compounded by high population growth, socio-economic and climate change impacts and, in some cases, policy choices. In total, the Africa Water Atlas features over 224 maps and 104 satellite images as well as some 500 graphics and hundreds of compelling photos.

Prepared in cooperation with the African Union, European Union, US Department of State and United States Geological Survey, the 326-page atlas gathers information about the role of water in Africa's economies and development, health, food security, transboundary cooperation, capacity building and environmental change in one comprehensive and accessible volume. All images from the atlas are free to use and can be downloaded from <www.na.unep.net/atlas>.

- **African Journal of Agricultural Research**

The *African Journal of Agricultural Research (AJAR)* is accepting manuscripts for publication. AJAR publishes high-quality solicited and unsolicited articles, in English, in all areas of agriculture including irrigation and drainage. All articles published in AJAR will be peer-reviewed and following acceptance, the paper will normally be published in the next available issue. In tune with the requirement of researchers all over the world, to have an open access to research publications, the AJAR is fully committed to providing free access to all articles as soon as they are published. Accordingly, papers are solicited from potential authors for publishing their papers in AJAR and the manuscript(s) may be sent to ajar.acadjourn@gmail.com. Instruction for authors and other details are available at: www.academicjournals.org/ajar. AJAR is also seeking qualified reviewers. Interested reviewers may please contact Prof. N.A. Amusa, Acting Editor, AJAR at E-mail: <ajar.acadjourn@gmail.com>. In July 2011, the Central Office circulated the announcement among all NCs of Africa region and members of the group for perusal.

- **African Session of the 8th World Forum of Sustainable Development**

In cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, the General Directorate for Globalization and Partnerships, the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) and Chadian authorities, the 3rd Africa Edition of the 8th World Sustainable Development Forum (WSDF) was held in N'Djamena in October 2010 under the main theme: "Save Lake Chad". Formerly considered as Africa's land-locked sea, Lake Chad was 25,000 km² in 1960 but is currently reduced to about 8,000 km². About 90% of its area has already disappeared. Authorities and some experts blame global warming for its narrowing, whereas others give various reasons and especially its overexploitation for irrigation or urban water needs. This basin is located at the border of four countries (Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria and Chad) and is a major migration point which pulls mainly cattle rearers and fishermen.

More than a thousand delegates from the scientific, economic and political world, international institutions, representatives of the civil society and the media, attended this international forum. One of the fundamentals of the forum was to seek urgent solutions to save Lake Chad.

Following the intense deliberations, the experts of the forum scientific committee made proposals for analysis and validation at the forum "political segment" on 31 October 2010, as the closing ceremony of the Forum. Some LCBC heads of States actively attended this segment and enhanced fund mobilization. According to the final communiqué read by the Chadian minister for the Environment, Hassan Terap, participants and heads of states pleaded for the Lake Chad Basin to be classified as a World Heritage and thus become one of the major international sustainable development priorities for the next decades. Also, the Chadian government decided to set up a follow-up committee. Its mission is to follow up and assess actions especially in terms of R&D.

- **Africa Public Private Partnership (APPP) 2011**

The 3rd edition of the International Africa Public Private Partnership (APPP) Conference and Showcase will be held in Nairobi, Kenya on 1-2 December 2011. The main focus of the conference will be on infrastructure, energy, transport, telecoms and water sectors. APPP 2011 is hosted by the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Kenya and supported by the African Development Bank.

- **World Water Day, March 2011**

On 20th March 2011, the water and green growth project was publicly launched at UN Habitat's World Water Day conference held in Cape Town at a side event organised to initiate the debate on the role that water plays in green growth. International economic and water experts came together from the Korean Government, the OECD, UNEP, the Nature Conservancy, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and the World Water Council to open the debate. The debate was chaired by Dr. Eunkyung Park, Korean Ambassador for Water, and introduced by Dr. Haejin Yang, R&D Executive Director of the K-water Institute and Mr. Loic Fauchon, President of the World Water Council.

Item 6 : Publicizing working group's activities through a Newsletter and other international publications

At Yogyakarta, the Working Group agreed to provide brief news items including future events and important publications to the Central Office for inclusion in the proposed AFRWG Newsletter. Chairman Dr. Sangare has taken a lead in bringing out a Newsletter. All members of the Working Group are requested to send one or two pages of information/ data for inclusion in the newsletter.

Chairman may like to provide updates.

Item 7 : Website of the AFRWG

During the Yogyakarta meeting, the Chairman informed the members that the AFRWG website is active and encouraged them to access it <<http://www.afrwg.icidonline.org/>>. He urged all members to contribute to the website by sending the information/ news to the Central Office for uploading on the website with required changes and amendments.

A brief report of the SARIA workshop held in February 2011 in Swaziland is posted on the group's website.

Item 8 : Any other business