

Agenda for the Seventh Meeting of the  
**AMERICAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (AMRWG)**  
 Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
 12 October 2010: 13:30-17:00 hours

**Year of Establishment: 2003**

**Mandate:** (1) To assist in the development of ICID National Committee in Americas; (2) To obtain and disseminate information on irrigation and drainage in Americas; (3) To organize national and international discussions / meetings on relevant scientific and technical issues; and (4) To act as catalyst for promoting better contact with the ICID and other relevant international organizations.

**Members:** (1) Dr. Luis Rendón Pimentel, Convener (Mexico, 2004); (2) Dr. Dennis Wichelns (USA, 2005); (3) Representative from Brazil; (4) Representative from Canada; (5) Representative from Chile; (6) Representative from Guyana; (7) Representative from Uruguay; and (8) Secretary General, ICID.

**Observers:** (1) Vice President Hon. José A. Ortiz Fdz.-Urrutia (Spain); (2) Representative from Portugal; and (3) Dr. Jaime Collado (Mexico).

**Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Group**

The minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Group held at New Delhi, India in December 2009 will be confirmed.

**Item 2 : Review of Membership**

The ICID Central Office has requested (24 March 2010) National Committees of Brazil, Canada, Chile, Guyana, Portugal (Observer) and Uruguay to send nominations for the membership of the Working Group. Responses are awaited.

Further, there are 9 National Committees i.e. Argentina, Columbia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Panama, Peru, Surinam and Venezuela, which have become '*deemed inactive*'. The Central Office has contacted (25 February 2010) and urged them to revive their memberships. . Responses are awaited.

However, Argentina and Peru had indicated their inclination to join ICID in 2008. The Central Office is actively pursuing their membership and awaits their further response.

Central Office has also attempted (04 March 2010) to contact new (fresh) countries in Americas: Republic of Bolivia, Republic of Costa Rica, Republic of El-Salvador, Republic of Guatemala, Republic of Haiti, Republic of Paraguay, Republic of Puerto Rico, Republic of Trinidad & Tobago and Republic of Nicaragua, for the membership of ICID.

In response, the Central Office has received (18 March 2010) a positive message from Dr. Robert Salandy, Director (Land and Water Development Division), Republic of Trinidad & Tobago for becoming a member of ICID. Central Office provided (19 March 2010) all the necessary information and informed that the ICID annual membership subscription of Trinidad & Tobago would be US\$ 1,355 for the year 2010. Further response is awaited.

As a result of similar efforts in early 2008, the Republic of Jamaica was admitted to ICID during 59<sup>th</sup> IEC meeting in October 2008 at Lahore, Pakistan. However, the 1<sup>st</sup> subscription from the Republic of Jamaica is still awaited.

**Item 3 : Election/nomination of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary**

At Kuala Lumpur (2006), Sacramento (2007), Lahore (2008), and New Delhi (2009) the elections of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary could not be held during the WG meetings due to scarce attendance of members. It was therefore decided to defer the elections till next meeting in October 2010 at Yogyakarta, Indonesia (2010).

**Item 4 : Activities of the WG**

The following activities are proposed:

- Preparing an updated country profiles giving information on natural resources, agricultural production, irrigation and drainage features etc.
- Development of AMRWG website on the lines of other ICID workbodies.
- Identifying events taking place in Americas and participation.
- Fostering close bilateral/multilateral cooperation between Latin American National Committees.
- Others.....

Further, a workplan (a three year rolling plan) needs to be prepared to guide and assign activities under AMRWG to members for suitable follow up action.

**Item 5 : Any other business****• Activities for Latin America: One-day seminar**

The Italian National Committee of ICID (ITAL-ICID) successfully organized a one-day Seminar under theme '*Water for Food, Water and Health*' held on 25 February 2010 at National Research Council, Italy under the leadership of Vice President Prof. Lucio Ubertini (Italy). This Seminar was a good opportunity for Latin American countries and their representatives to share information on their activities and explore further avenues for cooperation with each other. The experiences of Latin American countries in irrigated agriculture have a rich diversity. The new initiative by Italian National Committee ushered in better opportunities to gain mutually from the experiences of the Latin American countries and the rest of the world.

The ICID Central Office provided detailed information to VP Lucio Ubertini on active/inactive National Committees in Americas, benefits of ICID membership etc. for his use while conducting the seminar and further dissemination, as appropriate. President Madramootoo appreciated the efforts of VP Ubertini and suggested to involve FAO and VPH Ortiz (Spain) in his activities.

**• Invitation from World Agricultural Forum (WAF) – Latin America, Brasilia, Brazil**

ICID Central Office had received (14 June 2010) an invitation from Dr. Kathy Moldthan, President and CEO, World Agricultural Forum (WAF) – Latin America on "The Role of Latin America in Feeding the World in 2050" held on 12-13 May 2010 at Brasilia, Brazil. The Forum was graced by eminent policy makers and leading voices in the agribusiness of the world.

Central Office requested (26 April 2010) Ing. Helvecio Mattana Saturnino, President of Brazilian National Committee of ICID (ABID) to represent ICID during the Meeting which was graciously done. Ing. Helvecio Mattana Saturnino supplemented information that PH Aly Shady and himself introduced ICID's contribution to the assembly.

**• Invitation from WMO**

ICID Central Office received (07 May 2010) an invitation from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for its fifteenth session of the Commission for Agricultural Meteorology (CAgM), which was held on 15-21 July 2010 at Belo Horizonte, Brazil. ICID is an accredited organization having consultative status with WMO and has attended some of the previous meetings of WMO. This was a good meeting opportunity for ICID to share information on our activities.

Central Office requested (25 May 2010) Ing. Helvecio Mattana Saturnino, President of Brazilian National Committee of ICID (ABID) to represent ICID during this Session. Response is awaited.

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- **'Launch of the 2030 Water Agenda' in Mexico**

The ICID Central Office received (01 July 2010) the announcement on updating the '*International activities of the National Water Commission of Mexico*', June 2010 issue. In this issue they focused on the long-term planning for water resources management as evidenced through the '*Launch of the 2030 Water Agenda*', supported by the World Bank for the global climate change adaptation agenda, and the Latin American and Caribbean dialogue process on water and climate change.

In an event organized by the Comisión Nacional del Agua (CONAGUA) in Los Pinos, the President of Mexico, H.E. Felipe Calderón Hinojosa, launched the 2030 Water Agenda on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2010. A brief description of the event is available at <<http://www.conagua.gob.mx>>

Central Office disseminated the information (02 July 2010) to Convener and members of the ICID American Regional Working Group (AMRWG) for their information.

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