

Agenda for the Eighth Meeting of the  
**AMERICAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (AMRWG)**  
 Tehran, Iran  
 17 October 2011: 13:30-17:00 hours

**Year of Establishment: 2003**

**Mandate:** (1) To assist in the development of ICID National Committees 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, Chairman (2010) (Mexico, 2004); (2) Ing. Agr. Sergio Domingo de Agela Vaccarezza, Vice Chairman (Uruguay, 2010); (3) Dr. Dennis Wichelns (USA, 2005); (4) Representative from Brazil; (5) Representative from Canada; (6) Representative from Chile; (7) Representative from Guyana; and (8) Secretary General, ICID.

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

**Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Group**

The minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Group held at Yogyakarta, Indonesia in October 2010 will be confirmed.

**Item 2 : Review of Membership**

The ICID Central Office has requested (03 May 2011) National Committees of Brazil, Canada, Chile, Guyana and Portugal (Observer) to send their nominations for the membership of the Working Group. Responses are awaited.

Central Office has also requested (03 May 2011) ITAL-ICID to nominate Vice President Prof. Ubertini (Italy) as an 'Observer' on the Working Group considering his keen interest in joining the Group to help enhance the activities of the WG and reactivation of National Committees in the region. Response is awaited.

Further, there are 9 National Committees i.e. Argentina, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Panama, Peru, Surinam and Venezuela, which have become '*deemed inactive*'. The Central Office has contacted (12 July 2011) and urged them to revive their memberships. Responses are awaited.

Central Office has also attempted (13 July 2011) 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. Following the positive response from Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the Central Office has informed them of their annual membership subscription for the year 2011. Further response is awaited.

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

It is with great regret that we note the Chilean National Committee of ICID (CHICID) has submitted a letter of intent saying it is withdrawing (18 May 2011) its ICID membership on its own. Efforts to reactivate the CHICID may please be discussed.

IEC will also be apprised of Chile's request for withdrawal of ICID membership.

**Item 3 : Election/nomination of Secretary**

The WG may wish to elect/nominate a new Secretary for the WG during the Tehran meeting.

**Item 4 : 4th American Regional Conference**

The WG indicated that the Brazilian, Mexican and Uruguay National Committees were exploring the possibility of organizing the '*IV American Regional Conference*'. Central Office requested (03 May 2011) these NCs to send the further progress in this regard, if any. Responses are awaited.

**Item 5 : Activities of the WG**

Ing. Agr. Sergio Domingo De Agrela Vaccarezza (Uruguay), Vice Chairman of the WG, presented a profile of Uruguay titled "*Water use in Uruguay agriculture*" during the Yogyakarta meeting in 2010. Central Office requested (03 May 2011) to send the document to the ICID Central Office for further dissemination among its members and uploading on the ICID website as a country profile of Uruguay. Response is awaited.

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, subject to approval of Chair.

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 actions.

**Item 6 : Any other business**

- **Network for Cooperation in Integrated Water Resource Management for Sustainable Development in Latin America and Caribbean**

ICID Central Office had received an announcement from the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) indicating that the newest issue of the Circular of the Network for Cooperation in Integrated Water Resources Management for Sustainable Development in Latin America and Caribbean has been published.

A brief description of the Issue No. 32 is available at <<http://www.eclac.org/drni/noticias/circulares/5/40365/Carta32in.pdf>>. By a circular dated (28 October 2010) ICID National Committees in Americas were informed by Central Office to benefit by visiting the website.

- **FAO publication**

The ICID Central Office had received (12 October 2010) a FAO publication titled '*The Wealth of Waste: The economics of wastewater use in agriculture*' by Dr. Jaime Collado, Vice-President of Mexican National Committee of ICID (MXCID) . Dr. Collado presented it in Stockholm in November 2010. Members may contact Dr. Collado for a copy of the same.

- **'Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD) Day 2010'**

The ICID Central Office had received (8 November 2010) an announcement 'Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD) Day 2010' on '*Finding solutions to feed the world in face of climate change*' which was held on 04 December 2010 in Gran Melia Hotel, Cancun, Mexico. It took place in parallel to the 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP 16) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Central Office requested (10 November) Dr. Luis Redón Pimentel, President of MXCID to represent ICID in the event. Dr. Pimentel informed (24 November 2010) that he will participate in the event on behalf of ICID. Feedback is awaited.

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- **Invitation from National Water Commission (CONAGUA), Mexico**

ICID Central Office had received (05 November 2010) an invitation from National Water Commission (CONAGUA) for its 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 16) which was held during 1-3 December 2010 at Cancun, Mexico. It was a good opportunity for ICID to share information on our activities and explore further avenues for cooperation. Central Office requested (10 November 2010) Dr. Luis Rendón Pimentel, Chairman of AMRWG and President, MXCID to represent ICID during this event. Response is awaited.

- **XX National Congress on Irrigation and Drainage (CONIRD) in Brazil**

The Brazilian National Committee of ICID (ABID) co-organizes the 'XV National Congress on Irrigation and Drainage (CONIRD)' every year in Brazil. This year, the XX CONIRD was organized during 6-8 December 2010 at Uberaba, Minas Gerias, Brazil. Prof. Dr. Chandra A. Madramootoo, President, ICID was invited to deliver a Keynote speech during the 'Opening Ceremony'. Since President Madramootoo could not participate in the CONIRD, his message was read out at the CONIRD.

- **Invitation to Dialog on Disaster Management**

ICID Central Office received (4 June 2011) an invitation from National Water Commission (CONAGUA) to participate in the "Dialog on climate change disaster management: a perspective from the water community" which was held on 23 June 2011 in Mexico. Central Office circulated (08 June 2011) the information to Chairman and members of the AMRWG for their participation.

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

The National Water Commission on Mexico launched the 2030 Water Agenda in March 2010. ICID Central Office requested (03 May 2011) Chairman, AMRWG to send a copy of the '2030 Water Agenda' to the Central Office for its further dissemination amongst AMRWG members for information. Response is awaited.

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