

**AGENDA FOR THE 25<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE  
ASIAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ASRWG)**

14 August 2018, 09.00-10.30 hours (Session I) and 11.00-12.30 hours (Session II)  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

Presented by the Chairman

**Year of Establishment: 1996**

**Mandate:** The general objective of the Asian Regional Working Group is to focus on common topics and issues and to enhance the transfer of appropriate technology in irrigation and drainage to and from the Asian Region. The mission of ASRWG is to encourage membership and to coordinate activities in the region.

**Website:** <http://asrwg.icidonline.org/>

**ASRWG Agenda Item 1: Action taken report by Chair<sup>1</sup>**

1. The Chair/ Vice Chair will present the report on the actions taken on the decisions and proposals of the working group at its last meeting held at Mexico City in October 2017.

2. ICID CO, vide e-mail dated 8 December 2017 to all Chairs/ Vice Chairs/ Secretaries, suggested to work bodies to make full use of web-ex platform for virtual meeting so as to ensure regular contribution from the WG members as well as discuss and initiate follow-up actions emerging from the minutes of the previous WG meeting and review the progress of the action points. However, no virtual meeting of the WG could be organised since last meeting of the WG in Mexico in October 2017. In this connection PCTA in its meeting in Mexico in October 2017 accepted the recommendation of the Sub-committee to investigate the structure, scheduling of meetings and membership of working groups (SC-SSMWG) that WG Chairs make the WG meetings technically more attractive by taking preparatory steps through virtual meetings of the WGs before preparing the agenda for the meetings.

3. As suggested by the WG, the ICID Central Office has followed-up with the countries of Afghanistan, India, Bangladesh, Kazakhstan, Philippines, and Tajikistan for the membership of the WG. In response, the Tajikistan National Committee (TAJCID) has nominated Mr. Dilshod Kimsanov while Chinese Taipei Committee (CTCID) has nominated Dr. Ray-Shyan, Wu for the membership of the WG. Chairman in consultation with Vice Chair, Secretary of the WG and the Central Office have updated the membership of the WG as given at **Annex 1** (*refer electronic version for latest list*). New nominations, if any, for the membership received will be dealt suitably after the meeting.

**SUPP.: The Indian National Committee on Surface Water (INCSW) vide their email of August 9, 2018 has nominated Dr. Vijay K Labhsetwar for the membership of the WG.**

4. The 68<sup>th</sup> IEC approved the membership of Vietnam provisionally subject to their paying annual subscription. Accordingly, with the support from KCID, the Vietnam National Commission joined ICID with effect from January 2018.

5. ICID Central Office has contacted Mr. Jong Yong Ryong, Embassy DPR Korea in India for bringing the country i.e. DPR Korea into the membership network. In order to encourage their membership, two Young Professionals from DPR Korea were sponsored for their participation in the five-day YP training program on the theme "Performance Assessment of Irrigation Systems" organized from 9-13 April 2018 at China Hall of Science and Technology in Beijing, China.

**ASRWG Agenda Item 2: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Status of activities in Asian region**

6. At Mexico, Chair discussed and reviewed the activities of the WG listed in the action plan of the WG (**Annex 2**) as part of Road Map to ICID Vision 2030. After discussion, the group decided to contribute to three goals (out of six organizational goals of ICID Vision 2030) for the year 2018 as follows: (a) 8<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference in May 2018 in Nepal; (b) Contribution of ASRWG (WT) to WWF8; and (c) Signing bi-lateral Cooperation between National Committees of China and Pakistan.

7. During the Mexico meeting, the 68<sup>th</sup> International Executive Council (IEC) encouraged WGs to monitor the progress of 'Activities identified under Various Strategies for Action Plan 2017-21' appended to 'A Road Map to ICID Vision 2030' and report to their respective Permanent Committees. ICID CO has followed-up with the members and

<sup>1</sup> This will also include details of membership of WG as **Annex**

requested them to take actions to achieve milestones decided by the WG in the action plan. WG was also requested to consult with other working groups so as to avoid duplication of the activities and getting their support to achieve intended outcome/ outputs of the WG. WG Chair and members will provide updates on actions initiated to achieve milestones as per agreed Action Plan during the meeting.

8. As per decision of 68<sup>th</sup> IEC, the Central Office requested the Chairs of the Work bodies in January 2018 to monitor the progress of achieving milestones as indicated in the Action Plan and report status to the concerned Permanent Committee to enable the Theme Leaders to take stock of the progress of the Work body in achieving the Action Plan in their synthesis report. Chair will provide further updates at the meeting.

**ASRWG Agenda Item 3: Linkages with Regional and Transnational Organizations for Cooperation**

9. At Mexico, members/ representatives from CTCID, INACID and MANCID informed the WG about their joint regional collaboration. Further, it was proposed that a MoU will be signed between NENCID and KCID for mutual cooperation in Katmandu in May 2018.

10. The ICID Central Office has followed-up with INACID, MANCID, NENCID, KCID and CTCID and requested them to provide status of mutual cooperation. In response, KCID has informed that they have signed Minutes of Meeting (MoM) with NENCID in October 2017 at Mexico City (Mexico). The main areas of the cooperation are – (i) assistance of active participation of young professionals during 8<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference in May 2018 at Kathmandu, (ii) cooperation in agricultural sector, (iii) invite researcher to Korea etc. Responses from others are awaited. Representatives from the NCs may provide further updates at the meeting.

11. Similarly, Narges Zohrabi, Executive Secretary of IRPID has informed that the cooperation between Iran and Russia on Water and Agriculture was signed on 1 November 2017 in Ahvaz (Iran). The main areas of the cooperation are – (i) Agricultural Sustainable Development under Saline Environment, (ii) Drainage Water Treatment and Reuse, and (iii) Real-time Operation of Multi-purpose Reservoirs with References to Agricultural Demand: Case Study of Great Karun River Basin. Chair will provide further updates at the meeting.

**ASRWG Agenda Item 4: Developing cooperative arrangements with International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering (PAWEES) and International Network of Water Environment and Paddy Fields (INWEPF)**

12. The 14<sup>th</sup> International Network for Water and Environment in the Paddy Fields (INWEPF) Symposium and Steering Meeting was organized by National Irrigation Administration (NIA) from 21-22 November in 2017 at Clark Special Economic Zone in Philippines. The main theme of the Symposium was “*Strengthening Global Partnership for Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Irrigation and Drainage System in Paddy Fields*”. Around 270 participants from the Philippines, member countries of INWEPF (Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia, Myanmar, Laos, Bangladesh and India) and international organizations participated. The objective of the Symposium was to provide an opportunity for professionals in the field of water resources and agriculture sector to share their knowledge and experiences in order to improve the soil and water productivities and protect ecosystems. Mr. B Gen Abraham B Bagasin, Senior Deputy Administrator, NIA from the Philippines delivered the welcome speech while Mr. Gen Ricardo R Visaya (Philippines), Dr. Nobumasa Hacho (Japan), Dr. Kyung Sook Choi (Korea), Mr. Thanar Suwattana (Thailand) delivered keynote speeches. About 10 speakers from the member countries and international organizations made presentations and discussed the technologies and policies related to paddy farming, irrigation and drainage, agricultural water management (AWM) and environment.

13. The 15<sup>th</sup> INWEPF Symposium and Steering Meeting will be held jointly with the International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering (PAWEES) on 20-22 November 2018 in Nara, Japan. The INWEPF will continuously cooperate with ICID in order to disseminate technology and good practices for better paddy farming and ecosystems to the world. Representative from INWEPF - Mr. Mitsuo Ishijima / PAWEES will provide further status on the event at the meeting. Chair will provide further updates at the meeting.

**SUPP: Mr. Mitsuo Ishijima vide his email of 19 July has informed that he will make a small presentation regarding INWEPF activities and NARA conference during the meeting.**

**ASRWG Agenda Item 5: Publications of the Working Group**

14. Over the past five years, ASRWG-WT organized several workshops and meetings in order to prepare the report titled “*Contribution of Agricultural Water to the Rural Development in Asia*”. The task had the benefit of a very good cooperation of the specialists from various countries, including Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Japan, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, Vietnam, and Chinese Taipei where the rural development played an important role.

15. During the 8<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference held in May 2018 in Kathmandu (Nepal), the Technical Report of the Asian Regional Working Group (ASRWG) as above was formally released. The publication provided an overview of the status of knowledge and policies related to the relevant issues in Asia and to serve its objective of guiding the

National Committees and others on meaningful contribution towards sustainable management of agricultural water for rural development. The technical report compiled by the specialists and professionals from the participating countries will serve as a framework for both policymakers and stakeholders. Members can access the technical report and download it from the ICID website at [http://www.icid.org/8tharc\\_nepal2018/asrwg\\_report\\_2018.pdf](http://www.icid.org/8tharc_nepal2018/asrwg_report_2018.pdf).

16. Chair VPH Dr. Karim Shiati and ICID Central Office, on behalf of members of ASRWG, would wholeheartedly like to thank Work Team Chairperson Prof. (Ms.) K.S. Choi for bringing out this useful and important technical report. Also thanks are due to the Korean National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (KCID), Korea Rural Community Corporation (KRC), and Korea Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs for their kind support and cooperation.

**ASRWG Agenda Item 6: Brief report of 8<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference (ARC), 2-4 May 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal**

17. The 8th Asian Regional Conference (ARC) on the theme "Irrigation in Support of an Evergreen Revolution" was successfully organized from 2-4 May 2018 in Kathmandu, Nepal. The Nepal National Committee (NENCID) hosted the event in collaboration with Department of Irrigation (DoI), the Government of Nepal and other international and national partners. The conference witnessed participation of renowned professionals from USAID, World Bank, IWMI, ICIMOD, FMIST, ADB, ICEWaRM and other reputed organizations to deliberate on various issues to steer region's irrigation and drainage into the 21st century.

18. The inaugural ceremony was held on 2 May 2018 in the benign presence of Hon'ble Bidya Devi Bhandari, President, Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal as the chief guest and graced by Barsaman Pun, Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation (Nepal), ICID President Felix B. Reinders and Secretary General A. B. Pandya. The conference covered 15 technical sessions with six plenary symposiums, opening and closing sessions. Symposia related to the sub-themes were organized by USAID, IWMI, ICIMOD, ICEWaRM, FMIST and the World Bank. Additionally, technical papers were presented and enriching discussions were held on various aspects of the theme. During the conference, abstract volume was distributed to the delegates. NENCID representative may provide further updates at the meeting.

**ASRWG Agenda Item 7: Brief report of Capacity development programme for Young Professionals from Asian region, April 2018, China**

19. ICID in association with the Chinese National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (CNCID) and support from the Korean National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (KCID) organized five-day Young Professional training program to hone the skills of the budding young professionals on the theme "*Performance Assessment of Irrigation Systems*" from 9-13 April 2018 at China Hall of Science and Technology in Beijing, China. The training program mainly focused on the physical, institutional, organizational and participatory management aspects of the irrigation systems and was attended by 19 participants from 14 countries viz., Australia, India, Iran, Iraq, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Korea, Indonesia, Myanmar and Iran.

20. The inaugural session held on 9 April 2018 began with a welcome address by Prof. Wang Aiguo and Mr. Li Ge from China. Secretary General Pandya gave a brief introduction about ICID and its endeavour to promote capacity development program to attract young minds to AWM sector by organizing training programs for YPs, regionally. The program covered topics such as need for and framework of performance assessment of irrigation and drainage systems; modernization approach and overview; techniques and tools for performance assessment; Rapid appraisal procedure, MASSCOTE and MASSMUS approach; strategies of rehabilitation and modernisation of irrigation systems including structural, non-structural and management interventions in modernization of irrigation systems; and measurement devices, canal lining, water management practices, etc.

21. On 13 April 2018, a joint field visit of trainees and workshop participants was organized to Dayu Group of Companies to see their plant manufacturing drip and sprinkler irrigation equipment and later to physical modelling and experimental station of Institute of Water and Hydropower Research (IWHR), China. YPs got an opportunity to broaden their understanding on various topics by international speakers, who shared their experiences on the subject such as the need for a framework, performance indicators, techniques and tools for performance assessment, modernization, and management of irrigation systems. Mr. Amit Parashar, Principal Research Consultant, CSIRO Land and Water gave a presentation to the participants on 'Basin Futures: Supporting water planning in data sparse basins-Australia.' In their feedback, participants from various countries appreciated the exposure they received during the training as it armed them with the latest techniques and gave them the insight and skills to further improvise.

**ASRWG Agenda Item 8: Any other business**



**NOTES FOR CHAIRPERSON:**

1. Draft minutes of this meeting to be submitted to ICID Secretariat at Saskatoon, Canada after the meeting.
2. Chair to participate and present the WG report to PCSO meeting on 15 August 2018.



**Annex 1 [Appendix V, Item 1]**

**A. Membership of Asian Regional Working Group (ASRWG)**

Sl. No.	Countries (Year of joining)	Present representatives (Year of Joining)	Remarks
1.	Iran (1955)	VPH Karim Shiati, Chairman, 2006 (1997)	Attended meetings in 2016 & 2017 and contributed
2.	India (1950)	Representative from INCSW	INCSW has been requested to send nomination for the Group – <b>Nomination received</b>
3.	India (1950)	Dr. Rajinder Kumar Gupta -Direct Member (WAPCOS) (2014)	Contributed an abstract for internal workshop in 2015
4.	Indonesia (1950)	Dr. Mochammad Amron (2015)	Attended meetings in 2016 and 2017
5.	Thailand (1950)	Mr. Arthon Suttigarn (2012)	Attended meetings 2015 and 2016
6.	Japan (1951)	Mr. Naoki Hayashida (2014)	Attended meetings in 2016 and 2017
7.	Turkey (1954)	Dr. Aynur Fayrap (2012)	Attended meeting 2015 and represented in 2016
8.	Malaysia (1958)	Ir. Syed Abdul Hamid bin Syed Shuib (2013)	Represented by MANCID in 2016 and 2017
9.	Sri Lanka (1950)	Eng. W.B. Palugaswewa (2016)	Provisional Member
10.	Australia (1952)	Mr. Stephen Mills (2015)	Attended in 2016
11.	Pakistan (1953)	Mr. Ahmed Kamal (2017)	Represented by PANCID in 2017
12.	Philippines (1956)	Representative from PNC-ICID	PNC-ICID has been requested to send nomination for the Group
13.	Myanmar (1962)	Dr. (Ms.) Mu Mu Than (2017)	Attended in 2017
14.	China (1963)	Mr. Wang Aiguo (2016)	Attended meetings in 2016 & 2017
15.	Chinese Taipei (1969)	Dr. Gwo-Hsing Yu (2015)	Attended meeting in 2016 and represented in 2017
16.	Korea, Rep. of (1970)	Prof. (Ms.) Kyung Sook Choi (2015)	Attended meeting in 2017 and contributed in 2016 & 2017
17.	Korea, Rep. of (1970)	Ms. Jeong Min, Ryu – Young Professional (2017)	Attended in 2017
18.	Nepal (1973)	Mr. Bashu Dev Lohanee (2017)	Represented by NENCID in 2017
19.	Bangladesh (1973)	Representative from BANCID	BANCID has been requested to send nomination for the Group
20.	Uzbekistan (1994)	Mr. Ilkhom Juraev (2015)	Contributed in 2016
21.	Tajikistan (1997)	Mr. Dilshod Kimsanov	Nomination received
22.	Iraq (2006)	Mr. Shaimaa Shihab Ahmed (2016)	No contribution, recommended for discontinuation after Canada meeting
23.	Iraq (2006)	Mr. Ammar Salah Ahmed Manhee - Young Professional (2016)	No contribution, recommended for discontinuation after Canada meeting
24.	Kazakhstan (2006)	Representative from KAZCID	KAZCID has been requested to send nomination for the Group
25.	Afghanistan (2017)	Representative from AFGICID	AFGICID has been requested to send nomination for the Group
26.	Vietnam (2018)	Dr. Dao Trong Tu (2018)	Provisional Member

**B. New nominations received from the National Committee/ Committee**

Sl. No.	Name	Country	Remarks
(1)	Mr. Dilshod Kimsanov	Tajikistan	Recommended as member subject to his presence or else Provisional Member
(2)	Dr. Ray-Shyan, Wu	Chinese Taipei	Recommended as member subject to his presence or else Provisional Member
(3)	<b>Dr. Vijay K Labhsetwar</b>	<b>India</b>	<b>Recommended as member subject to his presence or else Provisional Member</b>



**ROAD MAP TO ICID VISION 2030 – ACTIVITIES OF WORK BODIES**

Goals/ Strategies	Activities	Outcomes/ Outputs	Milestone for Year 2017	Milestone for Year 2018	Milestone for Year 2019	Milestone for Year 2020	Milestone for Year 2021
<b>Goal C: Facilitate exchange of information, knowledge and technology</b>							
<b>C3. Strategy:</b> Promoting Regional Cooperation	3.5 Enhance Linkages between National Committees for International Cooperation	Technical Report					
	3.6 Broaden relationship and mutual understanding and cooperation between NCs from developing countries and developed countries	Collaboration/ MoU	Exchange visits/ training between TUCID and IRNCID				
			MoU between IRNCID and KCID				
	3.7 International conference/ workshop/ seminar	Compilation of proceedings		8 <sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference , May 2018, Nepal			
<b>C4. Strategy:</b> Compile, Collate and Share Knowledge and Experiences	4.4 Special joint Publication on Agricultural Water Management for Sustainable Rural Development	Side Event with AARDO	Special Issue of AARDO Journal				
	4.21 Report on "Contribution of Agricultural Water to the Rural Development in Asia"	Technical Report	Publish the Technical Report based on workshops/ Side Event	Contribute to WWF8			
<b>GOAL D: Enable Cross Disciplinary and Inter-Sectoral Engagement</b>							
<b>D3. Strategy:</b> Facilitate Development of Inter-sectoral Platforms Involving NCs	3.1 Developing inter-sectoral engagement		Collaboration between PAWEES and ASRWG				

(Source: Consultative Group (CG) Report: A Water Secure World Free of Poverty & Hunger: A Road Map to ICID Vision 2030)

