

Agenda for the Sixth Meeting of the
**WORKING GROUP ON GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE AND
 AGRICULTURAL WATER MANAGEMENT (WG-CLIMATE)**
 Tehran, Iran
 17 October 2011: 13.30-17.00 hours
Strategy Theme: Systems

Year of Establishment: 2005

Completion of the Mandate: 2014

Mandate:

- To review the progression of and predictions for Global Climate Change (GCC) and climate variability,
- To explore and analyze the medium-term implications of climate change and climate variability for irrigation, drainage, and flood control,
- To stimulate discussion and raise awareness of water-related GCC issues within the ICID family,
- To stimulate discussion at national scales among scientists, policy makers, and, through the media, the general public on GCC and water, and
- To join the international dialogue on GCC and water.

Members: (1) VPH Dr. Mark Svendsen, Chairman (USA, 2006); (2) Dr. Tsugihiko Watanabe, Vice Chairman (Japan, 2006); (3) Mr. Ray Shyan Wu, Secretary (Chinese Taipei, 2007); (4) VPH Dr. Karim Shiyati (Iran, 2006); (5) VPH Dr. André Musy (Canada, 2007); (6) Dr. Kim Russell (Australia, 2007); (7) Ms Nurgül Üzücek (Turkey, 2007); (8) Dr. Krishna Kumar Kanikicharla (India, 2007); (9) Prof. Heping Hu (China, 2008); (10) Prof. Sue Walker (South Africa, 2009); (11) Dr. Roestam Sjarief (Indonesia, 2010); (12) Dr. Juan A. Rodriguez-Diaz (Spain, 2010); and (13) Secretary General, ICID.

Permanent Observers/ Observers: (i) Mr. Avinash C. Tyagi, WMO; (ii) Dr. Claudia Ringler, IFPRI; (iii) IWMI Representative; and (iv) FAO Representative.

Website: <<http://140.115.62.223/raywu/ICID/index.php>>

Vide e-mail of 5 September 2011, Chairman VPH Dr. Mark Svendsen informed that he will not be attending the Tehran meeting and Vice Chairman Dr. Tsugihiko Watanabe will be chairing the WG meeting.

Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 5th meeting of the Working Group

The minutes of the 5th meeting of the Working Group held at Yogyakarta in October 2010 will be confirmed.

Item 2 : Review of membership

No new nomination was received by the Central Office for the membership of the Working Group.

The following nominations were deferred by the group due to their non-attendance at the Yogyakarta meeting:

- Dr. Edward Keith Weatherhead (UK)
- Ir. C.W.J. Roest (The Netherlands)
- Mr. Naseer Ahmed Gillani (Pakistan)
- Ms. Flaviana S. Hilario (Philippines)

In January 2011, the Central Office informed the WG's decision to the respective National Committees (copied to the nominees) to advise their nominees to attend the 6th meeting of the WG at Tehran for consideration of their membership. Response is awaited. CVs of the above nominees will be tabled at the meeting. The group may like to consider their membership.

Attendance of members at the meetings held in 2009 and 2010 will be circulated at the meeting.

CONTINUING ITEMS

Item 3 : Work Plan of the Group

The group decided to extend its tenure up to 2014 which was subsequently agreed by PCTA/ IEC. The following items were proposed to be included in the work plan:

- Continue a program of sharing knowledge among members and other interested parties;
- Co-sponsor and support the Tehran Symposium on Climate Change Impacts on Soil and Water Resources (see Item 8);
- Serve as convener, on behalf of ICID, of a one-day session at the 2012 WWW in Stockholm, which has as its theme Water and Food Security;
- Support preparations for ICID input to WWF6 on issues dealing with climate change; and
- Contribute to the UN Water Task Force on Water and Climate.

At the 28th meeting of the WG-DRG held on 11 October 2010 at Yogyakarta, the WG suggested to transfer the topic 'Impact of climate change on drainage' to WG-CLIMATE due to lack of inputs from members. The Chairman Dr. Vlotman of the WG – DRG or WG's nominated representative may like brief at the meeting. The group may like to discuss and decide it at the meeting.

At Yogyakarta meeting, the Chairman described World Water Week (WWW) held annually at Stockholm as a forum for the exchange of views and experiences between scientists, policy makers, and business people around the world and reported that the theme for WWW 2012 is *Water and Food Security*. The theme for World Water Day 2012 is also *Water and Food Security: Call for Solutions*. The Chairman reported initial interactions with the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN) in Japan, SIWI, and FAO regarding the organization of a one-day Seminar at WWW 2012 on the topic *Adapting Agriculture to a Climate Changing World*. The group agreed that this would be a useful seminar and the PCTA had recommended its approval to take on the role of convener of such a session. Conclusions and insights generated in the Tehran meeting/ symposium could be further explored in the WWW 2012 session.

Chairman VPH Dr. Svendsen may like to provide further updates on the work plan.

Item 4 : Website of the Working Group

At the Yogyakarta meeting, the group noted that the website of the Group <<http://140.115.62.223/raywu/ICID/index.php>> as prepared by Dr. Ray-Shyan Wu (Chinese Taipei) is functional. The website is linked with ICID website at http://www.icid.org/w_body.html#53. The website provides updated information on membership, agenda, minutes, presentation etc.

All members are requested to visit the website and provide relevant documents to Dr. Ray-Shyan Wu/ Central Office for posting.

Item 5 : Report of the Task Forces related to the group

• UN Water Task Force on "Water and Climate"

The establishment of a UN-Water Task Force on Water and Climate Change was proposed in 2008 aiming to offer 'an opportunity to further discuss climate change and water linkages in their widest sense and to ensure that the UN-System in general, and UN-Water in particular, is better prepared to meet further challenges and play an essential role in this area'. The TF is coordinated by Mr. Avinash Tyagi, Director, Climate and Water Department, WMO.

In order to respond to the challenges posed by GCC, a long-standing coordination mechanism was required. Hence, as per the decision of the UN-Water meeting in January 2010, the Task Force on Water and Climate Change was transformed into the *Water and Climate Change Thematic Priority Area (WCC-TPA)*.

The core objective of the WCC-TPA is to strengthen UN System coordination on activities related to water and climate change in order to facilitate assessment by Member countries of the impacts of climate change on water and adoption of strategies for meeting the challenges of climate change both for adaptation and mitigation in the related water sub-sectors.

For the period 2009-2010 the following activities have been completed:

- fostering cooperation and coordination in preparatory activities and at the 5th World Water Forum in March 2009 in sessions, the political track and inside events,
- making a significant contribution to the outcomes of the World Climate Conference-3 in August-September 2009,
- carrying out a mapping exercise of UN-Water members and partners on mandates and capacities related to water and climate issues,
- investigate opportunities to support the COP process (UNFCCC) in relation to water and climate change.

The following activities are ongoing:

- assessing capacity gaps within UN-Water and produce guidelines for members addressing the key challenges and water-related adaptation/mitigation issues
- develop a joint program on climate change mitigation and adaptation in water sector, with a joint pilot project in one of the identified countries under the one-UN, in collaboration with the UN-Water Task Force on Country Level Coordination
- build awareness at various levels on climate change issues in various water related sectors
- develop relevant joint publications to serve the above purposes

More information on the TF can be viewed at < <http://www.unwater.org/TFclimate.html>>.

- **ICID Asian Regional Task Force on Climate Change and Irrigation (ARTC-CC)**

ARTF-CC was set up at the Sacramento meeting of Asian Regional Working Group to study adaptation measures to tackle with climate change in the field of irrigation and drainage. It is obvious that countermeasures will vary from country to country, depending upon respective climatic condition and degree of climate change effect as well as socio-economic development stage and present status of irrigation and drainage facilities. Nevertheless, this study aims at finding out some similarity among countries under common conditions and universal ideas lying under various cases, which will be useful and referred to when irrigation/drainage engineers, working as government officials, researchers, practitioners and others, consider practical mitigation/adaptive measures to meet their own conditions related to climate change.

The study was carried out by compiling information through a questionnaire and country case studies. So far, 11 countries have participated in this study and have submitted 14 cases. The Central Office has been forwarding from time to time the filled-in case studies received from the National Committees/ members to Chairman Dr. Svendsen.

ARTF-CC plans to compile the results available so far in a draft report and present during its Tehran meeting as well as ICID Symposium on '*Climate Change Impacts on Soil and Water Resources*'. The final report will be prepared for the 6th World Water Forum to be held in Marseille in 2012.

Chairman VPH Dr. Svendsen/ VP Ota may like to apprise the updates during the meeting.

Item 6 : WG related communications

The Central Office has circulated the following web links / web-based resources and documents related to climate change as received from other international organizations among members from time to time.

- A press release titled "New Commission confronts threats to food security from climate change"
 - National Water Commission for Mexico (CONAGUA)'s publication "Dialogs for water and climate change: Call to action"
 - 3rd International Conference on Advances in Space Technologies (ICAST), 6-8 July 2011, Islamabad, Pakistan
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The following documents may be of interest to WG:

- Background note on Climate change, water and food security, Eva Ludi, March 2009 (<http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/download/3148.pdf>)
- Climate change reference guide, Alice Mckeown and Garry Garnder (<http://www.worldwatch.org/files/pdf/CCRG.pdf>)
- Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change: Outlook for Knowledge, tools and action, CCAFS Report No.3 (http://ccafs.cgiar.org/sites/default/files/pdf/ccafs_report_3-low-res_final.pdf)
- Impacts of climate change on water resources and agriculture and Sri Lanka: A review and preliminary vulnerability mapping, Nishadi Eriyagama, Vladimir Smakhtin, Lalith Chandrapala and Karin Fernando, IWMI Research Report 135 (<http://ccsl.iccip.net/rr135.pdf>)
- Water storage in an era of climate change: Addressing the challenge of increasing rainfall variability, Matthew McCartney and Vladimir Smakhtin, Blue paper, IWMI (http://www.hydrology.nl/images/docs/alg/2010_IWMI_Blue_Paper_Water_Storage_Climate_Change.pdf)
- Sustaining water for all in a changing climate, World Bank group implementation progress report of the water resources sector strategy (<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/NEWS/Resources/sustainingwater.pdf>)
- Addressing climate change in Asia and the Pacific – Impacts on food, fuel and people, Asian Development Bank (<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Brochures/Climate-Change/brochure.pdf>)

Members are encouraged to provide their comments/ suggestions on the above documents to the Chairman and also inform about the other web links/ documents related to the activities of the WG.

Item 7 : Methane flux from irrigated wetlands rice fields

At Yogyakarta meeting, Vice Chairman Dr. Watanabe described a new research program at Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN) on methane measurements from a new Japanese satellite from paddy fields which was just getting underway and offered to report findings at a subsequent meeting of the WG.

Dr. Watanabe may apprise further developments at the meeting.

Item 8 : Symposium on Climate Change at Tehran in 2011

The *Symposium on Climate Change Impacts on Soil and Water Resources* will be held on 18 October as a part of 21st Congress. The symposium is co-sponsored by the WG. The Central Office in February 2011 disseminated the background note and scope of the Symposium and requested all members to submit abstract of the papers for the event. In all, the Central Office has received 10 papers (9 oral and 1 poster) for the Symposium.

Members are encouraged to attend the symposium

Item 9 : Any other business

Water and Climate related events:

• **UN-Water Seminar: World Water Day 2012 - Water and Food Security: Call for Solutions**

An UN-Water Seminar: World Water Day 2012 - Water and Food Security: Call for Solutions will be held on 24 August 2011 in Stockholm on the sidelines of WWW 2011.

The World Water Day in 2012 is intended to draw the international attention on the relationships between water and food security. "Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life" and water is one of the fundamental input factor to the food production. Food security has been raising the international political agenda following the peak prices of 2008 and the financial crisis of 2009. Since then, the raising commodity price level and continued volatility have destabilised food security in several countries. Further population growth, urbanisation, changing diets and development pressure on land and water (including resources allocated to bio-fuel production) and energy cost increase are all conducive to a progressive and severe water scarcity that will in turn undermine the food security. At the same time, climate changes are expected to impact the most food insecure populations first.

ICID will be represented by Secretary General M. Gopalakrishnan at the seminar. This seminar will address the status and prospects for food security and will illustrate the water-related implications. It is envisaged that the conclusions of the seminar will provide key messages and promising solutions to form the basis of the campaign for the World Water Day 2011, coordinated by FAO on behalf of UN-Water members and partners.

- **Indo-German Roundtable on Water, Climate Change and Conflict, April 2011, India**

The Indo-German Roundtable on Water, Climate Change and Conflict was organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) on 14 April 2011 at New Delhi, India. The meeting has thrown up important suggestions for identifying sustainable pathways for cooperation and ensuring universal water security under the climate change dispensation. Dr. S.A. Kulkarni (CO) represented Secretary General at the event.

- **GWP Workshop on “*Water for Food Security and Climate Change Challenges*”, Colombo, February 2011**

ICID joined the above workshop on invitation and made two presentations one by VPH Gao Zhanyi and another by Secretary General Gopalakrishnan. These as well as other presentations that dealt with different aspects of the Challenges that Asia faces in addressing Food Security are available in GWP web site of the workshop. The sessions concluded with a message “No more business as usual” in the face of climate change and food security concerns. The full proceedings are now available in (<http://www.gwp.org/Global/About%20GWP/Publications/Colombo%20Synthesis%20Report%20Climate%20Change%20Food%20and%20Water%20Security%20in%20South%20Asia,%20final.pdf>).
