

Agenda for the Fourth Meeting of the
WORKING GROUP ON WATER AND CROPS (WG-CROP)
 Tehran, Iran
 18 October 2011: 13:30-17:00 hours
Strategy Theme: On-Farm

Year of Establishment: 2007

Completion of the Mandate: 2013

Mandate: To promote the efficient use of water in crop production, to provide input to test crop water models, to investigate the use of energy crops for bio-fuel production, to develop techniques for rainfall harvesting, to promote the multifunctional use of water in paddy (rice) cultivation, to investigate the adaptation of agriculture to climate change and to promote low input agriculture.

Members: (1) VP Dr. Ragab Ragab, Chairman (UK, 2007) (2) Mr. Laurie C. Tollefson, Vice-Chairman (Canada, 2009); (3) Dr. K. Yella Reddy, Secretary, 2010 (India, 2009); (4) Vice President Hon. Dr. B.I. Maticic (Slovenia, 2007); (5) Prof. M.E.V. Scarascia (Italy); (6) Prof. R.G. Allen (USA, 2007); (7) VPH Cai Lingen (China, 2007); (8) Prof. Tai Cheol Kim (Korea, 2007); (9) Mr. Chen Yih-Rong (Chinese Taipei, 2007); (10) Mr. Vincente Carelon (Spain, 2007); (11) Dr. Andrew Sanewe (South Africa, 2007); (12) Dr. Florent Maraux (France, 2007); (13) Ms. Jaleh Vaziri (Iran, 2009); (14) Prof. Rai Niaz (Pakistan, 2009); (15) Dr. Koji Inosako (Japan, 2010); and (16) Secretary General, ICID.

Permanent Observers: (i) FAO representative; (ii) Mr. Herbert H. van Lier (CIGR); (iii) Prof. D. Wrachien (Italy); and (iv) ICRISAT representative.

Website: <<http://www.wg-crop.icidonline.org>>

Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 3rd meeting the WG-CROP

The minutes of the 3rd meeting of the Working Group held in October 2010 at Yogyakarta, Indonesia will be confirmed.

Item 2 : Review of the membership of the Working Group

No new nominations have been received for the membership of the WG.

Attendance of members at meetings in 2009 and 2010 will be presented during the meeting. It may be noted that representation of a member in the Working Group meeting by any other representative of the concerned National Committee is not deemed to be a contribution by a member. Refer to Annex 1 of PCSO Agenda (page A-10) and ICID by-law 3.1.7 which stipulates that members not contributing to the activities by attendance or correspondence for two consecutive years shall be replaced in consultation with their National Committees.

It is observed that members from China, Chinese Taipei, France, Slovenia, Spain and USA have not been contributing to the activities of the WG for past two or more years. In view of above, the Central Office requested these National Committees to either confirm the participation of their existing nominees or send a fresh nomination. Their responses are awaited.

In response, the Spanish National Committee of ICID (CERYD) informed vide e-mail dated 17 August 2011 that Mr. Vincente Carelon (Spain) has retired in September 2011. Fresh nomination is awaited.

The Chinese Taipei Committee of ICID (CTCID) has informed (19 August 2011) that Mr. Chen, Yih-Rong (Chinese Taipei), Member of the WG-CROP will not be attending Tehran meetings.

Item 3 : Precision Agriculture: Promote the efficient use of water and low input in crop production

At the meeting in Yogyakarta (2010), it was noted that Vice President Dr. Ragab Ragab (UK), Chairman of the WG-CROP had briefed about automation and use of sensor for irrigation and fertilizer applications in many developed countries with reference to the 'Precision Agriculture' meeting held in Denver, Colorado in July 2010. It was reported at the meeting that Ir. Jaleh Vaziri (Iran) would present a paper on 'Precision Agriculture in Iran' during the meeting of the WG in Tehran. The Central Office requested (20 April 2011) Ir. Jaleh Vaziri (Iran) to send an abstract of her study so that it could be circulated among the membership and considered during the meeting. Dr. Hossein Dehghanisani (Iran) has indicated (09 May 2011) that he will make a presentation on 'Precision Irrigation' and concentrate on real time climate data at farm level for calculation of crop water requirement and irrigation scheduling. VP Dr. Ragab Ragab (UK), Chairman Mr. Laurie Tollefson (Canada), Vice-Chairman of WG-CROP have welcomed and informed (9 May 2011) Dr. Dehghanisani to make his presentation in 20-minutes.

The WG agreed (2010) to further improve the Item 3 by adding the concepts of 'Water Footprint' and 'Virtual Water' to it. Accordingly, Central Office invited (21 April 2011) members to prepare and make presentations on the subject. The Chairman of the WG would make a presentation on 'Water Footprint' during the Tehran meeting of the WG.

The Chairman may apprise the WG.

Item 4 : Energy crops for bio-fuel production

At the meeting of the WG held in Yogyakarta (2010), it was decided that the WG will support the Task Force on Water for Bio-Energy and Food (TF-BIO-ENERGY). Central Office invited (21 April 2011) the members to send their contributions on the subject to Central Office so that they could be considered during the Tehran meeting. Responses are awaited.

The Chairman may apprise the WG.

Item 5 : Multi-functionality of water use in paddy (Rice) cultivation

It was reported that the WG members, viz, Prof. Tai-Cheol Kim (Korea) Dr. Koji Inosako (Japan), had agreed to work together on the subject and come up with a paper/report for the Tehran meeting. It was also reported that Dr. Graziano Ghinassi (Italy) would report on the work being done in Italy on the subject at Tehran meeting of the WG. Central Office contacted (21 April 2011) Prof. Tai-Cheol Kim (Korea), Dr. Koji Inosako (Japan) and Dr. Graziano Ghinassi (Italy) to prepare a summary of their papers / report for circulation among the membership and discussion during the WG meeting at Tehran.

In response, Prof. Tai-Cheol Kim and Dr. Koji Inosako informed (2nd & 5th May 2011, respectively) that they would prepare a report titled "Saving irrigation water and/or Conserving eco-system service" on the multi-functionality in paddy fields. Prof. Kim and Dr. Inosako will make their oral presentation during the Tehran meeting.

The Chairman may apprise the WG.

Item 6 : Management of Agriculture under Climate Change

At the meeting in Yogyakarta (2010), the Chairman requested Mr. Mohammed Sadegh Jafari (Iran) to prepare a paper/report on Iranian Experiences and make the presentation during the workshop proposed to be held at Tehran, Iran in October 2011. The Central Office is in contact (20 April 2011) with Mr. Jafari to send his contribution on the subject to Central Office so that it could be considered during the Tehran meeting.

In response, IRNCID has informed (03 September 2011) that Dr. Alireza Massah (Iran), Member of IRNCID, Working Group on Sustainable Use of Water in Agriculture, would present a report titled "The potential impact of climate change on Iran's agriculture" during the WG meeting,

The Chairman may apprise the WG.

6.1 Internal workshop on 'Management of Agriculture under Climate Change'

At Yogyakarta (2010) meeting of the WG, it was decided to organize a workshop on 'Management of Agriculture under Climate Change' during Tehran meeting. The Central Office requested (21 April 2011) the members for their contributions / papers for the workshop.

In response, Prof. Tai-Cheol Kim (Korea) informed (2 May 2011) that he had presented his report on “*Reinforcing the design criteria for irrigation dam spillway to adapt to climate change*” in the ASRWG Task Force on Climate Change, last year. Dr. K. Yella Reddy (India) has informed (30 June 2011) that he will present his two papers during the Tehran meeting / Workshop, viz. (i) Introduction of drip Irrigation for Paddy crop; and (ii) Mapping and Auditing of Multiple Uses of Water Services in Krishna Western Delta using MASSMUS Methodology – A Case Study. The Chairman requested (30 June 2011) Dr. Reddy to combine the two papers in one presentation of 15 minutes. The responses from others are awaited.

The Chairman may apprise the WG.

Item 7 : Website of WG

The Chairman and Central Office have been updating the WG activities in the webpage of WG-CROP from time to time. A lot of information, documents and links are available in the website.

As per minutes of Yogyakarta meeting (2010), Chairman was to place SALTMED model and other related documents (required input data templates) in the website of WG for free download by WG members.

The Chairman may apprise the WG.

Item 8 : Work plan

A three year rolling work plan needs to be developed.

Item 9 : Any other business

International Conference on ‘World Crop 2010’, London (UK)

At Yogyakarta meeting (2010), it was proposed that the Chairman would represent ICID at the International Conference on ‘World Crop 2010’ in London (UK) and present a paper on ‘*Water and Food Security*’. The Central Office has requested (20 April 2011) the Chairman of the WG to send his feedback on the subject to ICID Central Office so that it could be circulated among the membership and discussed during the Tehran meeting.

The Chairman may apprise the WG.

FAO’s Regional ‘Sustainable Water Resources Use in Asia’

The ICID Central Office disseminated the information (13 June 2011) to ICID National Committees, Office-Bearers and Chairs & Workbody members about the Conference (www.asia-waer.org) of the Food and Agricultural Organization’s Regional ‘*Sustainable Water Resource Use in Asia*’ hosted by the FAO in close partnership with a range of regional and international organizations, including ICID, commenced from 18 April, 2011.

FAO had requested ICID to contribute on ‘*Water conservation in agriculture*’ for the e-conference under the session three for the week 9 (13 June) for topic ‘*Irrigation and Livelihood*’. In response, the Central Office prepared a paper titled ‘*Water Conservation and Irrigation*’ for posting on the conference website. It can be accessed at <http://www.asia-water.org/index.php?option=com_kunena&func=view&catid=21&id=398&Itemid=199> for more information.

INWEPF Symposium and 8th INWEPF Steering Meeting

2011 INWEPF Symposium and 8th INWEPF Steering Committee meeting will be held at Penang Island, Malaysia from 1-3 November 2011 to exchange knowledge and experience based on expertise among the INWEPF member countries. The main theme of the Symposium is “*Sustainable Agriculture Water Use and Multifunction of Paddy Fields*.” Scholars and policy makers from local governments and anybody interested in or contributing to the goal of INWEPF missions are invited to contribute papers to the Symposium.

Please contact Mr. Thian Kim Tai (E-mail : ktthian@moa.gov.my), Assistant Director, Irrigation and Agricultural Drainage Division, Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry Malaysia, for more information.

INWEPF Symposium in Thailand (THAICID) – Outcome

The 5th THAICID National Symposium and 1st Thailand INWEPF Symposium were jointly held on 17 June 2010 in Nonthaburi Province, Thailand. The symposia were held under the theme of “*Multiple Roles of Paddy Fields Related to Integrated Resources Management*”. Many guests including Mr. Theera Wongsamut, the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, and Mr. Chalit Damrongsak, the Director General of Royal Irrigation Department, were invited to the symposium. Dr. Shiratani, Head of Laboratory of water Environment in National Institute for Rural Engineering, Japan, delivered the keynote speech on “*Sustainable Agriculture to Conserve Water Environment in Japan*”. Over 150 professionals from Universities and Research institutes in Thailand participated in the symposium. For more information, please access their home page at <<http://www.rid.go.th/thaicid/>> <<http://kromchol.rid.go.th/ffd/inwepf/inwepf%20eng.html>>
