

**AGENDA FOR THE 23RD MEETING OF THE
EUROPEAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ERWG)**

11 October 2017, 09:00-10.30 hours (Session-I)
11 October 2017, 11:00-12.30 hours (Session-II)
Mexico City, Mexico

Presented by the Chairman

Year of Establishment: 1995

Mandate: The mission of ERWG is to promote awareness about critical ICID relevant water issues at all levels in Europe and to pay special attention to the environmentally sustainable water management in Europe.

Website: <http://erwg.icidonline.org/>

ERWG Agenda Item 1: Action Taken Report by Chair

1. The Chair of the WG will present report on the actions taken on the decisions and proposals of the European Regional Working Group at its 22nd meeting held at Chiang Mai in November 2016.
2. No new nominations have been received from NCs during the year. 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.

ERWG Agenda Item 1.1: Strengthening the membership in Europe

3. The German National Committee of ICID (GECID) under the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture had withdrawn their membership from ICID in 2014. During the World Bank Week from 13-14 March 2017 in Maryland, USA, Er. Avinash C. Tyagi, Secretary General, ICID met H.E. Astrid Jakobs de Padua, Minister Counsellor, Food and Agriculture, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany and discussed the issue of reactivation of GECID. Accordingly SG wrote a letter to HE Padua giving details of GECID with the request to take up matter with the relevant ministry for reactivation of GECID. Further, Er. Harish Kumar Varma, Executive Director of ICID, during the Partners Meeting on Global Framework on Water Scarcity (GFWS) in Agriculture during 19-20 April 2017 at FAO, Rome, Italy, met Ms. Sophie Maja Stahlberg, Deputy Head of Division, World Food Affairs, International Food and Agricultural Organisations of Federal, Berlin, Germany and briefed her about ICID activities and membership status of the German National Committee and sought her support in taking up matter with the appropriate authorities for reactivation of GECID. In addition, Dr. Saeed Nairizi, President, ICID also followed-up with his contacts in Germany for reactivation of GECID. Any updates on the reactivation of GECID will be provided at the meeting.
4. Vice President Dr. Irene G. Bondarik (Russia) took part in the International Drainage Workshop at Latvia and discussed with H.E. Mr. Janus Duklavs, Minister of Agricultural Rural Estate and Mr. Robert Dilba, Chairman of the Land Reclamation Board, Ministry of Agriculture Rural Estate about the possibility of Republic of Latvia taking up membership of ICID. VP Dr. Bondarik has also raised the issue of Georgia membership with the Representative of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia Republic during the workshop. VP Dr. Bondarik may apprise the Group about the progress of joining of Georgia and Latvia as a member of ICID.

SUPP: On behalf of Georgia, an application for membership of ICID in the prescribed form signed on 23 December 2015 by Mr. Archil Bukia, Georgian Amelioration Ltd., for membership of ICID received in ICID Central Office on 20 September 2017 via e-mail of Prof. Dr. Givi Gavardashvili, Director, Ts. Mirtskhulava Water Management Institute, Georgian Technical University. The application is being scrutinized in terms of Article 3 of ICID Constitution.

ERWG Agenda Item 2: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 - Activities relevant to European Region

5. Based on the inputs from the workbodies at the 67th IEC and fresh inputs received upto March 2017, the Consultative Group (CG) on Action Plan 2030 finalized Action Plan 2017-21 for ICID as presented in their report "A Water Secure World Free of Poverty & Hunger : A Road Map to ICID Vision 2030". Action Plan for ERWG as presented in CG report is given as **Annex 2**.

6. During Chiang Mai meeting, the Chair presented and discussed the draft Action Plan 2030 of the WG and identified that two goals- Be a catalyst for change in policies and practices, and Facilitate exchange of information, knowledge and technology are very relevant to the activities of ERWG and its members. WG will discuss the activities of the Action Plan, review and update information regarding milestones for various activities and initiate actions to achieve outcome as per milestones indicated in the Action Plan.

ERWG Agenda Item 3: Review of policy issues impacting irrigation and drainage sector

7. During Chiang Meeting held in November 2016, ERWG noted that European Union policies related to water resources sector have resulted in diminishing importance of policy making in irrigation and drainage in the countries. Accordingly, the Group included “Review of European/NC policy documents related to water resources that impact irrigation and drainage sector” as one of its activities in the Action Plan under **Goal B**: Be a catalyst for change in policies and practices (Annex 2). Chair of ERWG may apprise the WG members the latest status of the action initiated during the meeting.

ERWG Agenda Item 4: Links with regional and trans-national organizations for co-operation

8. The ERWG Water Network includes 7 National Water Management Associations, 5 European professional organisations, and 5 European Water Management Institute (**Annex 3**). During the Chiang Mai meeting (2016), Chairman requested the members of the WG and National Committees in Europe to review the list of regional and transnational organisations and update the contact details of the network so that ICID Central office can send information like e-Bulletin, News Update and ICID News and other publicity material directly to these organisations also. WG will discuss the status of interaction or cooperation with these regional and transnational organisation during the meeting.

ERWG Agenda Item 5: Activities of Focus Groups of ERWG

9. During the Chiang Mai meeting, the WG discussed the activities of Focus Groups and decided to have following five Focus groups based on their relevance to Europe: (a) Focus Group on History (b) Focus Group on Environment (c) Focus Group on Sustainable Drainage (d) Focus Group on Water Related Risks (e) Focus Group Irrigation and Drainage in the States under Socio-economic Transformation. These Group have been setup to raise the issues related to European viewpoint in the respective workbodies of ICID and revert back to ERWG on the relevant issues within the scope of focus groups. ICID Central Office followed up matter with the lead members of the Focus Groups. Focus group lead members will apprise the members of the ERWG on the latest updates/feedback.

ERWG Agenda Item 6: Revitalization of ICID Network

10. As per decision of the 66th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting held in October 2015 at Montpellier, France (Resolution IEC-3/66), a Task Force was setup to study the reasons responsible for the gradual withdrawals of NCs from Europe from the membership of ICID and other issues faced by the NCs, with a broadened scope, under the chairmanship of Chair, PCSO. IEC in its meeting in Chiang Mai in November 2016, extended the term of the Task Force on Revitalization of ICID Network (TF-REV) by one more year (up to 2017) to complete its full mandate especially with respect to the Terms of Reference (ToRs) related to NCs from European region and finalise its recommendations duly incorporating the response to the questionnaire from European NCs.

11. Based on the inputs received from five European NCs only (Hungary, Italy, Russia, Ukraine and UK), since Chiang Mai meeting, TF updated the draft report can be accessed or downloaded at http://www.icid.org/revitalization_report.pdf which was shared with the ERWG to deliberate the issues on ERWG platform, especially on issues related to the constitution of European NCs and reasons for gradual withdrawal of European NCs from membership of ICID. ERWG was requested to provide inclusive analysis and recommendations integrating views emerging from deliberation on the report and the inputs received from NCs in the European region. ERWG Chair will apprise members on the latest update on the contribution of the WG to the TF report.

ERWG Agenda Item 7: Dissemination of activities of WG

ERWG Agenda Item 7.1: Website of the Group

12. During the Chiang Mai meeting, WG Chair requested the members of Group to provide a short summary of the events organised by their National Committee to ICID Central Office for inclusion in the ICID News Update for wider dissemination. The website of the ERWG <http://erwg.icidonline.org/> has been updated with the new

membership list, agenda, minutes, paper presentations, publications etc. Based on discussion during Chiang Mai meeting, ICID Central Office requested three young professionals - Ir. Mika Turunen (Finland), Ms. Caroline Coulon (France) and Mr. David Vanneck (UK), who participated in the ERWG meeting and agreed to support the activities of the Group, to share their ideas, insight on the use of ICT and alternative communications tools, including social media in activities of the group. WG members may like to discuss and evolve methodology for sharing of information and updation of ERWG website. In order to ensure regular contribution of the members, WG is encouraged to make full use of Web-Ex meeting platform for virtual meetings in between face-to-face meeting during the WG meeting.

ERWG Agenda Item 7.2: Webinar / Web-based Seminar

13. At Chiang Mai meeting, the ERWG supported the suggestion of organizing webinars to promote sharing of vast expertise available with ICID fraternity. The Central Office requested members to provide their suggestions on the topics, based on the mandate of the WG, on which webinar can be considered along with name of the relevant experts who could be contacted to develop webinars. The group may discuss and suggest suitable topics along with names of expert for organizing webinars.

ERWG Agenda Item 8: Any other business



NOTES FOR CHAIRPERSON:

1. Draft minutes of this meeting to be submitted to ICID Secretariat at Mexico City (Mexico) after the meeting.
2. Chair to participate and present the WG report to PCSO meeting on 12 October 2017.

MEMBERSHIP OF EUROPEAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ERWG)

Sl. No.	Countries (Year of joining)	Present representatives (Year of Joining)	Remarks
1.	United Kingdom (1951)	Mr. Ian Makin (2014), Chairman, 2015	Attended the WG meetings in 2015 & 2016
2.	Ukraine (1996) 2014	VPH Prof. Dr. Peter Kovalenko, Vice Chairman, 2005 (1999)	Attended the meeting in 2016
3.	Finland (2000)	Mr. Olli-Matti Verta, Secretary, 2011	Attended the meeting in 2016
4.	Austria (1954)	Dipl. Ing. Frederick M. Cate (1998)	Withdrawn from January 2015
5.	Croatia (1993)	Dr. Davor Romic (2002)	No contribution during 2013, 2014, 2015 & 2016
6.	Czech Republic (1997)	Prof. Dr. Svatopluk Matula (1997)	Associate member from 2017
7.	Estonia (2001)	Mr. Hannes Puu (2015)	Represented in the WG meeting in 2015
8.	France (1953)	Dr. Sami Bouarfa (2013)	Represented in the WG meeting in 2014, 2015 & 2016
9.	Germany (1957)	Mrs. Sabine Seidel, as Young Professional (2011)	Withdrawn from January 2015
		Dr. Klaus-Dieter Vorlop (2012)	
10.	Hungary (1955)	VPH Dr. Laszlo Hayde, Ex-Chairman and member	Attended the meeting in 2016
11.	Ireland (1978)	Dr. John Martin (2003)	No contribution during 2013, 2014, 2015 & 2016
12.	Italy (1950)	Mr. Marco Arciero (2015)	Attended WG meeting in 2016
13.	Netherlands (1950)	Representative	PH Bart Schultz and VP Prof Charlotte de Fraiture from Netherlands attended the meeting in 2016 as Observers
14.	Portugal (1954)	Mr. Pedro Eduardo da Cunha Serra (1996)	No contribution during 2013, 2014, 2015 & 2016
15.	Romania (1992)	Prof. Dr. Ion Nicolaesco (1996)	No contribution during 2013, 2014, 2015 & 2016
16.	Slovenia (1992)	VPH Prof. Dr. Brane Maticic (1996)	No contribution in 2016
17.	Spain (1955)	Spanish representative	No contribution in 2016
18.	Switzerland (1951)	Switzerland Representative	Mr. Petra Hellemann, Secretary of CH-AGRAM contributed by email in 2016
19.	Russia (1955)	Dr. Irina G. Pankova, as Young Professional (2007)	No contribution in 2014, 2015 and 2016
		Dr. Irina Bondarik (2012)	Attended the meeting in 2016
Ex-Officio Member			
1.	Russia	Mr. Peter Alexey Yurievich (2014), Chairman, erstwhile European Work Team on Drainage, EWTDR	No contribution in 2016

ROAD MAP TO ICID VISION 2030 – ACTIVITIES RELEVANT TO EUROPEAN REGION

Goals	Activity	Outcomes/ Outputs	Milestone for Year 2017	Milestone for Year 2018	Milestone for Year 2019	Milestone for Year 2020	Milestone for Year 2021
Goal B: Be a catalyst for change in policies and practices							
Strategy B1 : Supporting Development of Appropriate Policies	1.7 Review of European/NC policy documents related to water resources that impact irrigation and drainage sector	Technical Report	Compilation of various policies related to water resources by Members in their country and start review few most important policy document	Draft of policy review report with recommendation	Finalisation and issue of policy review report Continuation of review of remaining policy document		
Goal C: Facilitate exchange of information, knowledge and technology							
Strategy C3 : Promoting Regional Cooperation	3.1 Organise workshops/ Seminar etc.	Proceedings of workshop/seminar	To decide on theme and sub-themes for the workshop/seminar to be organised as internal/international workshop in the WG meeting	Workshop/ Seminar	Workshop/ Seminar including publication of outcome/ recommendations from previous workshop	Workshop/ Seminar including publication of outcome/ recommendations from previous workshop	Workshop/ Seminar including publication of outcome/ recommendations from previous workshop
Goal F: Facilitate capacity development							
Strategy F1 : Enhancing Institutional Capacity Development in Member Countries	1.5 To launch from Europe an international e-Discussion on Water issues and/or Environmentally Sustainable Water Management from Europe for Young Professionals	Knowledge sharing and capacity development of YP	e-Discussion on Water issues and/or Environmentally Sustainable Water Management in Europe like as 'IYPeF'	e-Discussion on Water issues and/or Environmentally Sustainable Water Management in Europe like as 'IYPeF'	e-Discussion on Water issues and/or Environmentally Sustainable Water Management in Europe like as 'IYPeF' Organise a Side Event in WIF3	e-Discussion on Water issues and/or Environmentally Sustainable Water Management in Europe like as 'IYPeF'	e-Discussion on Water issues and/or Environmentally Sustainable Water Management in Europe like as 'IYPeF'

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

EUROPEAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ERWG)

1. Profile

The European Regional Working Group (ERWG) of ICID was founded at the 46th IEC Meeting in Rome in September 1995, and is acting under the motto “Comprehensive land and water management in European river basins for the sustainable development of the rural landscape”. The tasks of ERWG can be summarized as follows:

- (a) Knowledge transfer and exchange of experience in matters of border crossing water and land management in European countries
- (b) Co-operation of experts and organisations engaged in national, supranational and international objectives of water management and irrigated agriculture
- (c) Development and promotion of border crossing projects and conferences
- (d) Members are the ICID National Committees of 16 European countries, as below:

Country Representatives			
Croatia	Prof. Davor Romic	Romania	Prof. Ion M. Nicolaescu
Estonia	Mr. Hannes Puu	Russia	Dr. (Mrs.) Irena G. Bondarik
Finland	Mr. Olli-Matti Verta	Slovenia	Prof. Brane Maticic
France	Dr. Sami Bouarfa	Spain	Representative
Hungary	Dr. Laszlo Hayde	Switzerland	Representative
Ireland	Dr. John Martin	The Netherlands	Representative
Italy	Mr. Marco Arciero	United Kingdom	Mr. Ian Makin
Portugal	Mr. Pedro Eduardo da Cunha Serra	Ukraine	VPH Prof. Peter Kovalenko

- Chairman** : Mr. Ian Makin (UK)
Vice-Chairman : VPH Prof. Dr. Peter Kovalenko
Secretary (1) : Mr. Olli-MattiVerta (Finland)
Secretary (2) : Dr. (Mrs.) Irena G. Bondarik (Russia) *for Russian speaking countries*
Observer : Mr. Mohammed Benblidia (IME)

2. Countries with observer status

- Bosnia & Herzegovina* : Prof. Dr. Mihovil Vlahinic
Moldova: Mr. Valeriu Catrinescu

3. Water Network

In addition to the European National Committees of ICID, the following organizations/association/institution has been incorporated in the ERWG Water Network:

A. Five European professional organizations

- (i) CIPR - Commission Internationale pour la Protection du Rhin
- (ii) EurAgEng - Special Interest Group on Soil and Water, European Society of Agricultural Engineers
- (iii) EWA - European Water Association
- (iv) EWRA - European Water Resources Association
- (v) TECHWARE - Technology for Water Resources

B. Seven National Water Management Associations

- (i) BSHE - Bulgarian Society of Hydraulic Engineers
- (ii) DWA - German Association for Water Management, Waste Water and Waste (Chair: Prof. Klaus Roettcher)
- (iii) DONBH - Society for Irrigation and Drainage of Bosnia & Herzegovina
- (iv) LZHIS - Lithuanian Association of Land and Water Management Engineers
- (v) MHT - Hungarian Hydrological Society
- (vi) RSRE - Russian Society of Reclamation Engineers
- (vii) SITWM - Polish Association for Water Plant Construction and Land Improvement Engineers and Technicians

C. Five European Water Management Institutes

- (i) ACVAPROJECT - Water Management Design Institute (Moldova Republic)
- (ii) DHI - Danish Hydraulic Institute
- (iii) IIDS - Institute of Irrigation and Development Studies, University of Southampton (United Kingdom)
- (iv) RIIDHE - Research Institute for Irrigation, Drainage and Hydraulic Engineering (Bulgaria)
- (v) IME - Institut Méditerranéen de l'Eau (France)

4. Work Results

- (a) ERWG Letter No. 1 to 20 (newsletters)
- (b) Irrigation Sector Reform in Central and Eastern European Countries (project report book/CD)
- (c) European Sector Vision on Water for Food and Rural Development (report)
- (d) ICID Guide "How to work out a drought mitigation strategy" (guideline)
- (e) Water Resources Management in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Lithuania, Slovenia (book)
- (f) Diffuse Entries in Rivers of the Odra Basin (research report)
- (g) Proceedings of several European conferences
- (h) First and Second CEE WFE Dialogue Reports (Dialogue on Water, Food and Environment – Dialogue on the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive in Agriculture in the Central and East European Countries) (reports)
- (i) Danube Valley : History of Irrigation, Drainage and Flood Control (book)

5. Projects

- (a) Flood risk mitigation by agricultural non-structural measures
- (b) Drought mitigation strategies
- (c) Implementation of the European Water Framework Directive
- (d) Flood plain management on Odra, Nemunas and Vistula
- (e) Flood prevention strategies
- (f) Point and diffused pollutants in the Odra basin
- (g) Sustainable irrigation and drainage management under the conditions of transitional economy
- (h) Dialogue on water for food and environmental security in Central and Eastern Europe

