

**AGENDA FOR THE 24<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE  
EUROPEAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ERWG)**

14 August 2018, 09:00-10.30 hours (Session-I)

14 August 2018, 11:00-12.30 hours (Session-II)

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

**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<sup>1</sup>**

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 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting held at Mexico City, Mexico in October 2017.
2. ICID CO vide e-mail dated 8 December 2017 to all Chairs/ Vice Chairs/ Secretaries suggested 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 to discuss and initiate follow-up actions emerging from the minutes of the previous WG meeting and review the progress of the action points. 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. No virtual meeting of the WG could be organised since last meeting of the WG in Mexico in October 2017.
3. No new nominations have been received from NCs during the year. Chairman in consultation with Vice Chair, Secretary of the Regional 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**

4. The Spanish National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (CERYD) has been active member of ICID since 1995 and has contributed significantly to the activities of Commission. However, due to restructuring of the Ministry of Agriculture and various other constraints, CEYRD became inactive with effect from 2014. ICID CO received an e-mail dated 24 May 2018 from VPH Dr. José A. Ortiz (Spain), former Executive Secretary of CERYD informing that CERYD has been closed and ceased to function. In April 2018, he had a meeting with the Deputy Director General of Irrigation at the Ministry of Agriculture, who informed him that the person in charge for the future activity between ICID and the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, or MAPAMA, has been appointed. The person thus appointed by MAPAMA for this task is an Agronomy Engineer, Mrs. Inmaculada Bravo Dominguez, Chief Engineer of Socio-Economic Study Area, at the Deputy Directorate of Irrigation, of General Directorate of Rural Development. Mrs. Inmaculada Bravo Domínguez is also in touch with the Central Office on how to proceed to make the change regarding the contact point for Spanish National Committee of ICID. In the meanwhile, Secretary General, ICID had a meeting with the Officials from the Spanish Embassy in New Delhi who have agreed to provide ICID with services such as translation of ICID periodicals into Spanish for circulation among the Spanish speaking countries and uploading on ICID website. Since then, few bulletins and concise ICID roadmap have been translated and circulated to Spanish speaking countries. Any updates on the reactivation of CERYD will be provided at the meeting.
5. Dr. Antonios Kotsonis, Chairman of General Director of Hydraulic, Port and Building Infrastructure Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Greece vide his e-mail dated 16 April 2018 informed formation of a Dam Administration Authority (DAA) with the main task of overseeing the application of the Dam Safety Regulation (DSR), a set of rules governing the design, construction and operation of dams and reservoirs in Greece. They expressed their desire to establish links with ICID and participate in its activities mainly related to the safety of dams and reservoirs, drafting of such regulations and their application in practice. The Greece is an 'Associate

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

Member' since 2012 and the Central Office is vigorously trying to rejuvenate the Greek National Committee of ICID through available contacts. ICID has also provided DAA with the required information and expects that the Greek NC will soon become active. Any further updates on the reactivation of Greek NC will be provided at the meeting.

6. Mr. Robert Kaufmann vide his e-mail dated 6 February 2018 informed that Swiss National Commission on Agro-Systems and Land Improvement (CH-AGRAM), housing Swiss NC, will be dissolved by 31st March 2018 thereby withdrawing from ICID. He further informed that in respect of future representation of ICID in Switzerland, there are discussions with possible host organizations. In response, it was informed to them that the ICID membership is governed by ICID By-law 13 according to which Switzerland may continue to receive benefits as a member for three more years even without paying subscription, but arrears will build up and which can be paid in due course of time when joining again. CH-AGRAM was suggested to continue to be in ICID fold and in mean time, explore a substitute for CH-AGRAM and pay the arrears then. In response to ICID proposal Mr. Kaufmann informed that according to the current state of the discussions, no Swiss successor organization will fill this gap for the time being. Further, Mr. Kaufmann on 2 May 2018 informed that we definitely like to renounce from now on all ICID services. Reason for this is on the one hand is that according to present information, there is neither a successor member organization visible in the near future, nor a user group and on the other hand, a possible successor organization should be able to restart on the basis of a new agreement with ICID, without any financial obligations from the past. Any further updates of CH-AGRAM will be provided at the meeting.

7. During the Mexico (2017) meeting, the Georgia has become an active member of ICID, facilitated by Vice President Dr. Irene Bondarik (Russia), who has been pursuing ICID membership in the region, by holding talks with the concerned authorities in Azerbaijan, Latvia, Belarus, Lithuania etc. Dr. Bondarik may apprise the members of the Group about the further progress at the meeting.

**ERWG Agenda Item 2: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Status of Activities relevant to European Region**

8. During the Mexico meeting, the Group reviewed the Action Plan (Road Map to ICID Vision 2030) for European Regional Working Group (ERWG) keeping in view the mandate and availability of resources for achieving various activities (refer **Annex 2**). At the 68<sup>th</sup> International Executive Council (IEC) WGs were encouraged 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 requested them to take actions to achieve milestones decided in the roadmap. 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. The members may like to discuss the Action Plan during the meeting for any update in the Annex 2 as per the latest developments.

9. 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 and WG members will deliberate on evolving mechanism to monitor achievement of milestones as per action plan.

**ERWG Agenda Item 3: Seminar/Session of the WG related to Agricultural Water Management in Europe**

10. During the Mexico (2017) meeting, the group proposed to organise an internal workshop based on the agricultural water management (AWM) issues during 69<sup>th</sup> IEC meeting in August 2018 at Saskatoon, Canada. In February 2018, the ICID CO followed-up with the Chair. WG Chair may like to further discuss about the workshop during the WG meeting.

11. As a part of action plan for roadmap to Vision 2030, it was decided that the WG would organise an e-Discussions on 'Water Issues' for the Young Professionals (YPs) in Europe as well as ICID-Young Professional's e-Forum (IYPeF). Mr. Mika Turunen (YP) suggested to identify a suitable topic for discussion and one of ERWG members can be requested to act as a mentor to guide and steer the discussion. WG Chair will provide further updates in the in the meeting.

**ERWG Agenda Item 4: Review of policy issues impacting irrigation and drainage sector**

12. During Mexico meeting held in October 2017, the ERWG discussed the need for review of the policy documents related to water resources impacting irrigation and drainage sector in Europe, which is included in the Action Plan 2030 of the ERWG under **Goal B (Activity B2.1: Review of European / NC policy documents related to water resources that impact irrigation and drainage sector)**. WG noted that starting point for this could be the 'Water Related Risks' document produced by ERWG few years ago and VPH Dr. Laszlo Hayde agreed to

search/locate the original documents. The Group also noted that water scarcity and drought are important issues for Europe and it was agreed that ERWG need to look into these issues and recalled that there used to be work teams in ERWG on drought and floods. In February 2018, ICID Central Office followed-up with VPH Dr. Hayde. WG Chair/VPH Dr. Laszlo Hayde may apprise the members on any update in the meeting.

**ERWG Agenda Item 5: Links with regional and trans-national organizations for co-operation**

13. During Mexico meeting, the WG reviewed the list of regional and trans-national organisations and noted that some of the organizations are no longer operational (**Annex 3**). ERWG requested its members/NCs to review and update the list including details of the contact person(s) In February 2018, ICID CO requested the members of WG and National Committees in Europe to review list of regional and transnational organisations for strengthening the linkages and cooperation with these regional and transitional organisations. WG will discuss the status of updation of the list and deliberate on interaction or cooperation with these regional and transitional organisations during the meeting.

**ERWG Agenda Item 6: Activities of Focus Groups of ERWG**

14. During the Chiang Mai (2016) meeting, the WG decided to have following five Focus groups based on their relevance to Europe: (a) Focus Group on History (VPH Laszlo Hayde); (b) Focus Group on Environment (Mr. Osmo Purhonen); (c) Focus Group on Sustainable Drainage renamed as Working Group on Sustainable Drainage, WG-SDRG (Dr. Irena Bondarik); (d) Focus Group on Water Related Risks (Prof. Klaus Roettcher & Mr. Olli-Matti Verta), and (e) Focus Group on Irrigation and Drainage in the States under Socio-economic Transformation, WG-IDSST (VPH Peter Kovalenko). Focus group lead members will apprise the members of the ERWG on the latest updates/developments.

**ERWG Agenda Item 7: Revitalization of ICID Network**

15. The Task Force on Revitalization of ICID Network (TF-REV) was wound up on completion of its activities except for ToRs 3 (*to take stock of the constitution of various NCs of Europe, and study their financial operational arrangements*) & ToR 4 (*to study the reasons for withdrawal of European NCs from membership of ICID in the recent past and suggest the means of retaining these countries as member of ICID*) which were assigned to ERWG as per decision of 68<sup>th</sup> IEC meeting (*Resolution IEC-2/68*) held at Mexico City, Mexico in October 2017. WG will deliberate on the remaining ToRs 3 & 4 of the TF-REV during the meeting of ERWG and present the outcome and recommendations to 69<sup>th</sup> IEC meeting to be held in August 2018 at Saskatoon, Canada.

16. In order to strengthen the activities of ICID members in Europe, the WG agreed to explore the potential of its members engaging in joint projects financed through European Union (EU). The group agreed to explore possibility of organizing common European meetings with ICOLD and similar organizations to expand potential participation from Europe in working groups and ICID events. During the Mexico meeting, Dr. Klaus Rottcher (Germany), VPH Laszlo Hayde (Hungary) and Mr. Hannes Puu (Estonia) have agreed to identify key contact details in the European Union (EU) to explore funding opportunities for some specific studies etc. In February, 2018, the ICID CO followed-up with the members to initiate actions and share updates in the matter. In response, Dr. Klaus Rottcher informed that the EU provide funds for the European activities like 'EIP Agri' projects (<https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en>) for networking activities. WG members may like to provide further updates and ERWG would discuss on further actions to the undertaken to revitalize ICID network in Europe.

**ERWG Agenda Item 8: Dissemination of activities of WG**

**ERWG Agenda Item 8.1: Website of the Group**

17. During Mexico meeting, the group noted that the website of the ERWG <http://erwg.icidonline.org/> was updated with new membership list, agenda, minutes, paper presentations etc. In order to enrich the website of the group, WG Chair Ian Makin requested the members of Group to provide interesting articles/information/short story/documents/papers/presentations related to the mandate of the WG for uploading on the ICID website for wider dissemination.

18. In order to enrich the contents of ERWG website, PH Peter S. Lee (UK) agreed to review and update the contents of ERWG website as well as to explore potential engagement of YPs in updating and maintaining the WG website and other communications tools in collaboration with Mr. Mika Turunen, young professional from Finland. In response, Mr. Mika Turunen suggested to use social media platform more comprehensively which may be an easy way to reach to YPs and then one of the active YP can be identified to manage ERWG web site more effectively. PH Perter lee and Mr. Mika Turunen will apprise the members of the actions initiated/taken in this connection. 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 8.2: Webinar / Web-based Seminar**

19. At Mexico meeting (2017), the group supported the organization of the webinars to promote sharing of vast expertise available with ICID fraternity with members of the NCs. During the meeting, Mr. Dominique Rollin (France) had agreed to explore possibility of webinar by AFEID (France) on their recent work on French Irrigation equipment and test using ICID performance indicators. ICID CO followed-up with him to provide the title of the webinar along with a brief concept note on the topic and identify a suitable expert who can act as a panellist during the webinar and may assist him in answering the questions raised by the audience. Mr. Dominique Rollin will provide further updates at the meeting.

**ERWG Agenda Item 9: Any other business**



**MEMBERSHIP OF EUROPEAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ERWG)**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Countries (Year of joining)</b>	<b>Present representatives (Year of Joining)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
1.	United Kingdom (1951)	Mr. Ian Makin (2014), Chairman, 2015	Attended the WG meetings in 2015, 2016 & 2017
2.	Ukraine (1996) 2014	VPH Prof. Dr. Peter Kovalenko, Vice Chairman, 2005 (1999)	Attended the meeting in 2016 & 2017
3.	Finland (2000)	Mr. Olli-Matti Verta, Secretary, 2011	Attended the meeting in 2016 & 2017
4.	Austria (1954)	Dipl. Ing. Frederick M. Cate (1998)	Withdrawn from January 2015
5.	Croatia (1993)	Dr. Davor Romc (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 & 2017
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 & 2017
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 & 2017
13.	Netherlands (1950)	Representative	PH Bart Schultz and VP Prof Charlotte de Fraiture from Netherlands attended the meeting in 2016 & 2017 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 Switzerland withdrew from ICID membership in 2018
19.	Georgia (2017)	Georgian Representative	Dr. Givi Gavardashvili attended the meeting in 2017 as new country
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 & 2017
<b>Ex-Officio Member</b>			
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
<b>Goal B: Be a catalyst for change in policies and practices</b>							
<b>Strategy B1 : Supporting Development of Appropriate Policies</b>	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		
<b>Goal C: Facilitate exchange of information, knowledge and technology</b>							
<b>Strategy C3 : Promoting Regional Cooperation</b>	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
<b>Goal F: Facilitate capacity development</b>							
<b>Strategy F1 : Enhancing Institutional Capacity Development in Member Countries</b>	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:

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

