

**AGENDA FOR THE TENTH MEETING OF THE
WORKING GROUP ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS AND POLICY ISSUES (WG-SOCIO)
Sacramento, USA
02 October 2007: 14.00-17.00 hours
Theme: Systems**

Year of Establishment: 1998**Completion of the Mandate: 2007**

Members: (1) Dr. Thierry Rieu, Chairman (France, 1998); (2) Ms. Felicity Chancellor, Vice Chairperson (UK, 2005); (3) Dr. (Ms.) Anisa Divine, Secretary (USA, 2000); (4) Mr. M.F. Viljoen (South Africa, 1998); (5) Mr. Mohd. Ali (Indonesia, 1998); (6) Ing. Josef Miskovsky (Czech Republic, 1999); (7) Dr. S.A. Assadollahi (Iran, 2000); (8) Mr. Francois Lelandais (France, 2003); (9) Dr. Shahbaz Khan (Australia, 2003); (10) Mr. S.V. Sodal (India, 2003); (11) Prof. Sylvain Perret (South Africa, 2003); (12) Mr. Vicente Carcelen (Spain, 2003); (13) Prof. Yohei Sato (Japan, 2004); and (14) Dr. (Mrs.) Margreet Zwarteveen (The Netherlands, 2005); and (15) Mr. Sezar Ercan (Turkey, 2006); and (16) Secretary General, ICID.

Permanent Observers : (i) IFPRI representative; (ii) IWMI representative; (iii) World Bank representative; (iv) ADB representative; and (v) Mr. Waseem Nazir (Pakistan).

Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 9th meeting of the Working Group held at Kuala Lumpur

The minutes of the 9th meeting of the Working Group held at Kuala Lumpur in September 2006 will be confirmed.

Item 2 : Tenure and membership of the Working Group

2.1 Tenure of the working group

In pursuance to ICID By-law 3.3 (b) and also as agreed at Kuala Lumpur meeting, the group is to wind up its activities at Sacramento meeting.

At Kula Lumpur IEC meeting, there was a proposal/ suggestion to establish a new workbody on 'Impact of Irrigation and Drainage on Livelihood and Poverty alleviation'. In light of the correspondence exchanged between Dr. (Ms.) Anisa Divine, Secretary, and President Peter Lee in connection with the proposed workbody, the WG-SOCIO being directly concerned and interested in the subject, the issues like wealth creation, livelihoods and others can be transferred to the suggested/ proposed new workbody. To begin with it was proposed that some members of WG-SOCIO can join the new WG on "Impact of Irrigation and Drainage on Livelihood and Poverty Alleviation" on an adhoc basis, pending its formal constitution following usual procedures as per By-laws which can then come up for consideration in the PCTA/ IEC.

In view of the above, the group will take appropriate decision regarding winding up of some activities and transferring other activities to the suggested group on "Impact of Irrigation and Drainage on Livelihood and Poverty Alleviation".

2.2 Membership

The Central Office has received new nominations of Dr. Han Zhenzhong (China) for the membership. Since the group is winding up its activities at Sacramento meeting, the group may like to propose the names of the existing members as well as new nomination received for the membership of the proposed/ suggested workbody. In that case the Central Office will formally contact the concerned National Committees for their concurrence/ agreeing to join/ nominate those members for the new workbody.

Attendance of members at the meetings held in 2005 and 2006 will be presented at Sacramento.

A. CONTINUING ITEMS

Item 3 : Guidelines on cost-benefit analysis of irrigation and drainage projects – a worksheet to calculate full cost of irrigation services

Owing to lack of feedback from the members, the draft worksheet on “Calculation of full cost of irrigation services” could not be finalized within the stipulated time. Dr. (Ms.) Divine hoped that the final version of the worksheet could be tabled at the Sacramento meeting provided there would be adequate feedback from members.

Dr. (Ms.) Divine/ Dr. Rieu will apprise the group about the progress in preparation of the worksheet.

Item 4 : Economic evaluation of the social and environmental impacts of large irrigation and drainage projects

At Kuala Lumpur meeting, Dr S.A. Assadollahi (Iran) volunteered to provide brief comments on the ‘checklist’ and Dr. Willem Vlotman (Netherlands) had indicated his willingness to provide a brief in the context of the present global drainage situation. Accordingly, the Central Office in March 2007 has contacted Messrs Assadollahi and Vlotman to update the further progress. Response is awaited.

Dr. Assadollahi/ Dr. Vlotman may like to apprise the group.

Item 5 : Progress in preparation/ finalization of questionnaires

5.1 Questionnaire on ‘Water Valuation in Agriculture’

Due to non-attendance/ participation of Dr. Perret (South Africa) since last two meetings, this item could not be discussed. It was therefore proposed that Dr. Mkhize and Mr. A.T. Van Coller would carry forward the work in collaboration with Dr. Perret with a view to finalise the questionnaire. In this context, the Central Office contacted Dr. Perret and Dr. Mkhize in March 2007 to finalise the questionnaire at the earliest and present it at the Sacramento meeting. Response is awaited.

Dr. Perret/ SANCID representative will apprise further progress at the meeting.

5.2 Questionnaire on ‘Analysis of the Role of Women in Irrigation’

A draft questionnaire on ‘Analysis of the Role of Women in Irrigation’ as prepared by Dr. (Ms.) Divine was circulated amongst all National Committees (NCs). In response, filled-in questionnaires were received from INCID (India), ICID.UK (UK), CANCID (Canada), and USCID (USA). In view of the lack of sufficient feedback from National Committees/ members, no conclusion could be drawn from this exercise.

The group may like to decide on the continuity of this item.

Item 6 : Workshop on ‘Socio-economic Impacts of Institutional Options for Sustainable Water Management’, at Sacramento

A questionnaire on ‘Comparative analysis of socio-economic impacts of different institutional arrangements of irrigation and drainage in various countries’ as prepared by Ms. Felicity Chancellor was circulated amongst all national committees and members in June 2006 with a request to provide case studies of irrigation schemes from their respective countries. It was proposed that based upon the feedback received from national committees/ members, the group would plan a workshop on ‘Socio-economic Impacts of Institutional Options for Sustainable Agricultural Water Management’ at Sacramento. At Kuala Lumpur, the questionnaire was thoroughly examined by the group so as to ensure its good understanding.

In order to further refine/ simplify and finalize the questionnaire, a task force comprising representatives from UK, USA, Australia, South Africa, and Turkey was formed. Subsequently, Central Office had circulated a questionnaire on ‘Comparative analysis of socio-economic impacts of different institutional arrangements of irrigation and drainage in various countries’ amongst all national committees and members with a request to fill-up and send to Dr. (Ms.) Anisa Divine and/or to the Central Office by 30 June 2007. In response, so far only three National Committees viz., SANCID (South Africa), IRQCID (Iraq), and JNC-ICID (Japan) have provided information.

It was proposed that the based upon the feedback received from national committees/ members, the group would plan a workshop on 'Socio-economic Impacts of Institutional Options for Sustainable Agricultural Water Management' at Sacramento. In view of the inadequate response from national committees it was suggested to discuss the outcome of the questionnaire during the WG meeting itself.

The slot reserved for the WG-SOCIO workshop has now been allotted to another workshop i.e. '*Workshop on the Role of Irrigation on Poverty Alleviation and Livelihoods*' as requested by VPH Dr. Alain Vidal.

Ms. Chancellor/ and or Dr. (Ms.) Divine will apprise the group about further developments.

Item 7 : Publications of the working group

The group will review the progress in preparation of various ongoing documents/ publications.

B. NEW ITEM

Item 8 : To study the implication of pricing of farm water subsidies, WTO and other institutional issues that have potential impact on irrigation farmers

Based on the recommendation of the Permanent Committee for Technical Activities (PCTA) at Kuala Lumpur, the IEC approved the closure of the task force for "Suggesting Effective Mechanism for Farmers' Involvement in ICID activities (TF-EIF)". While TF completed the entire mandated task, the task to study the implication of pricing of farm water subsidies, WTO, and other institutional issues that have potential impact on farmers remained to be completed and was recommended to be transferred to WG-SOCIO.

The group will discuss and decide the way forward.

Item 9 : Any other business
