

AGENDA FOR THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE
SPECIAL WORK TEAM ON LAKE CHAD BASIN (ST-LCB)
New Delhi, India
06 December 2009: 09.30-13.15 hours

Year of Establishment: 2005

Completion of the Mandate: 2011

Mandate

- To assist in the establishment of broad based ICID National Committees in each of the Lake Chad Basin country;
- To obtain and disseminate information on the problems of Lake Chad Basin to other ICID member countries with similar problems;
- To organize national and international discussions on related scientific and technical issues in the basin; and
- To co-operate with other international organizations in related activities.

Members: (1) Vice President Hon. Engr. I.K. Musa, Chairman (Nigeria, 2007); (2) Engr. M.S. Adamu, Nigeria, 2005); (3) Dr. Sizwe Mkhize (South Africa , 2005); (4) Dr. H. Fahmy (Egypt, 2005); (5) Prof. Tom Franks (UK, 2005); (6) Vice President Hon. V.A. Dukhovny (Uzbekistan, 2005); and (7) Er. M. Gopalakrishnan, Secretary General, ICID

Permanent Observers: (i) ARID-RAID Representative; (ii) LCBC Representative; (iii) FAO Representative; (iv) IPTRID Representative; and (v) World Bank Representative.

Note: *The 3rd meeting of the ST-LCB was held at Lahore on 14 October 2008. However, due to absence of Chair and other members, Secretary General M. Gopalakrishnan took over as the interim Chair (being the only formal member) and briefly discussed the agenda to the extent possible with Mr. Boubakari Mana, LCBC (Permanent Observer) and observers from USA and Pakistan, deferring major decisions and work plans for subsequent meetings. The minutes of the 3rd meeting were included in the printed booklet of the 59th meeting of the IEC and pre-Council meetings of Workbodies. Subsequently, an interim meeting of the ST-LCB was held at Sirte, Libya on 17 December 2008 on the sidelines of the FAO High Level Conference on "Water for Agriculture and Energy in Africa: The Challenges of Climate Change" held from 15-17 December 2008. The 59th IEC had nominated Secretary General Gopalakrishnan to participate in the conference.*

Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 3rd meeting held at Lahore, and Interim meeting held at Sirte, Libya

The minute of the 3rd meeting held at Lahore on 14 October 2008 and that of interim meeting held at Sirte, Libya on 17 December 2008 will be confirmed at the meeting. The minutes of the interim meeting are shown as **Annex**.

Secretary General appreciated the efforts of Chairman Engr. I.K. Musa for organizing and conducting the meeting successfully at Sirte, Libya on 17 December 2008. Secretary has responded to Chairman Engr. Musa in detail to the various issues brought out at the interim meeting. Secretary General has also informed about the interim meeting to all concerned (President Chandra Madramootoo; VPH Gao Zhanyi, Chairman, PCSPOA; and VPH Hector Malano, Chairman, PCTA; besides VP Samia El-Guindy and VPH Felix Reinders representing Africa Region).

Item 2 : Membership of the Special Work Team

The Central Office has followed up with the active ICID National Committees belonging to the Lake Chad Basin to nominate their professional for the membership of the ST. In response, the Niger National Committee of ICID (ANID) has nominated Mr. Illiassou Mossi Maiga for the membership.

Nomination of Prof. Dr. Tsugihiko Watanabe by Japanese National Committee (JNC-ICID) was deferred for the Delhi meeting. Nomination of Dr. Watanabe will be put up once again for consideration at the meeting.

CVs of Mr. Mossi Maiga and Prof. Dr. Watanabe will be tabled at the meeting.

As proposed at the interim meeting, Secretary General Gopalakrishnan has extended the invitation to international organizations like African Development Bank, (AfDB), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) requesting to nominate a professional, preferably dealing with the Lake Chad Basin as a permanent observer on the ST, to enrich the exchange of information. Response is awaited. Agricultural Water for Africa (AgWA) representative was also invited to join the proceedings of the ST as an Observer.

Item 3 : Tenure of the Work Team

The tenure of the ST-LCB for completing its mandate was up to 2009. However, the ST at its Lahore meeting proposed to extend the tenure of the team for two more years in order to complete its ongoing activities effectively. The 59th IEC upon recommendation of the PCSPOA approved the extension of the tenure of the Team up to 2011.

Item 4 : Formation of a broad based ICID National Committee in each of the Lake Chad Basin countries

The Lake Chad Basin Commission comprises eight countries, namely, Algeria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Libya, Niger, Nigeria, and Sudan. The ST recognized the need to have all stakeholder countries become members of ICID; and those who are member countries to organize broad basing of their National Committees. At Lahore meeting, Mr. Boubakari Mana volunteered to interact with as many Chad basin countries, as possible.

The ST at its Sirte meeting, called on Lake Chad Basin Commission to assist in the effort to reactivate or establish National Committees in the Chad Basin countries. The Central Office has written to Algeria (CNAID), Libya (LICID) and Sudan (SUCID) for their reactivation, to Chad whose membership application had been accepted by IECs at previous meetings but yet to pay their first subscription to formally effect their membership, and also to Cameroon to join ICID.

In response, the Central Office has received an application in July 2009 from Le Vice-Premier Ministre, Ministre de l'Agriculture et du Developpement Rural of the Republic of Cameroon for ICID membership. The Central Office has responded by informing that Cameroon's application will be put up to the 60th IEC for consideration and requested them to join the IEC at New Delhi, as an Observer.

Chairman may like to brief further developments.

Item 5 : To exchange information on problems relevant to the Lake Chad Basin

At the interim meeting held at Sirte, the ST proposed that the documents on Climate Change in Lake Chad Basin and efforts made by the LCBC member countries may be publicized at the 5th World Water Forum (WWF) in Istanbul in March 2009. Chairman Engr. I.K. Musa, who participated in the WWF 5 and in various sessions coordinated by ICID, may like to brief at the meeting.

The Chairman appealed all members/ permanent observers to share information on any new initiatives/ research work being carried out by them or international organizations that they aware of in the basin.

Item 6 : Co-operation with ICID Workbodies and International Organizations

6.1 ICID workbodies

At Lahore, the report of Inter Basin Water Transfer (IBWT) was discussed with Mr. Maurice Roos and Secretary General explained the status of IBWT report by ICID.

VPH Engr. I.K. Musa and Engr. M.S. Adamu were nominated to liaise with WG-CLIMATE and ST-ARAL, respectively. There was no liaison report as both of them did not attend the Lahore event.

The ST will explore the ways and means to interact with relevant ICID workbodies.

6.2 International Organizations

During the meeting at Lahore, Mr. Boubakari Mana, Permanent Observer of the TF-IBWT explained the contents of the paper on the LCB-IBWT Project. The ST-LCB requested Mr. Mana to supply a draft document of the agreement underway for studies related to inter basin water transfer for Lake Chad. The interest of AgWa representative to join the ST as an Observer and participate was welcomed.

Item 7 : To prepare an updated work plan of the Team

At its interim meeting held at Sirte, Libya, it was resolved that the presentations on the basin at Sirte be compiled into a report which would serve as tool for advocacy by ICID. Accordingly, a team comprising VPH I.K. Musa, Mr. Boubakari Mana, Mr. Mohammad Bila, and Mr. Chaibou Mahaman was formed to prepare the draft report. Subsequently, a draft report titled "Saving Lake Chad" as prepared by the team was received by the Central Office in March 2009. The Central Office has circulated the draft report among all members of the team for their comments/ observations. In response, VPH Victor A. Dukhovny while appreciating the contents of the documents has asked the permission to translate the report in Russian for the benefit of the Aral Sea Basin countries.

The inputs/ comments as received from the members will be incorporated in the report and will be tabled the meeting. The team will explore the way and means to publish the final report.

At Sacramento, Engr. I.K. Musa had informed that a special session on "Oubangui-Lake Chad Water Transfer" will be organized during the 3rd African Regional Conference (AfRC) planned to be held in Abuja in 2009. However, as NINCID has informed the cancellation of the 3rd AfRC in Nigeria, the team may like to organize the special session at the next AfRC scheduled to be held in Mali in 2011.

The Team had proposed to prepare the draft work plan of the ST-LCB considering Lake Chad Basin as a case study within the framework of 'Wide Irrigation Planning and Development' of the region. The team will evolve the work plan and spell out a practical schedule of completion of the activities by 2011.

Item 8 : Webpage of the Special Work Team

Presently, the information/ documents related to ST-LCB have been posted at the webpage of AFRWG <http://www.afrwg.icidonline.org/>. Mr. Muhammad Bila of LCBC was to assist in design of the webpage in consultation with the ICID Central Office.

Members were requested to communicate with the Chairman/ Central Office to provide some interesting/ informative documents/ articles for their possible linkage and posting on the webpage.

Item 9 : Any other business

FOURTH MEETING OF THE
SPECIAL WORK TEAM ON LAKE CHAD BASIN (ST-LCB)
Sirte, Libya
17 December 2008: 12.00-13.30 hours

Year of Establishment: 2005

Completion of the Mandate: 2011

Members: (1) Engr. I.K. Musa, Chairman (Nigeria, 2007); (2) Engr. M.S. Adamu (Nigeria, 2005); (3) Mr Boubakari Mana; (4) Secretary General, ICID.

Permanent Observers: (i) Dr. Adama Sangare, ARID-RAID Representative; (ii) FAO Representative; (iii) Engr. Bukar Wakil (Nigeria, 2005), LCBC Representative; (iv) World Bank Representative.

Attendance: Mr. Mahaman Chaibu (LCBC), Mr. Dimbele Kombi (LCBC), Mr. Bila Mohammed GEF Coordinator (LCBC), Mr. Alex Momha (LCBC), Zanna Bukar Kolo Embassy of Libya., Dr. Salisu Abdulmuminu Nigeria, Engr. Uzoha Chinuka Nigeria, Engr. S.O. Ome Nigeria, Mrs. T.Y. Adeneji Adele (Nigeria).

Item 1 : Membership of the Special Work Team

It was proposed to extend the invitation to African Development Bank, LCBC Regional Parliamentary Committee and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) as well as other relevant international organisation to nominate a professional on the ST to enrich the exchange of information. Central Office was requested to invite them to nominate a member as a resource person for the special team, well in advance of the Abuja meeting.

Item 2 : Tenure of the Work Team

To enable the Special Work Team to complete its mandate by the end of 2009, it was resolved that the presentations on the Basin at Sirte be compiled into a report which would serve as tool for advocacy by ICID. Accordingly, the Chairman of the Special Work Team was mandated to chair the drafting committee of three that comprise Engr. I. K. Musa, Mr. Boubakari Mana and Mr. Mohammad Bila. The draft report is expected to be circulated to members for their comments and input on or before 1st January 2009. Central Office was also requested to assist the ST with publication of the report by John Wiley Publishers.

Item 3 : Formation of a broad-based ICID National Committee in each of the Lake Chad Basin countries

The Lake Chad Basin Commission comprises six riparian countries, namely, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Libya, Niger, and Nigeria. Although, Algeria and Sudan are in the basin they are yet to join the commission. All the countries were in attendance at the conference in Sirte, but only representatives from Nigeria, Niger and Cameroon responded to the short notice of invitation to the meeting. The ST recognized the need to have all the stakeholder countries become members of ICID and for them to organize broad based national committees; it was however noted that ICID as it is currently organized does little to encourage membership of African countries. ST resolved to call on the President of ICID to initiate activities to check the drift.

The ST called on Lake Chad Basin Commission to assist the ST in the effort to reactivate or establish National Committees in the Chad basin countries.

Item 4 : To exchange information on problems relevant to the Lake Chad Basin

It was decided that at World Water Forum in Istanbul, the report of the ST along with the documentaries on the Climatic Change in Lake Chad Basin and efforts made by the LCBC member countries should be publicized.

Member/ Permanent observers were invited to share information on any new initiatives/ research work being carried out by them or international organizations that they are aware of in the basin.

Item 5 : To prepare an updated work plan of the Team

A draft four year work plan (2006-2010) of the ST was examined by considering Lake Chad Basin as a case study within the framework of 'Wide Irrigation Planning and Development' of the region.

At Sacramento, Engr. I K Musa, informed that a special session on 'Oubangui-Lake Chad Water Transfer' will be organized during the 3rd African Regional Conference (AFRC) scheduled to be held in Abuja in 2009, in collaboration with Nigerian National Committee (NINCID) and relevant ICID workbodies, besides TF-IBWT.

The team will firm up the work plan and spell out a practical schedule to complete the activities by 2009. Chairman will appraise the group about further updates.

Item 6 : Webpage of the Special Work Team

The ST noted that its website is yet to be created but some information on Lake Chad Basin was posted on the webpage of AFRWG <<http://www.afrwg.icidonline.org/>>. It was proposed that Mr. Muhammad Bila of LCBC should assist the ST with the design of its webpage and then request the ICID Central Office to finalize and post it on its website.

Members are requested to communicate with the Chairman/ Central Office to provide some interesting/ informative documents/ articles for their possible linkage and posting on the webpage.

Item 7 : Contribution to 5th World Water Forum

The topic of the Sirte Ministerial Conference "Water for agriculture and energy in Africa: The Challenges of Climate Change" aptly demonstrate the significant threat pose by global climate change to food security, especially for the poor resource based countries in the continent. Chairman reiterated his earlier invitation to all the members to contribute to the African perspective for the 5th World Water Forum to be held in Istanbul in March 2009 in addition to the documentation to be prepared by the ST.

He informed members that a special UN Task Force on Water and Climate has been established by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) under the aegis of UN-Water. Mr. A.C. Tyagi, Director at the Climate and Water Department of WMO as the coordinator. The ST noted that from ICID side, the Asian Regional Working Group (from the regional group side) and WG-CLIMATE (from the thematic side) were nominated as the relevant workbodies to contribute to the proposed task force. A member felt strongly, that ICID was increasingly marginalizing Africa, because clearly, Africa is the worst affected by climate change although it has contributed the least to carbon emitted to date, and wondered why the ST or African Regional Working Group were not nominated by ICID. All the members were encouraged to contribute to the discussion through the task force.

Item 8 : Any other business

The Executive Secretary of Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) noted that ICID is not doing enough to make its African members active in its activities. He called for assistance to LCBC in propagation of information concerning its Basin problems particularly the effect of climate change which is being felt more in the basin than anywhere in the world. In particular, he solicited for ICID to assist LCBC in organizing a special session on LCBC in International fora particularly in the forthcoming 5th World Water Forum (WWF) in Istanbul. He invited ICID to nominate some experts for membership to the peer review committee for the Inter Basin Water Transfer from Oubangi to Lake Chad.
