

**AGENDA FOR THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE
TASK FORCE FOR 'SUGGESTING EFFECTIVE MECHANISM FOR
FARMERS' INVOLVEMENT IN ICID ACTIVITIES' (TF-EIF)
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
12 September 2006 : 14.00-17.00 hours**

Members : (1) Mr. Stephen Mills (Australia), Chairman; (2) Mr. Jean Marcel Laferrière (Canada); (3) Mr. Takeshi Hata (Japan); (4) Dr. José A. Ortiz Fdz.-Urrutia (Spain); (5) Ms. Veronique Balsetra (France); (6) Mr. Xavier Goossens (France); (7) Mr. Tony Horton (Australia); (8) Mr. Volker Aeuckens (Australia); (9) Dr. Hussein El Atfy (Egypt); (10) Mr. Jorge Martinez (Mexico); (11) Prof. N. Hatcho (Japan); (12) Mr. Laurie Tollefson (Canada); (13) Mr. Clarke Ballard (Australia) and (14) Secretary General, ICID.

Permanent Observer : Ing. Manuel Contijoch Escontria (World Bank).

Terms of Reference (ToR)

- (1) To consider representation of farmers/farmers' associations in ICID Workbodies and National Committees.
- (2) To consider promotion of signing of Memorandum of Understanding between ICID and international farming organizations, regional farmers organization, national farming organizations and concerned ICID regional groups.
- (3) To identify and study issues from a farmer's perspective, which are not covered presently under ICID workbody mandates.
- (4) Collate and share farmers' practical experiences on best practices in irrigation and drainage and marketing their produce.
- (5) To develop mechanisms for farmers' association and involvement with ICID activities, including in annual IEC's for local farmers.
- (6) To study the implication of pricing of water farm subsidies, WTO and other institutional issues that have the potential impact on irrigation farmers.

Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 3rd meeting of TF held in Beijing

The minutes of the 3rd meeting of the TF held in Beijing, China will be confirmed.

Item 2 : List of Farmers' Groups of various countries

A request was repeated by the Central Office to the ICID National Committees for sending names of Farmer Organizations/Groups in their countries. Earlier lists were received from Egypt, India, Iran, Pakistan, Philippines, and Spain. Further responses from other National Committees are awaited.

Item 3 : Action Points for Future

At the previous meeting of the TF, the key issues for further action were identified by the TF after lengthy deliberations. It was suggested that the TF should ensure that the farmers had a session to showcase their activities at each ICID Conference/IEC as was done at Montreal in 2002, identify the key issues, and coordinate with the activities of ICID WGs and TFs to ensure best outcome of the issues identified at Beijing.

Emanating from the discussions at the IEC meeting in Beijing (2005), an internal review of the 3 permanent committees of ICID is being conducted. Vide Central Office letter dated 01 February 2006, the recommendations of the TF-EIF were communicated to the Chairman of PCTA (*and Chairman for the Special Committee to Review the Functioning of the Technical Workbodies of ICID*), Dr. Hector Malano so that these recommendations were taken due cognizance of during the internal review.

This is for information of TF.

Item 4 : Closure of the Task Force

The TF was constituted in 2003 at the time of 54th IEC meeting held in Montpellier in 2003. It has completed three years of its existence. It may be seen that the mandate of the TF-EIF has been completed. The only term of reference, namely, "To study the implication of pricing of water farm subsidies, WTO and other institutional issues that have the potential impact on irrigation farmers" remains to be considered by the TF. It is suggested that this work item may be transferred to the other WGs like WG-ON-FARM, WG-SOCIO or WG-CROP to include in their agenda. If agreed, the TF may consider winding-up its activities with the Kuala Lumpur meeting of the TF.

Item 5 : Any Other Business