

Agenda for the Eighteenth Meeting of the  
**WORKING GROUP ON WATER SAVING FOR AGRICULTURE (WG-WATS)**  
 Tehran, Iran  
 18 October 2011: 13:30-17:00 hours  
*Strategy Theme: Systems*

**Date of Establishment: 1994**

**Completion of the Mandate: 2013**

**Mandate:** "To recognize proven water saving success, and to identify and promote successful water conservation".

**Members:** (1) VPH Dr. Mohamed Hassan Amer, Chairman, 2010 (Egypt, 2000); (2) Dr. Juan Antonio Rodriguez-Diaz, Secretary (Spain, 2010); (3) Dr. Shiang-Kueen, Hsu (Chinese Taipei, 1997); (4) Mr. Neil Louis Lacler (South Africa, 2003); (5) Mr. Mehrzad Ehsani (Iran, 2006); (6) VPH Dr. Mark Svendsen (USA, 2007); (7) Dr. Yuanhua Li (China, 2007); (8) Mr. R.K. Gupta (India, 2009); (9) Dr. Muhammad Arshad (Pakistan, 2009); and (10) Secretary General, ICID.

**Permanent Observer:** VPH Dr. Alain Vidal, Director, CPWF-CGIAR.

**Website:** <<http://www.wg-wats.icidonline.org>>

## A. CONTINUING ITEMS

### Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Group

The minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Group held at Yogyakarta (2010), Indonesia will be confirmed.

### Item 2 : Review of the membership

The Indian National Committee of ICID (INCID) has nominated (06 July 2011) Mr. V.K. Chawla (India) for the membership of the Working Group. CV of Mr. Chawla will be tabled at the meeting for consideration.

At Yogyakarta (2010), the nominations of Mr. Moussa Amadou (West and Central Africa, NIGER) and Mr. Aliou Bamba (Mali) were deferred as new members (*for want of formal nomination from their National Committees*) of the WG. Central Office requested (19 May 2011) AMID and Niger to send their formal nominations for the membership of WG-WATS.

In response, Niger National Committee of ICID (ANID) has nominated (28 May 2011) Mr. Moussa Amadou (Niger) for the membership of the WG-WATS. The CV of Mr. Amadou is however awaited. The other response from Mali is awaited.

The Italian National Committee of ICID (ITAL-ICID) has informed (23 May 2011) that Prof. Atef Hamdy's (Italy) membership of the WG-WATS stands withdrawn.

At Lahore (2008), New Delhi (2009) and Yogyakarta (2010) meetings, the nomination of Mr. Shakibaevy Ilan Isataevich from Kazakhstan National Committee (KAZCID) was deferred as he was neither present nor represented by other KAZCID member at the meeting. The Central Office is in contact (01 January 2009, 26 July 2010 and 19 May 2011) with KAZCID to confirm the above nomination or send a fresh nomination. Response is awaited.

Attendance of members at the meetings held in 2009 and 2010 will be tabled at the meeting. It may be noted that representation of a member of the working group by any other representative of the concerned national committee is not deemed to be a contribution by a member. Refer to Annex 1 of PCSO Agenda (page A-10) and ICID

by-law 3.1.7 which stipulates that members not contributing to the activities by attendance or correspondence for two consecutive years shall be replaced in consultation with their National Committees.

The Chairman may apprise the WG members.

### **Item 3 : WatSave Awards**

#### **3.1 WatSave Awards - 2011**

The Central Office has invited nominations from all national committees/ committee for the 'WatSave awards 2011' in January 2011. The announcement was published in ICID News Updates, ICID News, posted on ICID website and was also circulated among various water related International Organizations for wider dissemination. The last date of receipt of nominations from the national committees to the Central Office was kept as 30 June 2011.

For the WatSave Awards 2011, in all 6 nominations from 5 National Committees have been received. The nominations received were evaluated by an international 'Panel of Judges' appointed by the President, ICID. The awards will be declared and presented at the 62<sup>nd</sup> IEC meeting scheduled to be held on 23 October 2011.

Further updates about the awards will be available during IEC meeting.

#### **3.2 Sponsorship**

ICID instituted 'WatSave Awards' in 1997 to recognize 'outstanding, contribution to water saving / conservation in agriculture' annually, across the world. Entries for the nominations for the 2011 'WatSave Awards' were given in four categories viz., (1) Technology; (2) Innovative Water Management; (3) Young Professionals; and (4) Farmer.

The Iranian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IRNCID) has bagged the honour of sponsoring the WatSave awards 2011. The total award sum amounts to USD 8000 for four awards. The WG members may wish to record their appreciation to IRNCID for their kind gesture.

#### **3.3 Review of Criteria and Evaluation Process for WatSave Awards**

The revised (2010) versions of the 'Nomination Form', 'Conditions and Criteria', 'Check list', and 'Evaluation Proforma' were used to invite WatSave nominations from National Committees. The revised proforma are accessible at ICID website <[www.icid.org/awards.html](http://www.icid.org/awards.html)>.

At Yogyakarta (2010) meeting, the process of review of criteria and evaluation process for 'WatSave Awards' was highlighted by VPH Dr. Mark Svendsen (USA). He suggested that one member country of ICID may support one nomination from a non-member country. However, every country should present only one candidate per category.

The WG may further deliberate on the Review of Criteria and Evaluation Process for WatSave Awards, if necessary, to improve the process further.

#### **3.4 Guidelines for financing and distribution of award money**

Based on the proceedings of the New Delhi (2009) meeting, the 'Guidelines for financing and distribution of award money (honorarium)' have been prepared by Central Office and circulated amongst the members for comments and/or suggestions. The WG discussed (2009) and reduced of the 'WatSave Awards' price from US\$ 2000 to US\$ 500. The reduced price amount was once again discussed (2010) and the WG agreed to reinstate the price money to US\$ 2000 for each category. No payment for travel/other expenses for any category was agreed upon.

### **Item 4 : Framework for cooperation and interaction among ICID member countries and work bodies**

At Yogyakarta (2010), the WG members agreed to cooperate with the Working Group on Technology and Research Uptake and Exchange (WG-TRUE) and the Working Group on Modernization of Irrigation Services (WG-MIS) for carrying out joint activities such as publication, workshop etc.

The WG may also like to discuss on the new ideas for developing / strengthening cooperation and interaction among ICID member countries.

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The Chairman may like to nominate members to liaise with above mentioned WGs and apprise the WG.

**Item 5 : Internal Workshop on 'Water saving achievements'**

At the New Delhi (2009) meeting, the WG proposed to organize an Internal Workshop on '*Water Saving Achievements*' during Yogyakarta (2010) meetings. Due to some reasons, an Internal Workshop could not be held at Yogyakarta, Indonesia. It was then deferred to the next meeting of the WG in October 2011 at Tehran, Iran.

The ICID Central Office informed (19 May 2011) the Chairman and members of the WG as above and sought their consent in holding the Internal Workshop during the Tehran meeting of the WG. To facilitate, the Central Office requested a one-page brief / announcement (*scope, topic/subtopic etc.*) for the WG workshop so that it could circulate to National Committees and also disseminated through *ICID News Update / ICID News*. Since there has been no response to the above, it may be deferred, if WG endorses.

The Chairman may apprise the WG members.

**Item 6 : Website of WG**

The benefits of WG webpage are immense. The Chairman may wish to discuss on how to enhance its contents and uptake.

**Item 7 : Work plan**

The core elements of the work plan are the management of the WatSave award process and organizing workshops like workshop on '*Water Saving Achievements*'.

At the Yogyakarta (2010) meeting, the WG agreed to update the WatSave work plan up to 2013. It was observed that the WatSave book has already been translated in Persian language. VPH M.H. Amer (Egypt), Chairman of WG has offered to translate the book into Arabian and a French member could translate it in to French. PH Peter Lee (UK) suggested that Chinese could be another language to translate the book into.

The ICID Central Office is in contact with the Egyptian, Chinese and French National Committees for translating the WatSave book into their languages. The responses are awaited.

The WG will firm up the work plan activities during this meeting up to 2013.

The Chairman may apprise the WG members.

**Item 8 : Any other business**

**FAO's Regional Conference 'Sustainable Water Resources Use in Asia'**

The ICID Central Office disseminated the information (13 June 2011) to ICID National Committees, Office-Bearers and Chairs & Workbody members about the Conference ([www.asia-water.org](http://www.asia-water.org)) of the Food and Agricultural Organization's Regional 'Sustainable Water Resource Use in Asia' hosted by the FAO in close partnership with a range of regional and international organizations, including ICID commenced from 18 April, 2011.

FAO had requested ICID to contribute on '*Water conservation in agriculture*' for the e-conference under the session-III for the week 9 (13 June) for topic '*Irrigation and Livelihood*'. In response, the Central Office prepared a paper titled '*Water Conservation and Irrigation*' for posting on the conference website at <[http://www.asia-water.org/index.php?option=com\\_kunena&func=view&catid=21&id=398&Itemid=199](http://www.asia-water.org/index.php?option=com_kunena&func=view&catid=21&id=398&Itemid=199)>.

**International Workshop on Water Saving Irrigation at Wuhan University, China**

A '*Regional Workshop on Sustainable Development of Water Saving Irrigation in Asia and the Pacific*' was held on 28-29 October 2010 at Wuhan, China. The Workshop was organized by the FAO Regional office for Asia and the Pacific in cooperation with Wuhan University of China, Chinese Agricultural Watersaving and Rural Drinking Water Supply Technology Association (CAWRDWSTA), and Chinese National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (CNCID).

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Major objectives of the workshop were to review the status of Water Saving Irrigation (WSI) development in the region, share information and experiences, identify major issues to be addressed, and propose suitable options for sustainable WSI development. The workshop was attended by over 30 participants, including 12 from international and regional organizations (ADB, FAO, ICID, IWMI, UNEP) from Australia, Indonesia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and USA, besides Chinese institutions.

From ICID, presentations were made by VPH Dr. Gao Zhanyi (China) and VPH Dr. Abdul Hafied Gany (Indonesia) and Dr. S.A. Kulkarni, Executive Secretary, ICID. Interestingly, there was no unanimity on the definition of 'Water Saving Irrigation' among participants owing to divergent views and perceptions. The FAO Regional Office will be bringing out the proceedings and recommendations of the workshop. Further details of the workshop can be obtained by contacting: Prof. Dr. Dong Bin, Wuhan University (dongbin@whu.edu.cn) or Dr. Zhijun Chen (Zhijun.Chen@fao.org), Technical Officer, FAO Regional Office, Bangkok.

#### **Intensification Programme on Technology Research on Irrigation and Drainage (IPTRID) and Workshop on 'Water Saving Irrigation and Food Security', Beijing, China**

"China Research and Training Center of International Programme for Technology and Research in Irrigation and Drainage" was launched at the hands of ICID President Chandra Madramootoo on 12 July 2011 in Beijing. The impressive inaugural function was graced by the presence of PH Aly Shady, Secretary General M. Gopalakrishnan, VP Dr. Willem Vlotman (Australia), VP A.K. Bajaj (India), VPH Dr. Karim Shiati (Iran), VPH Prof. Cai Lingen, VPH Dr. Gao Zhanyi (China), Prof. Wang Aiguo, Chairman CNCID, Prof. Li Yangbin, DG of China Irrigation and Drainage Development Center and its staff, Thierry Facon (FAO), representatives of National Committees of Canada, Malaysia, Mali, Niger, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa, and Uzbekistan. The launch ceremony was held on the occasion of the CNCID-ICID 'International Workshop on Water Saving Irrigation and Food Security' organized during 11- 14 July 2011 with the support of the Ministry of Water Resources, Govt. of China.

The above Workshop is a maiden effort following the engagement under ICID's renewed efforts to invigorate the IPTRID, in tune with the Yogyakarta IEC decisions of ICID when a MoU was signed with CNCID for the purpose. The workshop was opened by the Vice minister, Ministry of Water Resources, China Mr. Jiao Yong in the presence of Prof. Jia Jinsheng, President ICOLD. In his keynote speech, ICID President Madramootoo urged on the need for Global Food Security and the importance for water savings in agriculture which shall drive the future technology and research in the sphere.

In a high level meeting held with His Excellency Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources Dr. Chen Li, expressed his strong commitment in supporting the ICID and in promoting its mission across the globe. The summary of the workshop and presentations made can be downloaded by accessing the website at <[http://icid.org/news\\_online.html#beijing11](http://icid.org/news_online.html#beijing11)>.

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