

**MINUTES OF THE 30TH MEETING OF THE
AFRICAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (AFRWG)**

05 September 2019, 09:00-11:00 hours (Session I) and 11:15-13:15 hours (Session II)
Bali, Indonesia

Presented by the Chairman

Year of Establishment: 1994

Mandate: To promote links and networking among the African countries as well as regional and international institutions for enhancing cooperation and coordination, and to support integrated river basin development, training and research issues and information system for African needs.

Members Present: (1) VPH Dr. Mohamed Wahba, Chairman (Egypt); (2) Prof. Sylvester Mpandeli, Vice Chair (South Africa).

Observers: (1) President Felix Reinders (South Africa); (2) Robyn Johnston (Australia); (3) Engr. Ouango François (Burkina Faso); (4) Yaohu Kang (China); (5) Zeinab Hussein Behary (Egypt); (6) Er. B.A. Chivate, ICID Central Office (India); (7) Hafiez Ihsan (Indonesia); (8) Garantigui Traore (Mali); (9) Dr. El Houssine Bartali (Morocco); (10) Bouaam Mohamed (Morocco); (11) Engr. (Mrs.) Oluniyi Esther Oyeronke (Nigeria); (12) Ipinlaye Olaiya (Nigeria); (13) Fati Yerima (Nigeria); (14) Aderibigbe Cathrine (Nigeria); (15) Dauda Madu (Nigeria); (16) Sunmonu Kenneth (Nigeria); (17) Christy Omeno Oduh (Nigeria); (18) Iliya M. London (Nigeria); (19) Dr. Elijah A. Aderibigbe (Nigeria); (20) Bala Muhammad Sani (Nigeria); (21) Ali, Mohammed Abdulkarim (Nigeria); (22) David Emmanuel (Nigeria); (23) Bashir Beshir Bala (Nigeria); (24) Peter Y. Manjuk (Nigeria); (25) Dr. A. Senzanje (South Africa); (26) Peter McCornick (USA).

Website: <http://afrwg.icidonline.org/>

AFRWG Minutes Item 1: Action taken report by Chair

1. The Chair VPH Dr. Wahba explained to the group about the actions taken after last meeting in Saskatoon 2018 as follows:
2. **Virtual meeting:** No virtual meeting of the WG could be arranged during the period since last meeting in Canada 2018, but have regular discussions and sharing suggestions through emails, WhatsApp groups and AfYWP-Forum. First e-discussion of Af-YWP Forum was organized. The Webinar program for AfYWP-Forum has been started and a lecture by Prof. Kang (Chines Academy of Science) about advance irrigation technologies was given in August 2019.
3. **Organization of the First African Young Water Professional Forum:** The Chair briefed about the achievements of organizing the First African Young Water Professional Forum under the platform of 1st Cairo Water Week in October 2018. At the end of the Forum, the African Young Water Professional Forum was launched as a platform for African Young Professional and Chair made presentation about the report during the meeting.
4. **Establishment of African young Water Professional Forum (Af-YWPF):** The Chair indicated that the African Young Water Professional Forum was established after the First African Young Water Professional Forum and the total number is about 700 members as on date, which is a very strong platform for all African Young Professional. First e-discussion of Af-YWP Forum was organized. The Webinar program for AfYWP-Forum has been started and a lecture by Prof. Kang (Chines Academy of Science) about advance irrigation technologies was given in August 2019.
5. **Reactivation of NCs:** As a follow-up of reactivation of National Committees (NCs) of African countries as well as active contribution of the NCs in ICID activities, ICID Central Office had followed-up with the young professionals from Ethiopia, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Madagascar Chad, Somalia, and Tanzania who attended the First African Young Water Professional's Forum (Af-YWPF) in October 2018 at Cairo to liaise with their National Committee/ Ministry in their country to find about the status and possibilities of payment of annual membership subscription of their National Committee. Also, the Chair approached to some non-active NC's to encourage them to join the ICID and AFRWG activities (Tunisia and Algeria).
6. **Training Needs Assessment:** the final report had been finished and circulated to all African NC's and also to some funding organization for financial support of capacity building of YP's and the chair made presentation about the report during the meeting (available at http://www.icid.org/AFRWG_TNA_Report.pdf).

7. **5th African Regional Conference 16-19 March 2020, Marrakesh-Morocco:** the second brochure of the conference had been circulated and a report of latest updates of the conference was made by Prof. Bartali, Vice Chairman of Moroccan National Committee during the meeting (refer item 8).

8. The Chair expressed his high appreciation to all African NC's members and encouraged them to nominate new members in the AFRWG (one member and one observer besides YPs are welcome). The chair appreciates the help of ICID-CO to circulate an email to all African NC's for these nominations. Membership status is given in **Annex 4 (page 27)**.

AFRWG Minutes Item 2: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Status of activities in the African region

9. During Saskatoon meeting, the group reviewed and discussed the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 (refer **Annex**). With the efforts of the Chair, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Moroccan National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ANAFIDE) and Egyptian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ENCID) was proposed to be signed during the Cairo Water Week in October 2018. Also, a draft MoU between ENCID and each of Sudanese, Russian and Italian NCs is also under discussion. Chair encouraged all African NC's to take actions towards the bilateral cooperation to promote exchange of knowledge, experiences and information. Chair also informed that he approached Dr Eman Elsayed, Chairman of Planning Sector, and MWRI for collaboration of India Water Week and Cairo Water Week, which is likely to be discussed further during the 2nd Cairo Water.

AFRWG Minutes Item 3: Progress on Position paper on Green Revolution in Africa

10. During Saskatoon meeting, WG deliberated on the preparation of the Position Paper on Green Revolution in Africa and reviewed the table of contents and circulated the same to different NCs. WG noted the slow progress made so far towards the first draft of the position paper.

11. The Chair informed Members that position paper on Green Revolution in Africa is under discussion for long time and emphasized the importance of finalizing the paper by the 5th African Regional Conference in March 2020. After deliberations, it was agreed the following towards finalization of position paper:

- (a) A team consisting of following members be formed: Dr. Wahba (AFRWG-Chair), Prof. Sylvester (AFRWG-Vice Chair), Prof. Bartali (Vice Chair of ANAFIDE), Dr. Elijah Aderibigbe (Chair- NINCID) and Eng Amali (Secretary-AFRWG or other African YP's)
- (b) Eng. Amali or other African YP's will be the focal point of the team, to start for the preparation of the draft layout of the paper by mid of October 2019 and circulate to the team
- (c) End of October 2019 to have all feedback from the team and the team to agree about the tasks for final preparation
- (d) End of December 2019, to have the first draft of the paper
- (e) End of January 2020 to have the final version of the paper to be ready to be presented in 5TH African Regional Conference

12. In fact, an action was taken by the Chair after the 2nd AfYWP Forum, a team was selected - 3 YPs with Dr. Wahba and they are working now for this important paper. It will be shared with all the above team after finishing.

AFRWG Minutes Item 4: Progress on implementation of the action program for Africa - Strategy for capacity building in Africa (Training Needs Assessment) Report

13. The group noted very poor response to the Training Needs Assessment (TNA) questionnaire and requested NCs to make possible inputs to have a clear reflection about activities taking place and need to be undertaken within the African Region. The group was of the view that the initiative should not be seen as once-off process but as an on-going activity of continuous monitoring. Due to the sparse distribution of received submissions and gaps in the information, the group highlighted on the need to have more applicants covered within the TNA to have an analysis that reflect the situation in the entire African region.

14. The Chair explained that in view of the importance of the capacity building (CB) program for AfYPs, it was decided to analyse information received so far and update information as and when further information is received. Accordingly, the final report of TNA was prepared and sent to ICID Central Office for circulation among African NCs. This report was circulated to all African NC's and also to some international organizations for financial support for capacity building programme of AfYP's. During the meeting, Chair Dr. Wahba made a presentation on the final report of TNA.

AFRWG Minutes Item 5: Exchange of information, knowledge and experience (progress in activating Young professional working group at Africa NC's)

15. After discussion, the Chair provided further updates at the meeting on the progress in activating African National Committees:

16. Cooperation between African NC's

- (a) Signing MOU between Morocco National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ANAFIDE) and Egyptian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ENCID) still under discussion.
- (b) Chair encourages all African NC's to take actions towards the bilateral cooperation to exchange knowledge, experiences and information.

17. 1st African Young Water Professional Forum

- (a) The chair informed about the achievements of organizing the First African Young Water Professional Forum under the platform of 1st Cairo Water Week in October 2018. At the end of the forum, the African Young Water Professional Forum was launched as a platform for African Young Professional, which is having more than 700 members at present. The chair made presentation about the report during the meeting.

18. Progress in activating African NC's:

- (a) Chair of the AFRWG has carried out many activities towards encouraging the establishment of YP- WG at African NC's level and the National Committee of Egypt, Morocco, Nigeria and Sudan have already taken action and the WG has been established, a group on WhatsApp and at e-mail have already been active and the dissemination of publication, bulletin, news update are circulating to the members of the YP –WG
- (b) The chair of the AFRWG encourages all other African NC's to follow the same actions.
- (c) Also, through the Af-YWP Forum many information's, documents are exchanging among all African Young Professionals.

AFRWG Minutes Item 6: Updates on Regional Irrigation Associations- SARIA, NARAID, ARID-RAID by the Chair or Representative

19. The group noted that towards achieving ICID's vision in Africa, ICID has drawn up a number of initiatives for African region in collaboration with regional associations like Southern Africa Regional Irrigation Association (SARIA), Alliance for Green Revolution (AGRA), Regional Association on Irrigation and Drainage for West and Central Africa (RAID-ARID) and North African Regional Association for Irrigation and Drainage (NARAID), which is under establishment, such as Capacity Development Program and Training Workshops for Young Professionals from the Region and encouraging bilateral cooperation between the NCs of ICID in the region by way of formal MoUs.

20. The Chair Dr. Wahba mentioned that during last year, he tried many times for the establishment of NARAID, and unfortunately it was very difficult due to lack of financial support and based on the success of Af-YWP Forum, the chair asked the members to support this forum as it is for all Africa which can cover most of the proposed mandate of NARAID.

21. So, the group suggested to stop any actions towards NARAID and to concentrate on activities of Af-YWP Forum. A short summary on the activities of SARIA was made by Prof. Sylvester.

AFRWG Minutes Item 7: First African Young Water Professional's Forum (Af-YWPF) in October 2018 in Cairo, Egypt and Establishment of AF-IYPEF - Feedback

22. The Chair Dr. Wahba made a presentation about the final report of the First African Young Water Professionals Forum. The Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation of Egypt in collaboration with other ministries and international partners organized the First Cairo Water Week (1st CWW) from 14 -18 October 2018. During the 1st CWW, AFRWG of ICID, seized the occasion to establish the African Young Water Professionals Forum (Af-YWPF) and organized its first meeting to discuss the forum's objectives and mandate. The three-day Training Workshop of the forum brought together 24 African future water leaders from 12 African countries including Sudan, Morocco, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauretania, South Africa, Uganda, Nigeria, Malawi, Tanzania, Ghana and Egypt.

23. The workshop included opening and closing sessions, four training workshops and four keynotes speeches given by international experts, with hopes to challenge and inspire young water professionals within the continent about leadership in the research and innovative space and motivate their action.

24. The training workshop exposed participants to important issues such as Water Food Energy Nexus, value engineering, current trends, technologies and research gaps in water resources, irrigation and drainage as well as simulation modelling in irrigation and drainage.

25. It was a good opportunity for YP's to showcase their knowledge and broaden their perspective to sustainable water management in an international setting, learn from shared experiences to broaden their minds and thinking of new and experienced water professionals.

26. The forum ended with the establishment of Af-YWP Forum, the approval of the forum mandate, selection of the coordinators for the Af-YWP Forum for the years 2018-2020 and concluded with the following recommendations:

- (a) Continually expose African Young Water Professional to ICID's aims, objectives, role and activities;
- (b) Future Training Workshops will draw from gaps in the TNA and discussions held during this training;
- (c) Foster efforts to make training workshops more interactive and give participants the opportunity to learn from each other;
- (d) Collaborate, build and establish cooperation with institutions, organizations and agencies whose visions tallies with our objectives;
- (e) Discussions and various forum activities shall serve the African Challenges as well as AFRWG-ICID to ensure effectiveness of the Forum.

27. The forum was supported by

- (a) Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation of Egypt (MWRI)
- (b) International Commission on Irrigation (ICID)
- (c) Korea Rural Community (KRC)
- (d) International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
- (e) Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-MED)
- (f) The Nile Basin Capacity Building Networks (NBCBN)
- (g) National Committees on Irrigation and Drainage of Morocco, Italy and South Africa.

AFRWG Minutes Item 8: 5th African Regional Conference on Irrigation and Drainage, 16-19 March 2020, Marrakesh, Morocco

28. During the meeting, Prof. Bartali, Vice Chair of ANAFIDE made a presentation about the Conference and a video also was showed to the member of the group. The Moroccan National Committee of ICID (ANAFIDE) will be organizing the 5th African Regional Conference on Irrigation and Drainage (ARCID) from 16-19 March 2020 in Marrakesh, Morocco to exchange experiences about lessons drawn, innovative technologies and irrigation development strategies to reduce deleterious impacts of climate change on African agriculture. The 5th ARC will focus on the theme "Sustainable Management of Irrigation for Improved Resilience of Agriculture in Africa" considering the need to address the aforementioned challenges to improve resilience in agriculture productivity for ensuring food security for the present and future generations in the African region. The conference will bring together a wide range of participants, including policy decision makers, professionals, academicians and researchers from Africa and beyond working in irrigation and drainage or closely related fields and will provide an opportunity to revisit Moroccan achievements in modernized irrigated agriculture and appreciate historical attractive places in the country. ANAFIDE invites all prospective delegates to attend and contribute to this important regional conference. During Mexico meeting, it was agreed that a training programme for YP's from African region will also be organized preceding 5AfRC. Members are requested to submit the abstract(s) through email at bartali.h@gmail.com, anafide.ma@gmail.com; or by visiting the website <http://5arcid.ma/login/>.

AFRWG Minutes Item 9: Progress for the proposed third node for IRPID for African region

29. ICID Central Office had requested Egyptian National Committee (ENCID) to provide further progress for hosting the Regional Node of International Research Program for Irrigation and Drainage (IRPID) for North African countries. The Chair updated the group with the current situation of the node, as some actions were taken by ENCID but it takes more time, so, it was agreed between ENCID and ANAFIDE to coordinate the node from ANAFIDE jointly between Italian, Morocco, Egyptian and Sudanese NC's and work also for the common areas for other African NC's.

AFRWG Minutes Item 10: Af-YWP eF - Program of 2019 and future activities

30. The objective of the African Young Water Professional's e-Forum (Af-YWP eF) is to bring together Africa's future leaders from the private sector, research and government institutions around the central theme of water

conservation for sustainable development. The Chair Dr. Wahba shared with the group the future activities of the AFRWG and The Af-YWPeF which are as follows:

- (a) The preparation of the 5th African Regional Conference and organizing three-day training workshops back to back to the conference and also the first International African Young Professional Workshop during the conference.
- (b) Webinar program for AfYWP-Forum 2019 and planned to have two lectures before the end of the year.
- (c) E-discussion program also will continue till the end of the year.
- (d) Contacting international organizations for financial support for capacity building of Af-YP's

31. Chair VPH Dr Wahba has initiated the future cooperation for the capacity building for the African YP's especially for the North African countries. In this respect, Chair Dr. Wahba has approached international organizations for cooperation with them and the topics for training programs or training workshops will be part of the global initiatives like SDG's, climate change adaptation and mitigation, drought and flood management. In response, Dr. Tarek Sadek, First Economic Affairs Officer (Water Resources and Climate Change), Water Resources Section Sustainable Development Policies Division (SDPD), Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) of United Nations (UN) has kindly agreed for the cooperation between ESCWA, AFRWG - ICID and ICID and to have a MOU for this kind of cooperation. Dr Tarek Sadek has informed that they are ready to jointly organize with ICID and AFRWG the coming training workshop for North African countries on the topics of mutual interest and proposed to conduct this training in 2019 in Beirut or any North African country, preferably back to back with one of the regional events.

32. The 2nd Af-YWP Forum is being organized from 21-23 October 2019 under the platform of 2nd Cairo Water week 20-24 October 2019 and the chair briefed the group about the negotiation undertaken with ESCWA, Chinese companies, ICID and the Islamic Development Bank for supporting this important event.

33. VPH Dr Mohamed Wahba has informed about the proposal of a training course for African young professionals titled "Vocational Training Program of Canal Protection & Economy Developing" in 2019 in cooperation with World Historic and Cultural Canal Cities Cooperation Organization (WCCO), Yangzhou Polytechnic College (YPC), and ICID. Dr Wahba also informed that the fund will be from the Chinese side and proposed to organize training once a year. Chair Dr Wahba mentioned that it is still under discussion and the main challenge is to seek fund for this training programme.

AFRWG Minutes Item 11: Any other business - General recommendation

34. At the end of the meeting, the Chair encourages:

- (a) All African NC's members to participate in the Webinar/ Web-based seminars.
- (b) All YP's to provide the AFRWG with the topics needed to be covered by the Experts and also to be covered in the e-discussion.
- (c) All African NC's to establish YP working group at their national level.
- (d) All African NC's members to nominate new members in the AFRWG (one member and one observer, also YP's are welcome). The support and action of ICID-CO is highly appreciated
- (e) To take in consideration the French translation for French speaking Africans.
- (f) All Af-YP's to participate in the event of the AFRWG.
- (g) Data base of the members of AfYWP-Forum could be very essential for the future

35. The Forum is opened for all African experts to join to encourage the interactions, exchange of knowledge and experiences to YP's, but all scholarships will be for YP's only. As requested by the Nigerian National Committee the topic: standard of water quality for irrigation could be included in the E-discussion and webinar programs. A follow up from the AFRWG- ICID to the YP's in disseminating the output of activities at their national levels is required. Prof. Kang from the Chinese academy of science expressed his willingness to give any support for the African countries in the field of advanced micro irrigation technologies.



ROAD MAP TO ICID VISION 2030 – ACTIVITIES OF WORK BODIES

Goals/ Strategies	Activities	Outcomes/ Outputs	Milestone for Year 2017	Milestone for Year 2018	Milestone for Year 2019	Milestone for Year 2020	Milestone for Year 2021
Goal B: Be a Catalyst for Change in Policies and Practices							
B1. Strategy: Supporting Development of Appropriate Policies	1.15 Position Paper on Green Revolution in Africa	Position paper	Prepare the draft paper	Finalise the paper			
GOAL C: Facilitate exchange of information, knowledge and technology							
C3. Strategy: Promoting Regional Cooperation	3.4 Activate or Establish Regional/sub-regional WGs	Regional WGs	Collaboration with AfYWP-Forum				
Goal F: Facilitate capacity development							
F2. Strategy: Support Capacity Development Activities of Member Countries	2.4 Strategy for capacity building in Africa	Strategy/ Policy	Identify new themes and revise the strategy	Update the strategy			

(Source: Consultative Group (CG) Report: A Water Secure World Free of Poverty & Hunger: A Road Map to ICID Vision 2030)

