

Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the
AMERICAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (AMRWG)
New Delhi, India
07 December 2009: 14:15-18:00 hours

Year of Establishment: 2003

Mandate: (1) To assist in the development of broad-based ICID National Committee in each Latin American country, (2) To obtain and disseminate information on irrigation and drainage in Latin America, (3) To organize national and international discussions on relevant scientific and technical issues, and (4) To provide the catalyst for promoting better contact with the ICID and other relevant international organizations.

Members present: (1) Mr. Laurie C. Tollefson (Representative from Canada); and (2) Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar (Representing Secretary General, ICID).

Apology: Dr. Dennis Wichelns (USA).

Observer : Dr. P. Srinivas Rao (ICRISAT, India).

Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 5th meeting of the Working Group

The minutes of the 5th meeting of the Working Group held at Lahore, Pakistan in October 2008 were confirmed.

Item 2 : Review of Membership

Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar informed on membership issues as below:

- National Committees of Brazil, Canada, Chile, Guyana, Portugal and Uruguay have yet to send nominations for the membership of the Working Group.
- Further, 9 National Committees i.e. Argentina, Columbia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Panama, Peru, Surinam and Venezuela, which have become '*deemed inactive*' have not responded to invitation from Central Office to revive their memberships.
- The new (fresh) countries in Americas: Republic of Bolivia, Republic of Costa Rica, Republic of El Salvador, Republic of Guatemala, Republic of Haiti, Republic of Paraguay, Republic of Puerto Rico, Republic of Trinidad & Tobago and Republic of Nicaragua, have not responded to invitation from Central Office for the membership of ICID.
- The Republic of Jamaica was admitted to ICID during 59th IEC meeting in October 2008 at Lahore, Pakistan. However, the 1st current annual subscription from the Republic of Jamaica is still awaited.

The Central office may continue to enthuse above for nominations and ICID membership. Mr. Tollefson offered to assist and cooperate with Central Office in pursuing the membership issues.

Item 3 : Election/nomination of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary

Due to scarce attendance of members, it was decided to defer the elections till the next meeting in Indonesia in October 2010.

Item 4 : Activities of the WG

4.1 Workshop on ‘Food Vs Fuel : Implications for Water Resources’

In spite of best efforts from Central Office as described in the agenda, only one speaker i.e. Dr. P. Srinivas Rao (ICRISAT, India) could join the workshop. In view of scarce attendance at the workshop, Mr. Tollefson requested Dr. Ragab Ragab, Chairman, WG-CROP to allow presentation of Dr. Srinivas at the meeting of WG-CROP, which may be interesting and relevant there as well.

Eventually, Dr. Rao’s presentation was very well received at the WG-CROP meeting.

4.2 Other activities

None of the activities listed in the agenda could be pursued in view of scarce attendance and due to lack of input from member countries.

Item 5 : Any other business

The meeting ended with thanks to Dr. Srinivas Rao, who came to Delhi exclusively for the workshop.
