

**Minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the  
ASIAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ASRWG)**

09 November 2016, 09.00-10.30 hours (Session I) and 11.00-12.30 hours (Session II)  
Chiang Mai, Thailand

**Presented by the Chairman**

**Year of Establishment: 1996**

**Mandate:** The general objective of the Asian Regional Working Group is to focus on common topics and issues and to enhance the transfer of appropriate technology in irrigation and drainage to and from the Asian Region. The mission of ASRWG is to encourage membership and to coordinate activities in the region.

**Members Present:** (1) Vice President Hon. Karim Shiati, Chairman (Iran); (2) Mr. Wang Xidong (China) represented by Prof. Wang Aiguo; (3) Mr. Naoki Hayashida (Japan); (4) Ir. Syed Abdul Hamid Bin Syed Shuib (Malaysia) represented by Ir. Mat Hussin Bin Ghani; (5) Mr. Arthon Suttigarn (Thailand); (6) Dr. Mochammad Amron (Indonesia); (7) Mr. Stephen Mills (Australia); and (8) Mr. Waseem Nazir (Pakistan) represented PANCID.

**Observers:** (i) President Hon. Dr. Gao Zhanyi (China); (ii) Vice President Hon. Dr. Hüseyin GUNDOĞDU (Turkey); (iii) Vice President Hon. Shinsuke Ota (Japan); (iv) Eng. Nasser Ahmad Fayez (Afghanistan); (v) Dr. Hayat Khan Shams (Afghanistan); (vi) Dr. Kuang-Ming Chuang (Chinese Taipei); (vii) Prof. Ray-Shyan Wu (Chinese Taipei); (viii) Jaw-Cheng Chen (Chinese Taipei); (ix) Yean-Yuan Chen (Chinese Taipei); (x) Dr. P. Soman, Direct Member, JISL (India); (xi) Dr. Ismail Widadi (Indonesia); (xii) Dr. Momon Sodik (Indonesia); (xiii) Prof. Robiyanto H. Susanto (Indonesia); (xiv) Bistok Simanjoak (Indonesia); (xv) Soekrasno (Indonesia); (xvi) Prof. Tsugihiko Watanabe (Japan); (xvii) Mr. Masao Miyazaki (Japan); (xviii) Katsuhiko Yoshino (Japan); (xix) Mohd Adnan Mohd Nor (Malaysia); (xx) Dr. Mu Than (Myanmar); (xxi) Nik Kun Nikman (Malaysia); (xxii) Ahmet Seren (Turkey); (xxiii) Omer Faruk Akbulut (Turkey); (xxiv) Bilge Omar (Turkey).

**Website:** <http://asrwg.icidonline.org/>

**ASRWG Minutes Item 1: Action taken report by Chair**

1. The working group was informed about the following important actions taken since Montpellier meeting viz. (i) Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for regional cooperation between Korean National Committee (KCID) and Iranian National Committee (IRNCID) and technical visits carried out by both sides (*refer Item 3*) and (ii) Two successful events with PAWEES and AARDO (African Asian Rural Development Organization) were held [*refer Items 4 and 5*].

**ASRWG Minutes Item 2: ICID Action Plan 2030 – Activities in Asian region**

2. Members reviewed the activities of the WG listed in the Action Plan 2030. The six goals were briefly presented with some initial ideas for actions and deliverables by the Chairman. Following the six organizational goals, the group discussed and firmed up the activities of the ASRWG (**Annex**) which included contribution to special issue of AARDO Journal, compilation of conference/workshop, proceedings, technical report etc.

**ASRWG Minutes Item 3: Linkages with Regional and Transnational Organizations for Cooperation**

3. The group discussed and noted that in May 2016, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Iranian National Committee (IRNCID) and Korean National Committee (KCID) was signed followed by technical exchanges and visits by both countries as part of regional cooperation. VP Bong Hoon Lee and VPH Karim Shiati appraised the WG on technical visits since such mutual technical collaboration/ visits/ exchange proved quite valuable. The chairman requested the WG members to advise on how the group could further enhance such regional cooperation. The WG was informed about future regional cooperation between Chinese Taipei Committee (CTCID), Indonesian National Committee (INACID) and Malaysian National Committee (MANCID). The outcomes of such collaboration will be presented at the next WG meeting at Mexico in October 2017.

**ASRWG Minutes Item 4: Developing cooperative arrangements with International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering (PAWEES) and International Network of Water Environment and Paddy Fields (INWEPF)**

4. During the meeting, the group discussed and noted the collaboration between International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering (PAWEES) and ASRWG. Prof. Tsugihiko Watanabe, the President of PAWEES expressed agreement with the PAWEES-ASRWG collaboration in general, and promised to support the ASRWG actively by preparing a draft proposal for such collaboration. The group noted that the 12<sup>th</sup> PAWEES

Conference with the theme “Sustainable Paddy Water Management in Water-Energy – Food Nexus” was held from 20-21 October 2016 at Daejeon city in Korea. As part of collaboration between PAWEES and ASRWG, a Conference on ‘Agricultural Water for the Development of Rural Society in Asia’ was organized on 20 October 2016. The conference was chaired by Prof. Kyung Sook Choi, as a member of ASRWG as well as Co-Chair of the Organizing Committee of the PAWEES. Prof. Kyung Sook Choi made a brief presentation on the joint conference. Some of the papers from this conference will be considered for inclusion in the Technical Report of the ASRWG-WT.

5. Prof. Watanabe, the President of PAWEES, appraised the WG about the PAWEES activities and suggested to encourage young professional’s participation. After the successful contribution of the WG to WWF7 in 2015, led by VPH Shinsuke Ota, the group offered to actively participate and contribute to WWF8 in 2018.

**ASRWG Minutes Item 5: Work Team (WT) on “Contribution of Agricultural Water to the Rural Development in Asia”**

6. During WIF2, a Side Event (SE) on ‘Agricultural Water Management for Sustainable Rural Development’, jointly organized by African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) and ASRWG on 7 November 2016 at Chiang Mai. Prof. Choi, the chair of ASRWG-WT, made a brief presentation on the outcome of Side Event where 7 papers were presented. Some of the presented papers will be considered for the publication of ASRWG-WT Technical Report and others for the special issue of AARDO Journal in 2017.

**ASRWG Minutes Item 6: 8<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference, Nepal in 2018**

7. The group noted that the 66<sup>th</sup> International Executive Council (IEC) had approved the organization of the 8th Asian Regional Conference (ARC) in Nepal. The 8<sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference was proposed to be held in Kathmandu (Nepal) in March 2018. Mr. Madhav Belbase, President, Nepal National Committee (NENCID) made presentations in the PFC/ PCSO meeting. The NENCID will publish the first announcement in due course of time.

**ASRWG Minutes Item 7: Publications of the Working Group**

8. During Montpellier meeting, the WG discussed the outline of the technical paper of ASRWG-WT titled “Contribution of Agricultural water to the Rural development in Asia” to be published in 2017 during Mexico meeting and would be distributed in WWF8 in Brazil. Prof. Choi, the Chair of WT, made a presentation on the current status of the publication of the Technical Report. She informed on the number of papers collected, classification of papers, editorial processes and time schedule for the publication.

**ASRWG Minutes Item 8: Membership of the Working Group**

9. During the meeting, the group reviewed the membership nomination of Mr. Jaraev (Uzbekistan) and was accepted. The new nomination of Prof. Wang Aiguo in place of Mr. Wang Xiodong (China) received from CNCID was also accepted. The Iraqi National Committee (IRQCID) has nominated Mr. Shaimaa Shihab Ahmed and Mr. Ammar Salah Ahmed Manhee (*Young Professional*) for the membership of the group. Both the nominees were admitted as ‘Provisional Member’ until the nominee attend the meetings or else contribute to the activities of the working group through email/ video conference meeting. Membership status is given in **Annex 5 (page 33)**.

10. The group noted that Central Office had requested nomination for the group from the NCs of Bangladesh, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Philippines, and Sri Lanka. The representatives from Afghanistan (Eng. Nasser Ahmad Fayez) and Myanmar (Dr. Mu Than) were present in the meeting and the Central Office will follow-up their membership. The Central Office may continue to contact these NCs for WG membership.

**ASRWG Minutes Item 9: Any other business**

11. The IEC requested the group to increase the use of Video Conferences/ WebEx meetings in order to monitor the actions/ decisions of the WGs in cooperation with the Central Office. A virtual meeting through video conference also provides opportunity of participating in the activities of the WG for those members who were unable to attend the meeting physically. The chairman requested the WG to take note and organize the online meetings before the next meeting in 2017.



## Annex [Appendix VI, Item 2]

**ICID ACTION PLAN VISION 2030 – ACTIVITIES BY WORKBODIES**

Name of the Chairman and members filling this questionnaire: VPH Karim Shiati (Chairman)

Date: November 10, 2016

		Outcomes/ Outputs	Milestone for Year 2017	Milestone for Year 2018	Milestone for Year 2019	Milestone for Year 2020	Milestone for Year 2021
<b>Goal 2: Be a catalyst for change in policies and practices</b>	2.1 Publication	Side Event with AARDO	Special Issue of AARDO Journal				
<b>Goal 3: Facilitate exchange of information, knowledge and technology</b>	3.1 International conference/ workshop/ seminar	Compilation of proceedings		8 <sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference, March 2018, Nepal			
	3.2 ASRWG-WT "Contribution of Agricultural Water to the Rural Development in Asia"	Technical Report	Publish the Technical Report based on workshops/ Side Event	Contribute to WWF8			
	3.3 Linkages for International Cooperation	Collaboration / MoU	Exchange visits/ training between TUCID and IRNCID				
			MoU between IRNCID and KCID				
<b>Goal 4: Enable cross disciplinary and inter-sectoral engagement</b>	4.1 Developing inter-sectoral engagement		Collaboration between PAWEES and ASRWG				

