

**Minutes of the 24th Meeting of the
ASIAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ASRWG)**

11 October 2017, 09.00-10.30 hours (Session I)

11 October 2017, 11.00-12.30 hours (Session II)

Mexico City, Mexico

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) VPH Karim Shiati, Chairman (Iran); (2) Prof. Wang Aiguo (China); (3) Dr. Mochammad Amron (Indonesia); (4) Mr. Naoki Hayashida (Japan); (5) Prof. (Ms.) Kyung Sook Choi (Republic of Korea); (6) Ms. Jeong Min, Ryu – Young Professional (Republic of Korea); (7) Mukhlis Zainol Abidin (Malaysia) represented Ir. Syed Abdul Hamid bin Syed Shuib; (8) Dr. (Ms) Mu Than (Myanmar); (9) VP Madhav Belbase (Nepal); (10) Eng. Waseem Nazir (Pakistan) represented Mr. Ahmed Kamal; (11) Dr. Gwo-Hsing Yu (Chinese Taipei).

Observers: (1) Eng. Naseer Ahmad Fayez (Afghanistan); (2) Dr. Sanjay Belsare (India); (3) Mr. Naresh Modi (India); (4) VPH Hafied Gany (Indonesia); (5) VPH Shinsuke Ota (Japan); (6) Dr. Takao Masumoto (Japan); (7) Dr. Tsugihito Watanabe (Japan); (8) Mr. Yasunori Saiki (Japan); (9) Dr. Masayoshi Satoh (Japan); (10) Mr. Takeshi Kikutsuiji (Japan); (11) Mr. Mamoru Watanabe (Japan); (12) VP Bong Hoon Lee (Republic of Korea); (13) Dr. Jaepil Cho (Republic of Korea); (14) Mr. Chansung Oh (Republic of Korea); (15) Mr. Geumjun Lee (Republic of Korea); (16) Mr. Jungseok Jang (Republic of Korea); (17) Mr. Kyaw Myint Hlaing (Myanmar); (18) Mr. Aung Kyi (Myanmar); (19) Mr. Susheel Acharya (Nepal); (20) Mr. Saroj Pandit (Nepal); (21) Shishir Koirala (Nepal); (22) Er. Madhukar Prasad Rajbhandari (Nepal); (23) Er. Subodh Sharma (Nepal); (24) Ramanand Prasad Yadav (Nepal); (25) Mirza Junaid Ahmad (Pakistan); (26) Dr. Mona Liza Delos Reyes (Philippines); (27) Dr. Jeongryeal Jang (South Africa); (28) Ms. Seo Eun Hee (South Africa); (29) Ms. Kim Hye Yun (South Africa); (30) Mr. Tran Chi Trung (Vietnam); (31) Su Mei-Yuan (Chinese Taipei); (32) Mr. Kuang-Ming Chuang (Chinese Taipei); (33) Dr. Ray Shyan Wu (Chinese Taipei); (34) Dr. Yu-Chuan Chang (Chinese Taipei).

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

ASRWG Minutes Item 1: Action taken report by Chair

1. Chair welcomed the members and presented a report on the actions taken on the decisions and proposals of the working group held at its last meeting at Chiang Mai in November 2016.
2. The group reviewed the nominations of Dr. (Ms.) Mu Than (Myanmar), Mr. Bashu Dev Lohanee (Nepal), Ms Jeong Min Ryu (Republic of Korea) as Young Professional, Eng. W.B. Palugaswewa (Sri Lanka), and Mr. Ahmad Kamal (Pakistan) for the membership of the group. The nominees attended and introduced themselves during the meeting. Since the nominees were either present or represented, their nominations were accepted as Member while Eng. Palugaswewa was neither present nor represented and therefore accepted as a Provisional Member. The group also reviewed the fresh nomination of Dr. Dao Trong Tu (Vietnam) and accepted him as Provisional Member (*subject to Vietnam becoming a member of ICID from 2018*). Mr. Tran Chi Trung (Vietnam) earlier introduced Dr. Dao to the WG. Chair thanked VP Bong Hoon Lee (Korea) for his great efforts towards reviving the membership of Vietnam National Commission (VNCID).
3. Since Dr. Kota Tirupataiah (India) neither participated nor contributed to the activities of WG, the group decided to discontinue his membership as per ICID By-law 3.5 and request the Indian National Committee for a new nomination. Similarly, the group suggested that ICID Central Office may follow-up with the National Committees of Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Philippine, Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia for a nomination on the WG.

ASRWG Minutes Item 2: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Activities in Asian region

4. During the meeting, Chair reviewed the activities of the WG listed in the action plan of the WG towards Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 and discussed briefly with the members. The group decided to contribute to 3 goals (out of 6 organizational goals of ICID Vision 2030) for the year 2017 and 2018 as follows:
5. For 2017 – (a) Exchange visit and training between TUCID and IRNCID; (b) MoU between IRNCID and KCID; (c) Special issue of AARDO Journal; and (d) Collaboration between PAWEES and ASRWG (WT).

6. For 2018 – (a) 8th Asian Regional Conference in May 2018 in Nepal; (b) Contribution of ASRWG (WT) to WWF8; and (c) Signing bi-lateral Cooperation between National Committees of China and Pakistan.

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

7. During the Mexico meeting, members from CTCID, INACID and MANCID appraised the WG about their joint regional collaboration which was announced last year in Chiang Mai. It was also informed that Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) had already been signed between CTCID and INACID for mutual cooperation. Further, it was also announced that a MoU will be signed between NENCID and KCID for mutual cooperation in Katmandu in May 2018.

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)

8. Chair informed the group that the 14th International Symposium and Steering Committee meeting will be organized by the INWPEF-Philippine in November 2017 in Philippines. Chair encouraged all WG members to participate and contribute to the Symposium.

9. A joint International meeting between PAWEES and INWEPF titled “Promoting Sustainable Paddy Farming to achieve the SDGs” will be held in Nara City in Japan in November 2018. Chair requested WG members to contribute to such important event. Mr. Hayashida, member of Organizing Committee of this Joint International meeting provided a brief report about this event.

ASRWG Minutes Item 5: 8th Asian Regional Conference, 2-4 May 2018, Nepal

10. The WG noted that the 8th Asian Regional Conference (ARC) on the theme “Irrigation in Support of an Evergreen Revolution” will be held on 2-4 May 2018 at Kathmandu, Nepal. Mr. Bashu Dev Lohanee representative from Nepal National Committee (NENCID) provided the status of organization of the 8th ARC. The Chair encouraged all members to submit more papers and actively participate on this important event. For information about 8th ARC including logistic are available at <http://nencid.org.np/8th-annual-regional-conference/>.

ASRWG Minutes Item 6: Publication of the Working Group

ASRWG Minutes Item 6.1: Publication of joint side event of ASRWG (WT) and AARDO

11. Chair informed the members that a special issue of AARDO Journal was published in July 2017 based on papers presented during the Joint Side Event of ASRWG-WT and AARDO. The soft and hard copies of the Journal have already been distributed by ICID Central Office.

ASRWG Minutes Item 6.2: Technical report of ASRWG-WT “Contribution of Agricultural Water to the Rural Development in Asia”

12. During the Mexico meeting, Prof (Ms.) K.S. Choi, Chair of ASRWG-WT provided the status of preparation of final report of ASRWG-WT titled “*Contribution of Agricultural Water to the Rural Development in Asia*”. The group proposed that the final report will be published in 2017 and made available for distribution during WWF8.

ASRWG Minutes Item 7: Capacity development programme for Young Professionals from Asian region in 2017, China

13. The group noted that the proposed training programme of the Asian Young Professionals (YPs) on the theme “Performance Assessment of Irrigation Systems” will be held in China in November / December 2017. It was proposed that 10 YPs will be provided full scholarship for attending the above programme. Prof. Wang Aiguo, Chairman of Chinese National Committee (CNCID) informed the WG that the number of scholarship may be raised to 20. The WG members appreciated this kind gesture of CNCID.

ASRWG Minutes Item 8: Any Other Business

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

