

Minutes of the Twenty-Fourth Meeting of the
**WORKING GROUP ON COMPREHENSIVE APPROACHES
 TO FLOOD MANAGEMENT (WG-CAFM)**
 New Delhi, India
 07 December 2009 : 14:15-18:00 hours
Strategy Theme: Basin

Year of Establishment : 1999

Completion of the Mandate : 2005

Mandate: To identify and disseminate various structural and non-structural measures of flood management, and to study the social, political and economic aspects of flood mitigation measures, ecologically sound development, international cooperation, as well as people's participation in disaster preparedness.

Members present: (1) Mr. Maurice Roos (USA, 2006); (2) Mr. V.C. Ballard (Australia, 1992); (3) Dr. Takeshi Hata (Japan, 1993) represented by Dr. Takao Masumoto; (4) Dr. K. Emami (Iran, 1999); (5) Mr. Ahmet Seren (Turkey, 2006); and (6) Mr A. K. Ganju (India, 2007) represented by Mr. G.S.Purba.

Member Honoraire Present: VPH Dr. Ricardo Segura (Spain).

Observers: (i) Dr. Mati Tomismae (Estonia); (ii) Mr. Pankaj Sharma (India); (iii) Mr. C. Lal (India); (iv) Mr. Hassau Javiad Afridi (Pakistan); (v) Mr. Taner Kimence (Turkey); (vi) Dr. Enayatollah Farahni (Iran); (vii) Dr. Klaus Rottch (Germany); (viii) Mr. Praveen Jain (India); (ix) Mr. H Raheman (India); (x) Mr. B N Bilgundi (India); (xi) Dr. S. J. Bhongde (India); (xii) Mr. K Chelvaraajhan (India); (xiii) Mr. M. Vijaya Pandian (India); (xiv) Dr. S. A. Assadallahi (Iran); (xv) Mr. H. Yegu Naregara (India); (xvi) Mr. N.K. Tyagi (India); and (xvii) Dr. Behrouz Arabzadeh (Iran).

Note: In absence of Chairman, Mr. Maurice Roos (USA) conducted the meeting as Acting Chairman and Mr. V.C. Ballard (Australia) served as acting Secretary.

Webpage: <http://www.wg-cafm.icidonline.org/>

Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 23rd meeting of the Working Group

The minutes of the 23rd meeting of the WG held at Lahore (2008), Pakistan were confirmed.

Item 2 : Review of the Membership of the Working Group

The Japanese National Committee of ICID nominated Dr. Takao Masumoto to replace Dr. Takeshi Hata. Dr Masumoto was present and his nomination was accepted unanimously.

The Pakistan National Committee of ICID nominated Mr. Zarar Aslam to replace Vice President Dr. I. B. Shaikh. Mr. Aslam was not present so his nomination was deferred until the next meeting in 2010.

The Indian National Committee of ICID nominated Mr. G.S. Purba to replace Mr. A.K. Ganju. Mr. Purba was present and his nomination was accepted unanimously.

2.1 Election of Chairman, Vice-Chair and Secretary

No nomination was made for Chairman. The Acting Chairman will contact Ir. Jos van Alphen (The Netherlands) to check whether he is interested in becoming the Chairman of the WG.

Dr. K. Emami (Iran) was nominated as Vice-Chairman. As there were no other nominations, his nomination was accepted unanimously.

Dr. T. Masumoto (Japan) was nominated for the position of Secretary. As there were no other nominations, his nomination was accepted unanimously.

Item 3 : Tenure and Mandate of WG

Members commented that climate change introduces a new element of uncertainty into flood management, both for stream-fed catchments and those affected by sea level rise and storm surges. Adaptive management strategies will be needed, in particular for people living in flood prone areas.

Standard flood frequency analysis assumes stationary of climatic and hydrologic data. This assumption is in question in an environment of climate change and perhaps new analytical tools are needed.

A new mandate and tenure for the WG needs to be developed taking these issues into account.

Item 4 : Presentations on Floods (Country Case Studies)

Mr. G. S. Purba (India) presented a summary of current flood management arrangements and operations in India.

Dr. K. Emami (Iran) presented a number of examples of flood management in Iran and other countries, emphasizing principles, residual risk and the need for adaptive management in an environment of climate change.

Item 5 : Publications in Progress

The Acting Chairman reported that it is still proposed to produce a CD based on “country presentations” made in recent years, including the papers presented at the Sacramento (2007) and Lahore (2008) workshops. It is presumed that the Central Office will compile this CD.

Item 6 : Feedback of the Workshop on Flood Management during Lahore (2008) Congress

Members who were present at Lahore reported that the workshop was successful. Twelve papers were presented from six countries. About 45 people were in attendance. As stated in Item 5, the papers will be included in a “country presentations” CD.

Item 7 : New Working Group on “Value Engineering”

Dr. Emami (Iran) made a presentation on “Value Engineering” suggesting that it is a valuable tool which may have wide applications in the irrigation and drainage field in general, and seeking the WG’s support in proposing that PCTA consider the formation of a new WG to develop this concept.

The WG agreed that it supports the idea of “Value Engineering” in principle and referred it to PCTA to consider the formation of a new WG on “Value Engineering in Irrigation and Drainage”

Item 8 : New Structured Proposal for WG-CAFM – Work Plan

Central Office had requested the previous Chairman to report back on the new mandate. The topic was discussed under Item 3 above, but it has not yet been developed into a coherent mandate or workplan. This will be an important item of business for the new team of officers of the WG.

Item 9 : Any Other Business

The Chairman distributed copies of a letter from Dr. V. K. Labhsetwar asking members of WG-CAFM to review a discussion paper from WWDR-4 Issues Workshop titled “*Identifying uncertainty and defining risk in the context of WWDR-4*”. This paper was prepared for the World Water Assessment Programme by Kye Mesa Baroang, Molly Hellmuth and Paul Block of the International Research Institute for Climate and Society, Earth Institute and Columbia University. It was suggested that members obtain a copy of the full paper and be prepared to discuss it during next meeting in 2010.

WG members expressed their thanks to Vice President Engr. Dr. Illahi B. Shaikh (Pakistan) for Chairing the working group for a couple of years and his contributions to the activities of the WG since 2001.
