

**Minutes of the 27th Meeting of the
COMMITTEE ON CONGRESSES/CONFERENCES (C-CONGR)**

09 November 2016, 09:00-10:30 hours (Session-I)

09 November 2016, 11:00-12:30 hours (Session-II)

Chiang Mai, Thailand

Presented by the Chairman

Year of Establishment: 1990

Mandate: The mandate of the Committee is:(i) To recommend general improvement in conduct of WIFs, Congresses, Conferences and other ICID events; (ii) Representatives/Organizers of the ICID events to present a summary report of preparations made for the said events; (iii) Share the lessons learned / difficulties faced in organizing the events; and (iv) Make proposals for the smooth conduct of the ICID events.

Members Present: (1) Dr. Luis Felipe Alcocer (Mexico, 2016), Chairman; (2) Mr. Thanar Suwattana, THAICID representative; (3) VP Bong Hoon Lee, KCID representative; (4) Dr. Dominique Rollin, AFEID representative; (5) Mrs. Narges Zohrabi, IRNCID representative; (6) Mr. Anuj Kanwal, INCSW representative; and (7) Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar, Director, ICID Central Office.

Observers: (i) VPH Dr. Ragab Ragab (UK); (ii) VPH Laurie C. Tollefson (Canada); and (iii) VPH Franklin E. Dimick (USA); (iv) Mr. Kanchadin Srapatoom (Thailand); (v) Dr. Arthon Suttigarn (Thailand); (vi) Mr. Syaiful Mahdi Naumin (Indonesia); (vii) Mr. Bryan Ward (Australia); (viii) Ir. Carl Walters (Australia); (ix) Ir. Seung Won Lee (Korea); (x) Ms. Gong Ju (Korea); (xi) Dr. Youn Sun Lee (Korea); (xii) Dr. Gurbanchan Singh (India); (xiii) Engr. Waseem Nazir (Pakistan); (xiv) Mr. Stephen Mills (Australia); (xv) Dr. Waldo Ojeda (Mexico); (xvi) Dr. Gustavo Hinojosa (Mexico); (xvii) Ir. Warren Helgason (Canada); (xviii) Mr. Alireza Salamat (Iran); (xix) Mr. Daesu EO (Korea); (xx) Ir. Iraj Heidarian (Iran); (xxi) Ir. Atabak Jatou (Iran); (xxii) Ir. Mikaeil Hosseini (Iran); (xxiii) Ir. Ashraf Makvandi (Iran); (xxiv) Ir. Mojtaba Pourwoghadam (Iran); and (xxv) Ir. Mortaza Yazdkhasti (Iran).

Website: <http://c-congr.icidonline.org/>

Note: Dr. Luis Felipe Alcocer (Mexico) chaired the meeting in place of Dr. Luis Pimentel, the regular chair of the Committee.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 1: Action taken report by Chairman

1. Dr. Luis Felipe Alcocer (Mexico) presented a general report on various actions of the Committee taken since Montpellier meeting in 2015, like presentations of the members, feedback from the organizers of the past events, representatives from host National Committees etc.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 2: Overview of 2nd WIF & 67th IEC meeting, 6-12 November 2016 at Chiang Mai, Thailand

2. Mr. Thanar Suwattana, THAICID gave a general report about the Second World Irrigation Forum (WIF2) and 67th International Executive Council (IEC) Meetings hosted by Thai National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (THAICID). The main theme of the Forum was "Water management in a changing World: Role of Irrigation for Sustainable Food Production".

3. The mega event was attended by over 1200 participants from 56 countries drawn from different disciplines including ministers, farmers, academicians, researchers, international scientific community, engineers, policymakers, industry and the irrigation managers. More than 300 abstracts/papers were received on various Sub-themes of the Forum; namely, (1) Key issues of irrigation and drainage in balancing water, food, energy and ecology; (2) Management of climatic extremes with focus on floods and droughts; (3) Key and small actions to alleviate hunger and poverty through irrigation and drainage, which were reviewed and finally 182 papers have been accepted. In addition, to the thematic sessions, one international workshop, two Roundtables, 4 Plenary Sessions, 18 Side events; and an International Exhibition were organised. Twenty-eight Young Professionals (YPs) participated in the activities of WIF2 and IEC meetings.

4. The Opening Address was delivered by H.E. General Chatchai Sarikulya, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand; followed by a Keynote Addresses of Mr. Petipong Pungbun Na Ayudhya, Former Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives of Thailand. During the Opening Ceremony of WIF2, H.E. General Chatchai Sarikulya, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand; H.E. Tian Xuebin, Vice Minister of Ministry of Water Resources, China; and President Dr. Saeed Nairizi presented the World Irrigation and Drainage Prize, 2016 to Prof. Bart Schultz (The Netherlands) for his sustained, long standing and highly committed work to irrigation and drainage sector worldwide through education, research, planning and international project implementation. The

WID prize comprised of a cash award of US\$ 10,000, citation and a trophy. The award winning journey of Prof. Bart Schultz can be accessed at http://www.icid.org/wid_prize.html.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 3: Feedback from the organizers of the past events

C-CONGR Minutes Item 3.1: Feedback from 22nd ICID Congress and 65th IEC at Gwangju, Korea in September 2014

5. VP Bong Hoon Lee, President of the Korean National Committee of ICID (KCID) gave a presentation about the 22nd ICID Congress and 65th IEC. VP Lee gave impressive statistics, such as (i) participation of 1,345 delegates from 62 countries (ii) More than 420 delegates from foreign countries (iii) discussion/ presentation of about 140 papers and 88 Posters from 37 countries during the Congress. In his overview, he first briefly described each event and its importance in the congress. He then described the lessons learned and challenges faced. He informed how in-depth consultations with top policy makers helped them to initiate reactivation of Uganda national committee. In order to boost participation of developing countries, they were invited as well as supported to participate to share their experiences and technologies in Agricultural Rural Development. In his views, it was challenging to meet the Congress expenses. VP Lee informed that about 60% of the congress costs were met mainly from the government funds, 22% from private companies and 18% from registration fees. A proactive plan is necessary to secure financial support from Government or private industry. He emphasized on good communication and teamwork for efficient operation. Unification of commanding system is required for successful event. The selection of capable end efficient PCO is extremely important for the success of an international event like ICID Congress. VP Bong Hoon Lee and Mr. Daesu EO (Korea) offered themselves to MXCID, the next host of the ICID Congress, for guidance and/or assistance, if required. The presentation made by VP Bong Hoon Lee is available at Committee's webpage for more information.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 3.2: Feedback from 26th ERC and 66th IEC, Montpellier, France in October 2015

6. Dr. Dominique Rollin, President of the French National Committee of ICID (AFEID) presented a report on results and experiences in organizing the 26th ERC and 66th IEC. He emphasized on clearly defining the roles of scientific and logistic committees. The ERC had a very strong scientific component. Following were the strong organizational points for AFEID: (i) ERC had very dense scientific program, rich in content, many technical visits, cultural and social program every day for a week (ii) ERC had very positive performance indicators (number of participants were about 800 (25% from France) from 65 countries, 100% exhibitor space used, a good number of partners and funders, strong participation from African countries etc and (iii) ERC had well established Communication (*efficient website still working <https://icid2015.sciencesconf.org/?lang=en>*), regular dissemination of newsletters, successful guide of the conference, bringing out special issue I&D. The presentation made by Dr. Dominique Rollin is available at Committee's webpage for more information.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 4: Preparations for the future events for the next 3 years

C-CONGR Minutes Item 4.1: 13th International Drainage Workshop (IDW), 4-7 March 2017, Ahwaz City, Iran

7. Mrs. Narges Zohrabi, representative from IRNCID, gave a presentation about preparations made for the 13th International Drainage Workshop (13th IDW) to be held from 4-7 March at Ahwaz City in Iran. The announcement and call for papers of the 13th IDW have been issued and widely circulated amongst the National Committees (NCs), International Organizations and others. Mrs Zohrabi urged the NCs to actively participate in the 13th IDW in large numbers. More information on 13th IDW is available at the event web page <<http://www.idw13.org/English/>>. The presentation made by Mrs. Narges Zohrabi is available at Committee's webpage for more information.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 4.2: 23rd ICID Congress and 68th IEC, 8-14 October 2017, Mexico City, Mexico

8. Mr. Luis Felipe Alcocer, Secretary General of Mexican National Committee of ICID (MXCID) made a presentation on preparations made for the 23rd International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage and 67th International Executive Council (IEC) meetings to be held from 8-14 October 2017 at Mexico City, Mexico. The MXCID distributed the second announcement of the 23rd Congress to members and invited them to submit papers for the Congress in a big way. More information on the 23rd Congress and 68th IEC is available at the event webpage <http://www.icid2017.org/>. The presentation made by Mr. Luis Felipe Alcocer is available at Committee's webpage for more information.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 5: 8th Asian Regional Conference, Kathmandu, Nepal in 2018

9. It was informed that the 8th Asian Regional Conference (8th AsRC) will be hosted and organized by the Nepal National Committee of ICID (NENCID) in March 2018 at Kathmandu, Nepal. More information will be available in due course of time.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 6: 69th IEC meeting and 5th American Regional Conference, Saskatoon, Canada in 2018

10. VPH Laurie Tollefson, representative from CANCEID along with Mr. Warren Helgason from the University of Saskatchewan presented the status of preparations for the 69th IEC and 5th American Regional Conference to be held at Saskatoon, Canada from 12-17 August 2018. VPH Tollefson briefly described the conference themes and the venue together with other logistic arrangements. VPH Tollefson strongly recommended attending this conference as Saskatoon is a City of Science hosting the Global Institute of Food Security and Global Institute of Water Security as well. The presentation made by VPH Tollefson is available at Committee's webpage for more information.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 7: 9th International Micro Irrigation Conference, Aurangabad, India

11. Mr. Anuj Kanwal, Member Secretary of Indian National Committee on Surface Water (INCSW) made a presentation on the preparations being made for the 9th International Micro Irrigation Conference to be held at Aurangabad in India. The INCSW will be finalizing the date/year and Theme/sub-themes in consultation with the WG-SON-FARM. The presentation made by Mr. Anuj Kanwal is available at Committee's webpage for more information.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 8: Proposals for future ICID Conferences

12. ICID received proposals from the following NCs for the future ICID events as:

- (a) **IAL, Australia (2020):** The Irrigation Australia Limited (IAL) has offered to host the 24th ICID Congress and 71st International Executive Council (IEC) meeting in May 2020 at Sydney in Australia. Mr. Bryan Ward, CEO of IAL presented details of their capabilities to host the proposed 24th Congress, exhibition, and executive council meeting at Sydney in Australia. The IAL distributed the promotional material to the members. The presentation made by Mr. Bryan Ward is available at Committee's webpage for more information.
- (b) **IRNCID, Iran (2019):** The Iranian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage has offered to host the 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3) and 70th IEC meeting in September/October/November 2019 in Iran. Mr. Alireza Salamat, representative of IRNCID made a presentation outlining their capabilities to host the WIF3 and 70th IEC in Iran. The IRNCID distributed the promotional material to the members. The presentation made by Mr. Alireza Salamat is available at Committee's webpage for more information.
- (c) In addition, **Indonesian National Committee of ICID (INACID)** showed their interest in hosting the 3rd World Irrigation Forum and 70th IEC in 2019 as well.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 9: Membership of the Committee

13. During the meeting, the Committee has accepted the membership of Mr. Luis Felipe Alcocer (Mexico) who will be a new Chair of C-CONGR in place of Dr. Luis Pimentel until 2017. The membership status is given in **Annex 5 (page 33)**.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 10: Any other business

The meeting ended with thanks to the chair.



