

Minutes of the Third Meeting of the
WORKING GROUP ON MODERNIZATION OF IRRIGATION SERVICES (WG-MIS)
7 December 2009: 14.15-18.00 hours
New Delhi, India
Strategy Theme: Systems

Year of Establishment: 2007

Completion of the Mandate: 2012

Mandate: To provide a continuing focus in ICID for sustainable improvement of irrigation service delivery through progressive modernization of infrastructure, management and institution.

Members present: (1) Dr. Ir. Maurits Ertsen, Chairman (The Netherlands, 2007); (2) Mr. Francois Brelle, Vice Chairman (France, 2007) represented by Mr. Franck Sanfilippo; (3) Dr. Willem F. Vlotman, Secretary (Australia, 2008); (4) Mr. Lee, Tsong-Hwei (Chinese Taipei, 2007); (5) Dr. M.K. Siah (Iran, 2007) represented by Mr. Mohammad Sadegh Jafari; (6) Vice President Dr. Illahi B. Shaikh (Pakistan, 2007) represented by Mr. Syed Mansoob Ali Zaidi; (7) Dr. Ashwani Kumar (India, 2008); (8) Ms. Marina Pinter (Slovenia, 2008); (9) Dr. Masayoshi Satoh (Japan, 2008) represented by Mr. Kazumi Ueda; (10) Dr. Lee, Yong-Jig (Korea, 2008) represented by Mr. Kim Jinteak; (11) Dr. José M. García-Asensio (Spain, 2008) represented by VPH Dr. Jose A. Ortiz Urrutia; (12) Mr. Andre Roux (South Africa, 2008); (13) Secretary General, ICID represented by Dr. S.A. Kulkarni, Executive Secretary, ICID.

Permanent Observer: Dr. P.S. Rao (representative from FAO).

Members Honoraire Present: Vice President Hon. Felix Reinders (South Africa).

Observers: (i) Mr. Ian Moorhouse (Australia); (ii) Mr. Kushagra Sharma (India); (iii) Mr. R. Shrirao (India); (iv) Dr. N.K. Tyagi (India); (v) Dr. Adama Sangare (Mali); (vi) Mr. Abdoulaye Dembele (Mali); (vii) Dr. Sanjay Belsare (India); (viii) Dr. C. Venkata Reddy (India); (ix) Prof. Linden Vincent (The Netherlands); (x) Mr. Ying Cheng Lee (Chinese Taipei); (xi) Mr. Jyh-Haw-Lin (Chinese Taipei); (xii) Mr. Yun Cheng (Chinese Taipei); (xiii) Mr. N.B. Patel (India); (xiv) Mr. Patne Somanath (India); (xv) Mr. Basawaraj P. Wallepore (India); (xvi) Mr. N.V. Muralidhar (India); (xvii) Mr. Tushar M. Dholakia (India); (xviii) Mr. M.S. Zaman (India); (xix) Dr. A.B. Khot (India); (xx) Dr. Mohd Amin Mohd Soom (Malaysia); (xxi) Er. J.S. Sodhi (India); (xxii) Dr. M.K. Sharma (India); (xxiii) Mr. B.S. Patil (India); (xxiv) Mr. S.D. Kabbur (India); (xxv) Mr. Reza Datiari Manesh (India); and (xxvi) Mr. C. Abbas Rikhtechi (India)

Website: <http://www.wg-mis.icidonline.org>

Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 2nd meeting held at Lahore

Since there were no comments on the minutes of the 2nd meeting held at Lahore in October 2008, the WG approved and confirmed the minutes.

Item 2 : Membership of the Group

All those nominations proposed by various National Committees at the Lahore meeting were accepted as the WG was still in formation stage.

Pakistan National Committee (PANCID) nominee Engr. Syed Mansoob Ali Zaidi was present and introduced himself. His nomination was accepted.

French National Committee (AFEID) had nominated Mr. Frank Sanfilippo (in place of Mr François Brelle). However, at the meeting Mr. Frank Sanfilippo informed that Mr. François Brelle will continue as a member.

Item 3 : Webpage of the Group

Chairman called for contributions to be posted on the WG webpage <<http://www.misicid.citg.tudelft.nl>>. He requested members to check the web page and provide comments/ observations so as to further improve it. Members were encouraged to report events related to the activities of the group.

Item 4 : Un-Water Task Force on Indicators–Monitoring-Reporting

The UN-Water had established a Task Force on “Indicators-Monitoring-Reporting” (IMR). The purpose of the Task Force was to prepare a working paper on “Common framework for global monitoring and reporting on water and sanitation through a defined set of domains and key indicators”. The coordinating organization of the Task Force is “World Water Assessment Program (WWAP)”. The TF-IMR was building upon the work of two previous UN-Water Task Forces (TF on monitoring, 2006; and TF on IWRM, 2007) and multiple partners’ initiatives on indicators selection, development and data provision. It focuses on the selection of a minimum set of key indicators for reporting at global level on the water sector. The Chairman explained his work with UN-Water Task Force. He introduced three items to the UN-Water Task force, viz;

1. ICID documents on the issue of indicators and benchmarking,
2. Ideas to effectively distinguish between key indicators on demand and supply, and
3. New approaches to data collection, including remote sensing

Chairman could not attend some of the meetings of the Task Force. WG expressed its interest in knowing further developments of the TF-IMR. The Chairman will keep the WG informed about the updates.

Item 5 : Internal Workshop of the WG

No specific workshop of the Group was arranged at the Delhi meeting. IWMI has organised a Special Session on “Future of Irrigation in Asia” All members were urged to attend the ICID-IWMI special session scheduled to be held on Wednesday 9 Dec 2009 from 09:30–13:00 hours.

Item 6 : Work Plan of the Group for the period 2009-2012

The WG reiterated and agreed on the following four tasks as part of the work plan;

1. **Use of MASCOTTE:** Chairman presented a case study from Peru. He would also apply it to a case in the Netherlands,
2. **Improvement of Irrigation Service Delivery:** The WG proposed to study various technological, legal and organisational aspects and options for improved irrigation service delivery,
3. **The History of Modernisation:** Modernisation is not new and possibly some work can be undertaken in collaboration with WG-HIST
4. **Capacity building** in cooperation with WG-YPF

In response to the Chairman’s request to provide feedback on these topics, Australia has informed that there the MASCOTTE is not used but similar tools are being used..

At the meeting, the Chairman sought responses from the participants and the following was the outcome:

- Representative from Slovenia indicated that the EEA had an activity to find out how water was used for irrigation by various European Countries. A Working Group set for the purpose has brought out that it was very difficult to get good data on how much water was used as there were very few places where water was measured. Another finding was that although the EU Water Frame Work Directive requires meters to be installed at each water use location; only Germany has a large numbers of flow measurement sites; while other countries measure only 10% of water use.
 - Representative from South Africa indicated that in order to investigate the level of water supply efficiency in the country, efforts were made to compile water use information from each irrigator. However, after 11 years of the exercise, very little progress was made. They are now looking to deploy remote sensing technique to obtain the information.
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- Representative from India mentioned the necessity of shifting the focus from supply to demand side as there is a growing demand for industrial water use in India.
- Representative from France gave a brief overview of what was done in France.
- Representative from Spain informed about the work done and level of achievements in both surface water schemes and piped systems.
- It was proposed to carry out an overview of the contribution made by the erstwhile/ previous working groups of ICID to flow measurement. Various recent works on the flow measurement have been published and these need to be listed, especially on policy/issues paper by ICID on measurements. Reasons for measurements need to be discussed and made clear to all stakeholders. The effect of measurements on the functioning of the system also needs to be highlighted. It was emphasized that accurate but simple portable measuring devices are needed to be used by irrigation managers and farmers. An Indian representative indicated that some work on portable devices was done in the country. Representative from Taiwan briefed about the water measurement practices in the country and said that telemetry is being tried. Spanish representative stressed that for improvement of water use efficiency, measurement of water used is a must. Cost and justifications of measurement and how to charge the farmers seems to be an issue. Good information on this topic could be a topic to tackle by this WG

The Chairman acknowledged that measurement is important but also that a lot of work has been done in this area. It was opined that the cost/benefit aspects of flow measurements perhaps has not been adequately covered. Water measurement is a too narrow aspect; but covering the whole of the irrigation system may be beyond the scope of the WG's mandate.

The Chairman then gave his presentation on MASSCOTE using the Peru case. This sparked discussion on the use of MASSCOTE and or similar approaches including benchmarking of irrigation schemes. Several participants quoted benchmarking in India. Main question that was formulated at the end of the discussion was - how to find out what services do we give to our customers and how does it actually work?

It was suggested that MASSCOTE can help in formulating as how do you collect the information, analyse it and what is the follow-up?

The Chairman proposed to reformulate the first work objective of use of MASSCOTE in broader terms. The Group agreed to a call for submitting cases for discussion at the next meeting to be held in Indonesia in 2010. This was responded by the following persons (listing in no particular order):

- Prof. Ir. Dr. Mohd Amin bin Mohd Soom, Malaysia; will involve Malaysian National Committee (MANCID) for possible input.
 - Er. R. B. Ghote, Gov. of Maharashtra, India.
 - Prof Dr. Marina Pintar, Slovenia, will provide further info on EEA report/study mentioned above.
 - Dr. Wei-Jaw Lin, Chief Irrigation Management Section, Department of Irrigation and Engineering, Taiwan.
 - Mr. Lee, Tsong-Hwei, Sr Advisor, Water Resources Management and Policy Research Center of Tamkang University, Taiwan.
 - Er. N. B. Patel, Superintending Engineer, SSC2 Mejsana, Gujarat, India. E-mail: Narshipatel46@gmail.com or phone 9978405559, 9426048021
 - Mr. Muralidhar, N.V., muralinallur@ yahoo.co.in, cell: 9972157400
 - Engr. Syed Mansoob Ali Zaidi, Pakistan
 - Mr. Kazumi Ueda, Chairman NTC Holdings, Japan (representing Prof Satoh)
 - Dr. Sanjay Belsare, Gov of Maharashtra, India
 - Mr. Andre Roux, Director Sustainable Resource Management, South Africa
 - Mr. Ian Moorhouse, General Manager Operations, G-MW, Australia
 - Dr. Ashwani Kumar, Director, Water Technology Center, Bhubaneshwar, Orissa, ICAR, India
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It was hoped that at least six cases would be materialised for presentation at the next meeting of the WG in 2010. Presentations will be held within the allotted time slot of the WG meeting and no special workshop will be held.

It was further decided to ask Central Office to provide an overview and links to publication of the predecessor WGs of the WG-MIS.

Item 7 : Any other business

No other business was brought up and the meeting was closed at 3:30 pm.
