

**MINUTES OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE  
WORKING GROUP ON HISTORY OF IRRIGATION, DRAINAGE AND  
FLOOD CONTROL (WG-HIST)**

15 August 2018, 13.30-15.00 hours (Session I) and 15.30-17.00 hours (Session II)  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

**Strategy Theme: Knowledge**

**Presented by the Chairman**

**Year of Establishment: 2017**

**Completion of the Mandate: 2023**

**Mandate:** (a) To motivate ICID National Committees in various countries to set up their National Working Groups on History; (b) To provide guidance to compile, publish, update and/or translate documents on history of irrigation, drainage, and flood management; (c) To promote inter—disciplinary exchange of information, knowledge and experience, as well as networking on the topic (agricultural, political, socio-economic, climatologically and geographical, aspects) for proper understanding of the technological developments on the subject; (d) To organize seminars at ICID Congresses to enhance awareness of Water history; (e) To prepare a paper on “Historical Water Sustainability” for publication in *Irrigation and Drainage (IRD) Journal*; (f) To finalize a book on “Historical Water Sustainability”; and (g) To encourage member countries to produce documentaries on Water History.

**Website:** <http://wg-hist.icidonline.org/>

**Members Present:** (1) Dr. Hatcho (Japan), Acting Chair; (2) Mrs. Xuming Tan (China); (3) Mr. Marco Arcieri (Italy) represented Mr. Antonio Linoli; (4) VPH Dr. Laszlo Hayde (Hungary); (5) Engr. Sirika Ahmad Abubakar (Nigeria); (6) VPH Dr. Gerhard Backeberg (South Africa); (7) Dr. Sinite Yu (Chinese Taipei).

**Observers:** (i) PH Peter Lee (UK); (ii) Mr. Gao Lihui (China); (iii) Mr. Li Yimpeng (China); (iv) Dr. Ray-Shyan Wu (Chinese Taipei); (v) Dr. Sahdev Singh, ICID Central Office (India); (vi) Hassan Farahani (Iran); (vii) Yuta Takeno (Japan); (viii) Dr. Naoko Koshiyama (Japan); (ix) Mr. Mukhlis Zainol Abidin (Malaysia); (x) Dr. Zaw Zaw Latt (Myanmar); (xi) Engr. Abubakar Sirika Ahmad (Nigeria).

**WG-HIST Minutes Item 1: Introduction by the Chair**

1. In absence of Chair Dr. Kamran Emami, Dr. Hatcho conducted the WG meeting as Chair. Noting the poor attendance at the Workshop on 12 August, the group recommended that Chair should regularly communicate with members and make available information and also inform the decisions taken by the Chair.

2. The group reviewed the membership of Dr. Ahmed Adam Ibrahim (Sudan), VPH Prof. Dia El Din Ahmed El Quosy (Egypt) and accepted the nominations as Provisional Members as they were not present at the meeting. Dr. Sinite YU from Chinese Taipei attended the meeting and the group accepted his membership for the WG. The group revisited the membership of Eng. S.P.C. Sugeeshwara (Sri Lanka) and recommended to maintain the membership in light of his contributions to the WG publication.

**WG-HIST Minutes Item 2: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 - Activities on history of irrigation, drainage and flood control**

3. The group discussed and reviewed the activities as part of the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 (refer **Annex**). After discussion, the group proposed that a Workshop on Historical Management of Water (*provisional theme*) will be organized at Bali in September 2019. It was proposed that the WG will set up an organizing committee to prepare for the workshop. One member of the organizing committee will be VPH Dr. Gany from Indonesia and other 2 or 3 will be nominated by the Chair.

**WG-HIST Minutes Item 3: Publication on “Historical Water Sustainability”**

4. The group thanked the efforts and assistance provided by PH Prof. Bart Schultz (Netherlands) for formatting the book. However, it was suggested that the concluding chapter be prepared by Dr. Emami as the Chair of the WG. The group recommended that the chapter should be prepared and incorporated into the book as quickly as possible. After discussion, the WG agreed that the time frame of finalization of the book as follows:

- End of September 2018: Reviewers' comments will be sent to each author
- End of October 2018: Authors will revise the document
- From October to the end of year 2018: PH Peter Lee will edit English text

**WG-HIST Minutes Item 4: Exchange of information, knowledge and networking – Website****WG-HIST Minutes Item 4.1. Website of the group**

5. After discussion, the group suggested that all the presentations made in the workshop be uploaded on the website of the WG.

**WG-HIST Minutes Item 4.2. Webinar/ Web based seminar**

6. The Chair proposed that WG will concentrate in finalizing the book on Historical Water Sustainability and after that WG would concentrate on organizing webinar.

**WG-HIST Minutes Item 5: Review of World Historical Irrigation Structures (WHIS) and WSH Program**

7. WG agreed to the changes made by the Management Board of ICID from HIS to the WHIS (renaming as well as scheme content). The Chair reported that this year, 14 WHIS schemes were registered viz. 4 from China, 2 from India, 1 from Italy, 4 from Japan and 3 from Sri Lanka. Chair encouraged members to take initiative of encouraging nomination for WHIS and observed that WHIS is providing opportunity to publicize ICID name and encourage general public to participate in managing such systems, taking example for Japanese experience.

**WG-HIST Minutes Item 6: Workshop organized by the working group, August 2018, Canada**

8. Due to lack of communication and preparation, as well as poor timing of the workshop (coincided with the technical tour), the group noted that the attendance was not satisfactory. After discussion, WG recommended that future workshop be organized within the time frame of WG meetings.

**WG-HIST Minutes Item 7: Any other business**

9. Presentation was made by Mr. Mukhlis Zainol Abidin, Malaysian observer for WHIS (Mada Irrigation Canal). WG recognized that such presentation on registered or nominated WHIS schemes will provide members to learn lessons from these historical structures. WG agreed to invite such presentations from next year onwards.

10. Mr. Marco Arcieri from Italy explained his initiative of publishing the document on the impact of climate events on ancient civilization. Such initiative was welcomed by the WG and the Chair recognized that it can be proposed for future WG activity after finalizing the book on Historical Water Sustainability.



## Annex [Appendix XVIII, Item 2]

## ROAD MAP TO ICID VISION 2030 – ACTIVITIES OF WORK BODIES

Goals/ Strategies	Activities	Outcomes/ Outputs	Milestone for Year 2017	Milestone for Year 2018	Milestone for Year 2019	Milestone for Year 2020	Milestone for Year 2021
<b>Goal C: Facilitate exchange of information, knowledge and technology</b>							
<b>C1. Strategy:</b> Providing Knowledge-sharing Platform for AWM Professionals	1.2 International conference/workshop/seminar on History	Workshop Proceedings	Workshop/seminar on Historical Water Sustainability		Workshop/seminar		
<b>C3. Strategy:</b> Promoting Regional Cooperation	3.10 International conference/workshop/seminar	Workshop Proceedings					
<b>C4. Strategy:</b> Compile, Collate and Share Knowledge and Experiences	4.5 Publication on Historical Water Sustainability	Publication	Finalize the publication on Historical Water Sustainability	Compile lessons learned from WHIS/ WSH		Compile lessons learned from WHIS/ WSH	
	4.6 World Historical Irrigation Structures (WHIS)	Register of WHIS	Nomination/evaluation / update register	Nomination/evaluation /update register	Nomination/evaluation / update register; Exhibition at WIF3	Nomination/evaluation /update register	
	4.7 World Water System Heritage (WSH) Program	Register of WSH	Nomination/evaluation / update register	Nomination/evaluation / update register	Nomination/evaluation / update register; Exhibition at WIF3	Nomination/evaluation / update register	
<b>C5. Strategy:</b> Dissemination of Data, Information, Tools, Knowledge and Know How	5.10 Producing documentary on "Historical Water Wisdom".	Documentary	Tentative gathering of the related documentaries from the member countries	Encouraging the member counties to produce documentaries on water history by presenting the prize on the best documentaries			
	5.11 Updating the WG-HIST website	Online					
	5.12 Producing documentary on "Historical Water Wisdom".						
<b>Goal E: Encourage research and support development of tools to extend innovation into field practices</b>							
<b>E4. Strategy:</b> Research on History of Irrigation and Lessons Learned from the past							
<b>E6. Strategy:</b> Dissemination of Useful Research Outputs	6.1 Prepare a paper on combination of old methods and new technologies		Presenting the first paper in the WG workshop and other seminars	Presenting the second paper in the WG workshop and other seminars			

(Source: Consultative Group (CG) Report: A Water Secure World Free of Poverty &amp; Hunger: A Road Map to ICID Vision 2030)



