

MINUTES OF THE TENTH MEETING OF THE
**WORKING GROUP ON IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE UNDER
 DROUGHT AND WATER SCARCITY (WG-IADWS)**
 Sacramento, USA
 30 September 2007 : 09.00-12.00 hours
Strategy Theme: Basin

Year of Establishment: 1996

Completion of the Mandate: 2002

Members Present : (1) Dr. S. Nairizi, Chairman (Iran); (2) Dr. G.R. Backeberg, Vice Chairman (South Africa); (3) Mr. F. Dimick, Secretary (USA); (4) Dr. Ragab Ragab (UK); (5) Mr. Yan Guenyu represented Mrs. Mu Jianxin (China); (6) Mr. Mohamed Wahba represented Dr. Hussein El Atfy (Egypt); (7) Mr. Anthony John Horton (Australia); (8) Dr. Graziano Ghinassi (Italy); (9) Dr. T. Watanabe (Japan); and (10) Prof. Chang-Chi Cheng (Chinese Taipei).

Observers : (i) FAO representative Sasha Koo-Oshima (Italy); (ii) Mr. Yung, Cheng (Chinese Taipei); (iii) Mr. Terry Howell (USA); (iv) Mr. Gunawan (Indonesia); (v) Mr. Bambang Hargoo (Indonesia); (vi) Mr. Wael Khairy (Egypt); (v) Mr. Tchouadang Kadjonga (Chad); (vi) Mr. Lee Young Jig (Korea); (vii) Mr. Kang Jae Ho (Korea); and (viii) Dr. Maurice Roos (USA).

Working Group website: <<http://www.wg-iadws.icidonline.org>>.

Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 9th meeting of the Working Group

Minutes of the 9th meeting of the Working Group held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2006 were confirmed.

Item 2 : Review of the membership of the Working Group

The Kazakhstan National Committee (KAZCID) has nominated Mr. Temirvaev Bakhtiyar Kuralovich for membership to the WG.

Since this is the last meeting of the Working Group, no additional memberships were considered. Mr. Kuralovich may be considered for any future Working Group that may succeed this one.

Item 3 : Summary of Past Activities

Chairman Dr. Nairizi summarized the activities (Annex 1 of the Agenda, 2007) of the WG since it was formed in 1996. He thanked all members of the Working Group for their assistance in completing the mandate provided.

Three workshops have been held that provided much valuable information toward completing the mandate. The workshops were held in Tehran, Iran in July, 2003; Montpellier, France in September, 2003; and Moscow, Russia in 2004, respectively.

Item 4 : Compilation of the 'General Questionnaire on the Water Status of ICID member countries'

Information in these questionnaires has provided a worldwide vision of water requirements and conditions. Fourteen countries have completed the Questionnaire. The data from the completed Questionnaires has been compiled by Dr. A. Sabetraftar (IRNCID).

The United States of America will complete and submit the Questionnaire by December 1, 2007.

Chairman Nairizi will contact representatives from China to see if they will complete the questionnaire this year.

Item 5 : Cooperation with International and Regional Organizations

Representatives of FAO and WMO have supported the Working Group activities since inception but have not been able to do so in the recent past. Chairman Dr. Nairizi will continue his efforts to get these groups' input and assistance for completing the final report of the WG.

The WG continues to successfully co-operate with European Work Team on Drought (EWTDRO) and other Working Groups within ICID.

(The EWTDRO has since been merged with European Work Team on Floods (EWTFLO) to create a New Work Team under the name 'Work Team on Water Related Risk Analysis' (EWTWRA)).

Item 6 : IADWS – Newsletter

Two newsletters per year were published through the WG-IADWS website. One final issue of the Newsletter will be published sometime this coming year to provide information to all members of the Working Group concerning the final draft of the document and other items related to the mandate of the Working Group.

Item 7 : Activity plan**7.1 Workshop (Internal) of WG-IADWS (2007)**

An internal Workshop was held during the WG meeting to discuss the final draft of documents on the six sub-themes and discuss such things as WG recommendations, possible position paper and future activities, if any.

Dr. Ragab (UK) made a presentation on '*Water Management Strategies to Combat Drought*' prepared by Dr. Hussein El-Atfy (Egypt) and Dr. Ragab (UK).

Dr. Ragab (UK) made another presentation on '*The Experience of the Nile Water Forecast in Managing Floods and Setting Strategies for Knowledge Dissemination*' prepared by Dr. Ragab (UK) and Dr. Hussein El-Atfy (Egypt).

Mr. Anthony Horton (Australia) presented his work on Sub-Theme 1: Survey of publications on irrigation under conditions of drought and water scarcity.

Dr. G. R. Backeberg (South Africa) presented the work on Sub-Theme 3: Develop guidelines for – (1) Assessment of drought on irrigated agriculture; (2) Development of policies and management strategies for various drought and water scarcity situations.

7.2 WG final document (Draft) on '*Irrigation under Drought and Water Scarcity*

The final draft of the WG document will follow the framework provided by Dr. G. R. Backeberg (South Africa) and will be in the form of guidelines (book) with an appendix in the form of a CD placed inside the back cover of the document. Proceedings of the workshop held in Moscow, Russia in 2004 on "*Water Harvesting and Sustainable Agriculture*" will be included as an appendix to the final document.

All ICID publications have to be peer reviewed by an editorial team and approved by the Committee on Public Relations (ICID) for budget.

Chairman Dr. Nairizi suggested to include a chapter on '*Case Studies of Drought Management Experiences*' and a chapter on '*Water Harvesting Practices in different countries*' in the final document

Each WG member is asked to provide input to the final document by December 1, 2007 for final compilation into "book" form. A preliminary editorial board made up of the members who worked on the Sub-Themes will then compile the book in an organized manner. This work will be done via the internet.

FAO will be requested to finance the publishing of the final document. If FAO agrees to publish the document, their editorial guidelines will be followed for preparing the document in final form. In case, FAO does not sponsor the publication, other sponsors will be approached for the printing of the publication for wider dissemination.

Item 8 : Tenure of the Working Group

This will be the last meeting of the Working Group. Completion and approval of the final document will be via the internet. Should a serious problem arise during the completion and approval of the final document, a meeting of former Working Group members could be held in Pakistan next year during the 59th IEC meeting.

Item 9 : Any other business

- **Feedback of the 4th Asian Regional Conference (2007) at Tehran, Iran**

The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), and the International Network on Participatory Irrigation Management (INPIM) jointly organized the 4th Asian Regional Conference and the 10th International Seminar on 'Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM) during May 2-5, 2007 in Tehran, Iran. This joint international event was organized and hosted by the Iranian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IRNCID). The event was very successful and well attended. There were 900 participants in this conference.

- **UN Water Initiative**

When the UN Water Initiative was discussed, President Lee in Stockholm Water Week in 2006 observed that ICID is the sole International NGO invited to join the special session of the UN Water to address 'Coping with Water Scarcity' as a highest priority initiative. He brought out that, *inter-alia*, 'Rainfall management' could also be considered as a part of Managing Water for Sustainable Agriculture.

The members of WG emphasized the importance of these issues and recommended them to be considered in the mandate of the new WG, possibly emerging from WG-IADWS.

- **Hydrological Ensemble Prediction Experiment (HEPEX) of WMO**

HEPEX aims to bring the international hydrological and meteorological communities together to demonstrate how to produce and utilize reliable hydrological ensemble forecasts to make decisions for the benefit of public health and safety, the economy and the environment. These forecasts could be of a long term than conventional and hence of much use to help better irrigation planning and scheduling, flood management, drainage control, environmental protection, etc. HEPEX Steering Group representing the Users' Category which was formulated at the conclusion of a HEPEX workshop held in Boulder, Colorado in July 2005. ICID is given a place to represent user group (through WMO). The WG welcomed the offer and recommended the matter to be dealt with in the new WG framework.

- **World Agro Meteorological Information Service (WAMIS)**

WAMIS has a goal of providing meteorological products issued by WMO members available to the global agricultural community on a near real-time basis. The members were encouraged to access their website at www.wamis.org for more information.

- **The Vision for Further Studies within a New Work Body's Mandate**

Dr. Blackeberg suggested that the concepts of Drought Management under Water Scarcity should be further studied by evaluating plans prepared and experiences gained by all ICID member countries upon the application of such management approaches to categorize recommendations at regional level. This work could be done by a new Working Group or Task Force.

Dr. Ragab suggested that a "generic" working group be formed to address water management in water stressed areas and then work teams/sub-groups could be formed from this working group to address specific tasks such as "Coping with Water Scarcity", "Drought Management" and "Rainfall Management."

After due deliberations the WG recommended the following to PCTA and IEC for further needful:

The title of Working Group: **Water Management in Water Stressed Regions**

The sub-titles of the WG:

1. Drought Management Strategies
2. Coping with Water Scarcity
3. Rainfall Management for Sustainable Agriculture

The Working Group can accommodate any collaboration activities such as HEPEX as discussed above.

The outcome of the WG could be in the form of compiling questionnaires and recommendations, as a result of organizing related workshops and other meetings.

The tenure of the WG could be a preliminary '3 working years' after establishment of the WG and a subsequent '3 extension years' in order to finalize the WG outcome.

The WG-IADWS recommended the above proposal to PCTA for further action.
