

**MINUTES OF THE 3RD MEETING OF THE
INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAM FOR
IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE: ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AC-IRPID)**

12 August 2018, 09.00-10.30 hours (Session-I)
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

Presented by the Chairman

Members Present: (1) VPH Dr. Ding Kunlun, Chair (China); (2) Dr. Narges Zohrabi, Head, IRPID-IRN (Iran); (3) Ms. Gao Hong, Vice Secretary, CNCID & Representative of Beijing Regional Node of IRPID (China) represented by Ms. Li Rouxi; (4) Mr. Olcay Unver, FAO represented by Mr. Ruhiza Jean Boroto; and (5) Mr. Ashwin B. Pandya, Secretary General, ICID represented by Mr. Harish K. Varma, Executive Director, ICID..

Terms of Reference (ToR):

The Advisory Committee is responsible for developing a Framework Action Plan for the program, guided by the concept document as was presented at the 61st IEC in Yogyakarta in 2010 and keep overall coordination among the Nodes duly supporting their autonomy and maintaining flexibility in fulfilling their roles. These can be categorised as follows:

- (a) Develop the Strategy duly describing the strategic objectives and a Framework Action Plan for the program;
- (b) Review and monitor the implementation of the program to ensure the quality of outputs and their effectiveness; and
- (c) Mobilize and allocate extra-budgetary resources through joint activities.

Observers: (i) Mr. Bahkroni Goforzoda (Tajikistan); (ii) Dilshod Kimsonov (Tajikistan); (iii) Mr. Sahar Naouzi (Iran); (iv) Mr. Hassan Farahani (Iran); (v) PH Dr. Saeed Nairizi (Iran); (vi) VPH Bong Hoon Lee (Korea); (vii) Mr. Jeonyong Ryu (Korea); (viii) Mr. Raecheong Jo (Korea); (ix) Mr. Jang Jungseok (Korea); (x) Ryu Woohan (Korea); (xi) Mr. Gao Lihui (China); (xii) Ms. Lydia S. Esguerra (Philippines); (xiii) Mr. Wilfredo C. Gloria (Philippines); (xiv) Mr. Florenfiao R. David (Philippines); (xv) Ms. Lyn Grace B. Cansing (Philippines) and (xvi) Ms. Annel A. Gabonada (Philippines).

AC-IRPID Minutes Item 1: Brief introduction by SG, ICID

1. On behalf of SG, ICID, Executive Director H. K. Varma made a brief introduction and overview on the IRPID Scheme to the Committee members.

AC-IRPID Minutes Item 2: Inputs from Beijing Regional Node

2. Ms. Li Rouxi (CNCID), on behalf of the Head/Representative of the Beijing Regional Node presented a report on the activities undertaken in 2017-18 by the Beijing RN and future plans for the information of the Advisory Committee, including holding together with KCID an international training session in 2019 and signing with PANCID an MOU to conduct a research on modernization of irrigation systems. She also brought up two suggestions for future IRPID activities, namely: (i) setting up a network of training specialists; and (ii) setting up a mechanism of regular meeting and exchanges among countries of the same regional node.

3. The Committee acknowledged the great work done by Beijing RN of IRPID, and appreciated the valuable support provided by Chinese Government and KCID.

AC-IRPID Minutes Item 3: Inputs from Ahwaz Regional Node

4. Dr. Narges Zohrabi, Head of IRPID-IRN presented a report on the activities undertaken so far by the Ahwaz RN and future plans for the information of the Advisory Committee, including extending and following up member countries' contribution to the database, inviting more countries to join the RN, keeping up the current research and sharing with the member countries, encouraging international organizations to support the cause. She solicited help from the ICID CO to contact the ADB and WB for their financial support to IRPID activities.

5. The Committee applauded the Ahwaz RN's effort on establishing an organization with sound structure and institution and encouraged it to launch more training and research programs.

AC-IRPID Minutes Item 4: Evolving Collaborative Research Mechanism among the Regional Nodes

6. The Advisory Committee reviewed the existing collaborative research mechanism among the RNs and explored the ways to further evolve it.

7. The Advisory Committee requested all RNs and NCs to encourage the research institutions in their country involved in AWM to join the network by projecting key information of their research activities for wider dissemination and fulfilling the objective of collaborative research mechanism among the RNs

AC-IRPID Minutes Item 5: Dissemination Mechanism on Exchange of Research Findings

8. Mr. Varma apprised the Committee about the progress made so far on encouraging the exchanges of research findings on an intra-node basis and inter-nodes basis, including setting up of web page on the ICID website and organizing webinars.

9. VPH Ding Kunlun suggested that the webinars held by RNs should include participation from PCTA.

AC-IRPID Minutes Item 6: Establishment of Additional Regional Nodes

10. TAJCID presented its proposal of establishing a RN hosted by Tajikistan NC for Central Asia and Caucasian region.

11. The Committee considered the proposals and advised about the establishment of RNs in North Africa, the Mediterranean Region, Latin America, and Central Asia and Caucasus regions, and decided to report the proposals to PCTA and IEC.

12. Nigerian delegates suggested that a separate RN be established for sub-Saharan countries considering its unique agro-climate and irrigation infrastructure conditions.

AC-IRPID Minutes Item 7: Leveraging National Funding for Raising Financial Resources by RNs

13. The Committee discussed means for raising financial resources, including securing supports from government, obtaining enterprise sponsorship, and lobbying international organizations like FAO to support IRPID training and research programs.

