

**Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of  
WORKING GROUP ON MODERNIZATION AND REVITALIZATION OF  
IRRIGATION SCHEMES (WG-M&R)**

12 October 2017, 09.00-10.30 hours (Session I)  
12 October 2017, 11.00-12.30 hours (Session II)  
Mexico City, Mexico

**Strategy Theme: Schemes**

**Presented by the Chair**

**Year of Establishment: 2015**

**Completion of the Mandate: 2021**

**Scope of work:** To investigate, analyse, disseminate information on new developments and to formulate recommendations with respect to: Planning and preparation for modernization and revitalization of irrigation schemes; Interaction between modernization, revitalization and required operation and maintenance; Cost sharing for modernization, revitalization and required operation and maintenance; Institutional and organizational framework required for modernization, revitalization and operation and maintenance; Methods and techniques of lining of conveyance and distribution canals; Canal control systems with respect to their automation, using internet, mobile communication and remote monitoring in canal operation; Modification to improve communication, operational capacities and flexibility in operation and maintenance of systems; Standardization and codes of practice in irrigation systems.

**Members Present:** (1) VP Ian Makin, Chairman (UK); (2) Dr. Dong Bin, Vice Chairman (China); (3) Engr. M.S. Bala, Secretary (Nigeria); (4) Ir. Eko Subekti (Indonesia); (5) Dr. Yohei Sato (Japan); (6) Dr. Kwang-Sik Yoon (Korea, Rep.of); (7) Mr. Mukhlis Zainol Abidin (Malaysia) represented Mr. Mohd Yazid bin Abdullah; (8) Dr. Brian T. Wahlin (USA).

**Permanent Observer:** Dr. Olcay Unver (FAO)

**Observers:** (1) Ms. Adey Nigatu Mersha (Ethiopia); (2) Dr. Sanjay Belsare (India); (3) Dr. K.Y. Reddy (India); (4) Haeruddin Cebba Maddi (Indonesia); (5) Syaiful Mohd (Indonesia); (6) Mochammad Amron (Indonesia); (7) Soekransno (Indonesia); (8) M. Adrie Azhari (Indonesia); (9) Patricia Mejias - from FAO (Italy); (10) VPH Shinsuke Ota (Japan); (11) Takesh Kikutsuji (Japan); (12) Shinji Fukuda (Japan); (13) Victor M. Ruiz C (Mexico); (14) Mu Mu Than (Myanmar); (15) Eng. M.I. Misau (Nigeria); (16) VPH I.K. Musa (Nigeria); (17) Sen Muhammad Shitu (Nigeria); (18) Dr. Ado K. Abdullahi (Nigeria); (19) Mona Liza F. Delos Reyes (Philippines); (20) Simoniso Mkhali (South Africa); (21) Co-Ying Chien (Chinese Taipei); (22) Hsu, Nam-Shan (Chinese Taipei); (23) Lin, Seng-Hsin (Chinese Taipei); (24) Lin Kun-Hsien (Chinese Taipei); (25) Mei Chang Chan (Chinese Taipei); (26) Tan, Chih-Hung (Chinese Taipei); (27) Tsai, Min-Shian (Chinese Taipei); (28) Tran Chi Trung (Vietnam).

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

**WG-M&R Minutes Item 1: Action taken report by Chair**

1. At the onset, Chair welcomed members and provided a brief summary of activities during the year to facilitate the preparation of case studies which were presented during the Mexico meeting and are expected to form the basis for the key outputs of the WG. WG Chair informed that the attempt to create an on-line discussion forum under the WG-M&R web site had proved to be impractical without requiring secure sign-on. Alternate models need to be explored.
2. The group reviewed the membership of existing members not participating/ contributing to the working group for one or more years - Mr. Usman-e-Ghani (Pakistan), Mr. Ali Omran Ali (Iraq) and Mr. Firas Hussain Ali – Young Professional (Iraq) and agreed that WG Chair will contact these members to ascertain their continued interest before discontinuation of their membership.
3. The Chair received the nomination of Dr. Sanjay Belsare proposed by the Indian National Committee (INCSW). Since Dr. Sanjay was present at the meeting, his nomination was accepted. The membership status of the WG is given in **Annex 7 (page 55)**.

**WG-M&R Minutes Item 2: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 - Activities on modernization and revitalization**

4. At the Mexico meeting, the group discussed the Action Plan for Vision 2030 and provided latest updates as per milestones indicated in the Action Plan. After deliberations on the action plan of the WG based on ICID Roadmap to Vision 2030 and considering the need to contribute to the ICID Vision 2030 in view of the group's mandate on

modernization and revitalization, the Chair expedited the nomination of members who will assist in preparation of an overview paper on State of the Art on Modernization of Irrigation Systems. After discussion, Dr. Sanjay Belsare from India; Engr. Muhammad Sani Bala from Nigeria; and Dr. Brian T. Wahlin from USA agreed to facilitate contributions from their regions.

5. The Group Chair (from IWMI) and Ms. Patricia Mejias from FAO also agreed to help with preparation of an advocacy paper on the need for adequate provision of resources for sustainable operation and maintenance of irrigation and drainage services, in collaboration with their respective organisations. It may be pointed out that ICID had brought out a publication on operation and maintenance of irrigation and drainage systems entitled “ICID Survey on Funding of Operation, Maintenance and Management of Irrigation and Drainage Projects” in 2000.

**WG-M&R Minutes Item 3: Report on Modernization irrigation/ drainage for a new Green Revolution**

6. The group noted the need for preparation of the publication titled “Modernization irrigation/ drainage for a new Green Revolution” and requested volunteers from the group to take up this assignment. The Chair then facilitated the nomination of members for this activity, in a manner that represents the different regions of the world so as to harness varying experiences from different parts of the world. The group decided to consider this item early next year in view of the numerous other important assignments that requires immediate actions. Chair promised to follow up with the members through email from November 2017 onwards.

**WG-M&R Minutes Item 4: Preparation of a paper on the status of modernization in countries around the world**

7. The Working Group reviewed the definition of “MODERNISATION” as agreed during the last meeting of the Group and as shared to members. The replacement of the “farmer” with “users”, and the addition of “... in harmony with the environment” at the end of the definition had been unanimously agreed by the group members. Additional revisions to the extended descriptions of the concepts would be considered after feedback from other Working Groups. Chair requested Central Office to assist in circulating the revised definition of Modernization to other relevant Working Groups and NCs with a request for comments from them by end of February 2018.

8. Four (4) case studies were received by the Chair, out of which, three (3) case studies viz. (a) the experiences from China by WG Vice Chair Dr. Dong Bin (China); (b) experiences from Korea by Dr. Kwang-Sik Yoon (Republic of Korea), and (c) experiences from Nigeria by WG Secretary Engr. Muhammad Sani Bala (Nigeria) were presented which was followed by a lively discussion. After deliberation and brief review, WG noted that the case studies presented from Korea and China will need to be revised as per the case study template. The draft case studies from Australia and Nigeria will be reviewed and revisions will be proposed to the authors for consideration.

9. A presentation on “Canal Automation” by Dr Brian T Wahlin (USA) is proposed to be made during the Saskatchewan meeting in Canada next year (2018) along with additional case studies proposed for development during 2017/18.

10. WG discussed the preparation of a paper on the status of modernization in countries around the world and suggested that members should volunteer to prepare more country experiences to help enrich the Group’s output. Members volunteered to develop further six case studies in time for the 2018 meeting of the WG namely: (i) India, (ii) USA, (iii) Malaysia, (iv) Japan, (v) Chinese Taipei, and (vi) MENA. Indonesia offered to prepare a case study for presentation during the 3<sup>rd</sup> WIF in Bali in 2019. Chair will circulate the case study template to the above countries and also share with all members.

**WG-M&R Minutes Item 5: Exchange of information, knowledge & networking**

11. The group discussed the issues related to exchange of information and updating of WG-M&R website and suggested following actions: (a) Irrigation modernization has different meanings to different countries so maintaining regular flow of information and knowledge exchange is very important; (b) The country papers/ case studies/ country guidelines should be made available through the WG website; and (c) Virtual meeting should be organized by identifying 1-2 topics for discussions. After discussion, the group proposed a WebEx meeting in February 2018.

**WG-M&R Agenda Item 5.1: Web site of the WG**

12. WG noted that the website of the working group <http://wg-mr.icidonline.org/> was updated with new membership list, agenda, minutes, events, etc. Members were requested to provide interesting articles/ papers/ presentations/ documents related to the activities of the group for uploading on the website. Dr. Brian T. Wahlin (USA) agreed to continue to provide maintenance support for the Group’s website, in collaboration with the Group Chair, and if possible with contributions by the ICID YPs.

**WG-M&R Agenda Item 5.2: Webinar/ Web based seminars**

13. The group discussed and supported the organization of webinar/ web based seminar and encouraged members to provide their suggestion on topics, based on the mandate of the WG. The group noted that ICID Central Office organized 7 webinars and one of the webinar was on “Planning for Irrigation Modernization – The MASSCOTE Approach” by Dr. Robina Wahaj (FAO). The Group Chair requested members to suggest 5-6 topics, based on the mandate of the WG, on which webinar can be considered along with name of the relevant experts who could be contacted to develop webinars. After discussion, the group proposed to organize a WebEx meeting in February 2018. The Chair requested Central Office to conduct a doodle poll to arrive at a suitable schedule/ time for the members to participate in the WebEx meeting.

**WG-M&R Minutes Item 6: Updating Multilingual Technical Dictionary (MTD)**

14. The group reviewed and discussed about updating of MTD and requested members to gain themselves with the use of this veritable resources in the course of their work. The Group Chair informed the members that ICID Central Office will be pleased to receive valuable contributions from them for improvement of the term(s). Due to paucity of time, assignment of suitable professional from WG-M&R for TF-MTD was not discussed.

**WG-M&R Minutes Item 7: Brief report on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Congress “Modernizing irrigation and drainage for a new Green Revolution”, October 2017**

15. The Chair informed the group about organization of 23<sup>rd</sup> Congress on the theme “Modernizing irrigation and drainage for a new Green Revolution” wherein substantial good quality of papers were received. The details of the various sessions organized in Mexico City were not discussed due to paucity of time. The group proposed to organise a workshop in Bali during 70<sup>th</sup> IEC meeting and WIF3 in 2019.

**WG-M&R Minutes Item 8: Any other business**

The meeting ended with vote of thanks.



