

Minutes of the Twelfth Meeting of the
WORKING GROUP ON ON-FARM IRRIGATION SYSTEMS (WG-ON-FARM)
 8 December 2009: 09.30-13.15 hours
 New Delhi, India
Strategy Theme: On-Farm

Year of Establishment: 1998

Completion of the Mandate: 2014

Mandate:

- To promote on-farm irrigation as part of integrated water resources management, and
- To promote sustainable efficient approaches for on-farm irrigation.

Members Present: (1) Vice President Hon. Felix B. Reinders, Chairman, 2004 (South Africa, 1998); (2) Vice President Prof. Peter Kovalenko, Vice Chairman, 2005 (Ukraine, 2001); (3) Vice President Hon. F. Ligetvari (Hungary, 1998) represented by Dr. Sándor Szalai; (4) Dr. H. Sourell (Germany, 1999); (5) Mr. Yeh Shu-Shr (Chinese Taipei, 1999) represented by Mr. Hsao-Wen Wang; (6) Vice President Hon. J.A. Ortiz Fdz.- Urrutia (Spain, 2003); (7) Mr. Graziano Ghinassi (Italy, 2004); (8) Prof. Y. Nakano (Japan, 2004) represented by Mr. Makoto Yokozana; (9) Dr. A.K. Randev (India, 2005); (10) Mr. Hassan Shantia (Iran, 2006) represented by Mr. Enayatollah Farahani; (11) Dr. Mohan Reddy Junna (USA, 2007); (12) Er. M. Gopalakrishnan, Secretary General represented by Dr. S.A. Kulkarni, Executive Secretary, ICID Central Office.

Apology: (i) VPH F. Ligetvari (Hungary, 1998); (ii) Dr. Abraham Mehari Haile (The Netherlands, 2008); and (iii) Mr. Brunno Molle (ISO).

Member Honoraire Present: VPH Frank E. Dimick (USA)

Observers: (i) Prof. Mohd Amin Mohd Soom (Malaysia); (ii) Dr. Mohammad Che Husain (Malaysia); (iii) Mr. Ghorban Ghorbani (India); (iv) Dr. Chellasamy Murugaboopatih (Japan); (v) Dr. Joachim Quast (Germany); (vi) Dr. Aboutalab Hezarjaribi (Iran); (vii) Mr. Abdoulaye Dembele (Mali), (viii) Mr. Francois Chretien (Canada); (ix) Mr. Narmadeshwar Jha (India); (x) Mr. Jagjit Singh Sodhi (India); (xi) Mrs. Zeinab Behairy (Egypt); (xii) Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad Gill (Pakistan); (xiii) Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmad (Pakistan); (xiv) Mrs. Mira Edelbaher (Slovenia); (xv) Mr. Alghamdia (Saudi Arabia); (xvi) Mr. Shalhoub Faisal (Saudi Arabia); (xvii) Dr. Adama Sangare (Mali).

Webpage: <http://www.wg-on-farm.icidonline.org/>

Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 11th meeting of the Working Group held at Lahore

The minutes of the 11th meeting of the Group held at Lahore in October 2008 was approved.

Item 2 : Tenure and review of membership of the Working Group

2.1 Tenure of the Working Group

The WG's following mandate and the proposal to extend its tenure up to 2014 was accepted by the 59th IEC held at Lahore in October 2008.

The new mandate is shown as above.

2.2 Membership

The new nominations for the WG membership have been approved:

- Mr. Makoto Yokozawa (Japan) in place of Prof. Dr. Yoshisuke Nakano
- Prof. Dr. Rai Niaz Ahmed (Pakistan)
- Mrs. Mira Edelbaher (Slovenian)

CVs of the above nominees have been tabled at the meeting.

The Kazakhstan National Committee (KAZCID) had nominated Mr. Tauipbaev Sultanbek Tauipbaevich in 2007. However, as Mr. Tauipbaevich did not attend the Sacramento, Lahore and India meetings, his nomination was deferred by the Group. As advised by the Group at the Lahore meeting, the Central Office had written to KAZCID to either re-nominate Mr. Tauipbaevich or send a fresh nomination for the membership. The Central Office is asked to follow up with the KAZCID.

Mr. M.S. Bala (Nigeria) and Prof. Pedro Liao de Sousa (Portugal) have not attended the meetings of the Group since last three years i.e. 2006, 2007 and 2008. According to ICID by-law 3.1.7, the Central Office has written to the National Committees of Nigeria and Portugal to send fresh nominations (to replace them) for the membership. As there was no response from either NINCID or PNCID, the WG suggested terminating their membership.

Since Mr. Stephen Mills, Secretary resigned from the membership of the Working Group, the Chairman asked for nominations. Two nominations were received and Dr. A.K. Randev was elected as the new Secretary of the Working Group.

A. CONTINUING ITEMS

Item 3 : To review the progress in preparation of documents

3.1 Paper on “Improvement of the On-farm Irrigation Systems Using Simple Water Control, Measuring and Application Devices”

Mr. Stephen Mills (ANCID/ IAL) provided an excellent note on “Irrigation Modernization in Australia”. The Central Office is asked to circulate the note amongst the members. Mr. Mills was thanked for his contribution.

3.2 A Paper on “Micro irrigation for Smallholders and Greenhouses”

The final version of the paper “Micro irrigation for smallholders and greenhouses” as prepared by Prof. Y. Nakano (Japan) was tabled at the Lahore meeting in 2008. The Group had suggested that the paper may be published by ICID after its final review. Mr. Felix Reinders, Chairman volunteered to assist the review process.

Item 4 : Liaison with the ISO/TC23/SC18

Central Office has circulated various ISO/TC23/SC18 documents among WG members as and when received from its Secretariat. A joint ISO/CEN/ICID Hand Book on “Irrigation Equipment Standards” was under preparation for quite some time. As Mr. Bruno Molle (France) was not present at the meeting, the progress could not be reported.

The 27th meeting of the ISO/TC23/SC18 was held in November 2008 at Anaheim, California, USA. The Secretariat of ISO/TC 23/SC18 had informed that the 28th meeting of SC18 was held during 26-31 October 2009 at Mexico.

The Central Office had informed WG members about the passing away of Mr. Silberstein, the founder Chairman of ISO/TC 23/SC18 and Mr. Allen Dedrick, one of the leading members of the SC18; and had conveyed condolence messages to the SC18 Secretariat on WG/ICID’s behalf.

Item 5 : Survey of World-wide Usage of Micro and Sprinkler Irrigation**5.1 Datasheet on Sprinkler and Micro Irrigated Areas in ICID Member Countries**

Central Office has been compiling data related to sprinkler and micro irrigated areas in ICID member countries since 2002. As per the latest statistical information worldwide about 32 million ha are under sprinkler irrigation and about 8 million ha are under micro irrigation. The latest data sheet of the micro and sprinkler irrigated areas in ICID member countries was circulated at the meeting. The Group suggested to include an item on the sources of energy and energy consumption levels in the data sheet.

The WG thanked to all those National Committees for providing the data updates and requested to continue sending latest data as and when available, for the benefit of all.

5.2 Survey of ‘World-wide Usage of Sprinkler and Micro irrigation’

A revised and abridged version of the questionnaire “Survey of world-wide usage of sprinkler and micro irrigation” was prepared by the Central Office. This version was approved by the Group at the Sacramento meeting. The questionnaire contains information related to major crops irrigated, water saving achieved, area under greenhouses, use of fertilizers, use of poor quality waters, subsidies provided by government, cost of installation, energy requirement, besides the area coverage under sprinkler and micro irrigation. So far, National Committees of Finland (FINCID), Germany (GECID), Hungary (HUCID), Iran (IRNCID), Israel (ISCID), Italy (ITAL-ICID), Spain (CERYD) and China (CNCID) have provided the filled-in questionnaire either partly or fully.

As this activity is not taking further momentum, the Chairman urged all members’ input and assistance in finalizing/ revising the questionnaire, so as to make it more ‘user friendly’. The request was also to get statistics on low pressure irrigation and energy requirements. The meeting requested Mr. Enayatollah Farahani from Iran to prepare a presentation for the next meeting in Indonesia on low pressure irrigation systems. All members will be requested to prepare success stories on irrigation and to present that at the next meeting in Indonesia

Item 6 : Webpage of the Workbody

The Working Group’s webpage <http://www.wg-on-farm.icidonline.org/> has been updated and is fully functional. The Chairman had requested all members to visit the webpage and provide additional information (books, manuals, technical papers, proceedings of the national workshops, interesting pictures, new software, useful links etc.). Members were encouraged to provide their contribution to the Chairman/ Central Office for posting on the webpage.

Item 7 : 8th International Micro irrigation Congress (8IMIC), Tehran, 2011

The 59th IEC, upon recommendation of the PCTA approved the hosting of 8th International Micro Irrigation Congress (IMIC) by IRNCID along with the 21st Congress scheduled to be held at Tehran, Iran from 15-23 October 2011.

The Iranian National Committee (IRNCID) representative made a presentation as regards the objectives, sub-themes and the planning of the Congress. The objectives and sub-themes of the 8th IMIC are as follows:

Objectives

- To share experiences in the use of new technologies and best management practices in drip, micro sprinkler, and other localized irrigation systems.
- To review the status of use of micro irrigation for smallholders;
- To understand socio-economic and technological factors impeding expansion of drip and micro-sprinkler irrigation area.

Sub-themes

The 8th International Congress on micro irrigation invites and welcomes experts, irrigation managers, researchers, government and private agencies, farmers, technicians and students to contribute with their knowledge and experiences, by submitting papers on the following topics:

- Best management practices/ success stories of micro irrigation adoption;
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- Lessons learnt from failures in upscaling micro irrigation
- Developments in subsurface micro-irrigation;
- Low cost and low energy consuming irrigation systems;
- Automation in micro irrigation;
- Micro irrigation in greenhouses;
- Micro-irrigation for small scale farms;
- Use of low quality waters in micro-irrigation;
- Modelling, design and decision support system in micro-irrigation;
- Advances in operation and cost effective maintenance of micro-irrigation systems;
- Management and cost of micro-irrigation for large farms;
- Efficiency and productivity in micro irrigation systems;
- Socio-economic consequences of the conversion of traditional systems to micro irrigation systems;
- Analysis of long term sustainability of micro irrigation systems;
- Technical performance and quality assessment of micro-irrigation systems; and
- LCA (Life Cycle Analysis) applied to micro irrigation

Item 8 : Work plan of the Group

The work plan of the Group was discussed and proposed up to 2011. The key activities will be as follows:

- Draft paper on “Improvement of the On-farm Irrigation Systems Using Simple Water Control, Measurement and Application Devices” was developed by Steven Mills from Australia and released at the New Delhi meeting.
- Paper on “Micro Irrigation for Smallholders and Greenhouses” will be reviewed and ready for publication by early 2010.
- A abridged questionnaire on “Survey of World-wide Usage of Sprinkler and Micro Irrigation” to be finalized and ready for circulation to NCs by early 2010.
- Datasheet on “Sprinkler and Micro Irrigated Areas in ICID member Countries” to be updated on a regular basis.
- Information for webpage of the work body to be updated based on the input received from members and national committees on a regular basis.
- 8th International Micro irrigation Congress (IMIC) to be organized by the Iranian National Committee (IRNCID) in 2011.
- Paper on “Field Water Management and Soil water Conservation under Spate Irrigation” will be prepared by Dr. Abraham Mehari Haile (The Netherlands) by 2010. An initial draft version has been prepared by Dr. Haile.
- Translating of Manual “Performance Evaluation of Sprinkler and Drip Irrigation Systems” in the Persian language will be done by the IRNCID for publication in 2011.

The Group will update/ add the activities to the work plan from time to time.

Item 9 : Special Session on Micro irrigation

A half-day Special Session on ‘Micro Irrigation’ would be held in the afternoon of the 8 December 2009 in New Delhi.

The main objective of the special session is to highlight the recent developments in micro irrigation in major irrigation countries, particularly in India and to share and learn from each other’s experiences for sustainable expansion of the technology.

The programme of the special session is shown as **Annex**.

Item 10 : Upgrading/ modernization of surface irrigation systems

Prof. Mohan Reddy Junna (USA) took up the challenge to prepare a comprehensive book on “Soil and Water Management in Surface Irrigation Systems”. Modernization could be one of the components of the book. It was proposed to prepare the draft chapters/ papers for the book by 2010. Representatives from USCID and ANCID/IAL already had volunteered in Sacramento to supply some information on upgrading/ modernization of surface irrigation systems which may be considered for inclusion in the proposed book.

An article “Modernizing surface irrigation systems in USA” written by Dr. James E. Ayars has been brought out in the ICID Newsletter 2009/3. Prof Junna suggested that he was prepared to visit several countries on his own cost but would need logistical support from the Central Office and the concerned member countries.

Item 11 : Nomination of WG for the 3rd Best Performing Workbody Award (BPWA)

The Group suggested submitting its candidature for the 3rd BPWA to be given at the time of the 21st Congress scheduled to be held in Tehran, Iran in 2011 and requested the Chairman to initiate the necessary preparatory actions towards nomination.

Item 12 : Any other business

A very interesting presentation on ‘Subsurface Irrigation Dam’ in Southern part of Japan was made by Mr Makoto Yokozawa.

60TH INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING AND 5TH ASIAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

**WORKING GROUP ON ON-FARM IRRIGATION SYSTEMS
SPECIAL SESSION ON MICRO IRRIGATION
New Delhi, 8 December 2009, 14.15- 18.00 Hrs**

Schedule

Chairman :	VPH Felix Reinders, Agricultural Research Council, South Africa	
Coordinator:	Dr. T.B.S. Rajput, Project Director, Water Technology Centre, IARI, New Delhi, India	
Co-Coordinator:	Dr. S.A. Kulkarni, Executive Secretary, ICID, New Delhi	
Co-Chairman:	Dr. P. Soman, Vice President, Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd., Jalgaon, Maharashtra, India	
Rapporteur:	Dr. (Ms) Neelam Patel, Senior Scientist, Water Technology Centre, IARI, New Delhi	
Welcome of Chair and Co-Chair		Coordinator
Opening remarks		Co-chairman and Chairman
Global overview of micro irrigation		Mr. Felix Reinders, South Africa
Management of water scarcity through micro irrigation		Mr. Graziano Ghinassi, Italy
Scope and prospects of micro irrigation		Dr. Heinz Sourell, Germany
Water savings by growing rice under mechanized irrigation-Recent results, advances and perspectives		Dr. Germani Concenco, Brazil, Valmont Irrigation
Tea break		
Irrigation efficiency enhancement in horticulture: Government policies on micro irrigation & plans for future		Mr. Krish Iyanger, India
Success story of micro irrigation in the State of Gujarat		Mr. Shyamal Tikadar, India
Success story of micro irrigation in the State of Andhra Pradesh		Dr. K. Yella Reddy, India
Concluding remarks		Co-Chairman, and Chairman
Vote of thanks		Co-Coordinator