

Report of the 29th Meeting of the
PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGY AND ORGANIZATION (PCSO)
 15 August 2018, 13.30-17.00 hours
 Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

Mandate: The Permanent Committee on Strategy and Organization (PCSO) shall be concerned with increasing the number of member countries and assisting the National Committees to become more active in their own countries to achieve the goals set for them from time to time by the Council. The Committee will also coordinate the activities of Vice Presidents (Resolution IEC-3/66)

Members Present: (1) Vice President Hon. Bong Hoon Lee, Chairman (Korea, 2014); (2) Vice President Mr. Ian William Makin (UK, 2015); (3) Vice President Dr. (Mrs.) Irena G. Bondarik (Russia, 2016); (4) Vice President Er. Naoki Hayashida (Japan, 2017); (5) Vice President Dr. Brian T. Wahlin (USA, 2017) and (6) Er. Ashwin B. Pandya, Secretary General, ICID.

Ex-Officio Members Present: (1) VP Ian Makin, Chairman, European Regional Working Group (ERWG); (2) Ms. Kathleen Murray, Convener, ICID Young Professional's e-Forum (IYPeF) and (3) Mr. Bryan Ward, Chairman, Committee on Congresses/Conferences (C-CONGR).

Observers: (1) Mr. Felix B. Reinders, President, ICID (South Africa); (2) PH Peter S. Lee (UK); (3) Prof. Sylvester Mpandeli (South Africa); (4) Mr. Momir Vranes (Australia); (5) Mr. Mitsuo Ishijima (Japan); (6) Mr. Mazhayskiy Yruy (Russia) and Mr. H.K. Varma, Executive Director, ICID.

PCSO Minutes Item 1: ATR on the Minutes of the 28th Meeting of PCSO

1. The Committee noted the Action Taken Report and approved the same.

PCSO Minutes Item 2: Membership of PCSO and its Workbodies

2. Based on the recommendations of the various workbodies associated with it, PCSO reviewed the membership and recommended for acceptance by the Council. Consequent upon the acceptance by the Council, an updated consolidated membership of all workbodies, including those of PCSO and its workbodies, is given in **Annex 3 (Page 51)** of 69th IEC minutes.

3. In terms of ICID By-law 3.9.5 (c), the Committee considered and recommended the nomination of VP Dr. Brian T. Wahlin as Chairperson of PCSO which was subsequently approved by the Council. The Committee expressed its gratitude and appreciation to VPH Bong Hoon Lee for the contributions made during his term of office.

PCSO Minutes Item 3: Membership of ICID

PCSO Minutes Item 3.1: Status of ICID Memberships and Reactivation of Associate Members

4. The Committee recorded its special appreciation to VPH Bong Hoon Lee and VP Irene Bondarik for their efforts in bringing more members to ICID fraternity. VP Irene Bonardik held a meeting with Mr. Robert Dilba, Chairman of the Land Reclamation Board, Ministry of Agriculture Rural Estate and explored the possibility of Republic of Latvia becoming a member of ICID, while taking up the reactivation of Lithuanian NC with Mr. Kazus Kazinkuas, former minister of land reclamation of Lithuania Republic, who is at present the head of the Lithuania Association of Land Reclamation Engineering. The Committee appreciated her efforts in bringing Georgia to become an ICID member and efforts towards the possible membership of Belorussia Republic and Azerbaijan of ICID.

5. The Committee noted with concern that NCs of Chad, Madagascar, and Tanzania are likely to become 'Associate Member' with effect from January 2019. The Committee noted that Ukraine has paid subscription for 2015 and is in the process of making payment for the remaining years. The Committee noted that the NC of Switzerland has withdrawn from the membership of ICID (CH-AGRAM), owing to its dissolution with effect from 31 March 2018.

6. The Committee recommended that the request of Azerbaijan for reconsideration of their contribution may be considered and the discussions with the country may be continued to find a way out. Persuasion with Latvia is also needed for bringing them in the ICID network. The committee noted with satisfaction the efforts are being made for reviving the membership status of various countries.

7. In case of Latin American countries, it was suggested that while it may be difficult to operate through the respective governments for restoration of membership, the private and government players may be encouraged for taking individual membership and participate in ICID activities. In case of other countries also, this approach may be considered.

8. The Committee expressed its anguish as more Associate Members are from Europe, even though ICID mandates are relevant to those countries. To reverse this trend, ICID should provide more value added services. Africa Region is also needed to be rejuvenated by adding more countries to ICID fraternity. Marketing material is required to be developed and shared among the NCs for spreading awareness about ICID activities and the benefits that can be garnered.

PCSO Minutes Item 3.2: Vice Presidents' reports: Strengthening regional cooperation and activities of National Committees

9. The Committee noted the role of Vice Presidents in strengthening the regional cooperation and activities of National Committees allocated to them and expressed its satisfaction. The Committee appreciated the efforts of PH Dr. Nairizi, VPH Dr. Wahba, VPH Lee, VP Dr. Irene and the NCs of CNCID, ENCID, KCID, NENCID and IRNCID for their efforts in furthering the membership of ICID through their contacts and regional cooperation amongst the NCs.

10. It was informed that the YPs trained during April 2018 programme at CNCID are continuing their contacts even after the training and the same is an encouraging sign of future cooperation amongst them.

11. The Committee appreciated the increasing cooperation among the NCs such as IRNCID-RUCID and CNCID-KCID to undertake joint collaborative activities in terms of research, YP training, IRPID etc.

12. The action plan signed between Iran and Russia has resulted in taking up the studies for optimisation in Karun basin. VP Dr. Irene requested for identifying financial sources for continuing the studies. VPH Dr. Wahba has requested Russia for cooperation in drainage studies in Nile delta region. VP Hayashida agrees to be associated with some private members for propagation of ICID membership.

PCSO Minutes Item 3.3: Recommendations of the Direct Membership Administering (DMA) – Sub Committee

13. The Committee noted and supported the proposal for granting Direct Membership to a new applicant Mr. Sajid Ali Bhutto (Pakistan), as per the recommendations of DMA Sub-Committee.

14. Direct membership in countries falling out of ICID network is an important strategic requirement. In many European countries, the governments are not finding value in ICID association even though the ICID mandate is relevant today. Need to provide value addition to ICID operations is required to be made. It was suggested that region-wise specific publicity material may be developed and countries like Australia can utilize the same for propagating ICID cooperation in non-member countries. For this purpose, the present web site design is also required to be user friendlier.

PCSO Minutes Item 3.4: Task Team to study the feasibility of Single Membership for Regional Organizations (TT-RO) – Report by the Chair

15. The Committee considered the report presented by the Chair of the TT, PH Peter Lee. It is apprehended that regional group membership has the potential of fundamentally altering the membership structure. Instead, direct institutional membership in such countries may be sought from the key organizations and the presence of ICID may thus be maintained. Direct members from the same country can be encouraged to work together for better projection of the concerned country.

PCSO Minutes Item 4: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030: Review of the Action Plan 2017-2021

16. The Committee noted that the activities identified by WGs, RWGs, NCs and ICID CO in the Action Plan 2017-21, appended to the 'Road Map to ICID Vision 2030' (http://www.icid.org/icid_vision2030.pdf) are committed to be achieved over a period of five years.

17. The Committee agreed that in order to implement the action plan, to convert vision to action, the availability of resources in terms of voluntary inputs from national experts spread across many countries and disciplines need to be maintained. The resources of ICID network, which mainly consist of membership fee from the National Committees (NC) from the member countries and the voluntary time of the participating experts, are limited, as noted by the Committee. For maintaining the size of the network, which is already hovering around a minimum critical mass, has remained a challenge. Innovative means of raising resources both at NC level as well as at the global level will be a considerable challenge for the network.

18. Under the suggested monitoring mechanism by the Committee last year, the Committee reviewed the progress of activities identified in Action Plan 2017-2021 by RWGs and workbodies reporting to PCSO and requested the theme leaders for active monitoring of the WGs and TTs/TFs.

PCSO Minutes Item 5: Knowledge Management Strategy (KMS)

19. In Mexico IEC in 2017, the Committee considered the “Concept note on the Knowledge Management Strategy (KMS)” and broadly agreed to the approach adopted in the strategy and endorsed the engagement of a dedicated team of professionals to manage KM activities.

20. The Committee considered the draft strategy named ICID Knowledge Portal ([weblink](#)) and recommended that the strategy as presented in WG-CDTE may be followed up and the same can be launched in about a year’s timeline. YPs may be actively involved for content generation and management.

PCSO Minutes Item 6: Collaboration and Cooperation between ICID and other International Organizations

21. The Committee appreciated the increasing cooperation with International Organizations and collaborative activities undertaken during the year 2017-18.

22. The Committee was happy to note that the first batch of Water Systems have been recognized under ICID-WWC joint program, the World Water Systems Heritage (WSH) during the 8th World Water Forum (WWF8) in Brasilia in 2018. The Committee noted that the SG has brought forward the concerns of ICID in the management of the WSH Program to the attention of WWC Officials which would eventually result in the drawing up of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to have a clear understanding in the operation of the WSH Program, with adequate commitments from WWC and its members.

23. The Committee noted that the MoU with WMO is in the process of renewal, as the present MoU expired in July 2018, which will take into consideration ICID’s new vision, mission and goals.

24. The Committee noted with satisfaction the involvement of ICID’s global partners in the ITAC of WIF3 in Bali, Indonesia in 2019 and also the participation and support of partners such as CSIRO in YP Training Programs.

25. The Committee encouraged ICID’s partnership with FAO in Water Accounting and its contribution towards the Global Framework on Water Scarcity (WASAG) and involvement in two WASAG WGs – (i) WG on Communication and (ii) WG on Sustainable Use of Agriculture Water.

26. Since ADB is a direct member, they may be persuaded for having collaborative programmes with ICID. The same may be explored with them during the upcoming Asia Water Forum at Manila in October 2018.

PCSO Minutes Item 7: Review of reports of Regional Working Groups (RWGs)

PCSO Minutes Item 7.1: African Regional Working Group (AFRWG)

27. On behalf of AFRWG Chair VPH Dr. Mohamed Wahba, Dr. Sylvester Mpandeli, Vice Chair presented the report. He informed that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Morocco National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ANAFIDE) and Egyptian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ENCID) is proposed to be signed during the Cairo Water Week in October 2018 at Cairo, Egypt. It was informed that draft MOUs between ENCID and each of the NCs of Sudan, Russia and Italy are also under consideration. Dr. Mpandeli informed that first meeting with the Young Professional Working Group of the Egyptian National Committee (ENCID) was organized on 14 May 2018. ANAFIDE shown their willingness to give support and make progress with the position paper on Green Revolution in Africa. WG proposed to finalize the position paper before the next meeting in Bali in September 2019 and emphasized to collaborate and discuss with organizations such as the Alliance for Green Revolution (AGRA). Dr. Mpandeli informed that various activities are taking place within the SARIA region such as a SARIA Workshop organized in May 2018 in KwaZulu-Natal Province of South Africa on “Agribusiness and Value Chain: A Rapid Transformation of Agri-Food Systems”. A steering committee meeting was also organized where it was decided that from 2019, activities will be combined with NCs and the first initiative will be hosted by SANCID in 2019. SARIA will provide support in accommodation and logistic with invitation to other NCs. First African Young Water Professionals Workshop is scheduled during the Cairo Water Week from 14-18 October 2018 in Cairo, Egypt. The Committee noted that ANAFIDE will organize the 5th African Regional Conference on Irrigation and Drainage from 16-18 March 2020 at Rabat, Morocco.

PCSO Minutes Item 7.2: American Regional Working Group (AMRWG)

28. Dr. Warren Helgason (Canada) was appointed as an Interim Chair of the American Regional Working Group (AMRWG) to lead the promotional activities of the WG. The members discussed the possible barriers for South American countries to join ICID. Ir. Pilar Gil (Chile) suggested that informal networks of professionals, who are interested in irrigation and drainage, could be used as a ‘grassroots’ approach for building interest and potential

membership in ICID. The WG discussed the options presented by PH Peter S. Lee (UK) on direct membership for South American countries to join ICID. It was also noted that the 'Special Session of Latin Americas' could not be held due to lack of attendance during the event.

PCSO Minutes Item 7.3: Asian Regional Working Group (ASRWG)

29. VP Dr. Hayashida, co-Chair of ASRWG presented its report and based on the report, the Committee noted with satisfaction the collaborative activities taking place in the region and initiatives taken in this regard by various NCs especially CNCID and KCID. It was suggested that IRPID regional meeting may be held in conjunction with the YP training programme being planned in April 2019.

PCSO Minutes Item 7.4: European Regional Working Group (ERWG)

30. VP Ian Makin, Chair of ERWG presented its report and based on the report, the Committee recommended that efforts need be continued for encouraging the European countries in participating in the activities of ICID. Efforts may be made to bring in large organizations in the region as direct members. The Committee considered the recommendations of ERWG in terms of remaining ToRs 3 and 4 of erstwhile TF-REV to study the financial operational arrangements of European NCs and the reasons for withdrawal of them from membership of ICID in the recent past and recommended to the Council for acceptance. ERWG web site also needs be revitalized.

PCSO Minutes Item 8: Review of reports of Working Groups/Committees

PCSO Minutes Item 8.1: Working Group on Irrigation and Drainage in States Under Socio-Economic Transformation (WG-IDSST)

31. The Chair presented its report and based on the report, the Committee recommended that more support from NCs, is needed for establishment of a new group. However, the Committee recommended to the Council for the re-establishment of the Working group on Irrigation and Drainage in the States under Socio-economic Transformation (WG-IDSST), with a revised mandate as presented at the meeting. The WG will henceforth be reporting to PCTA under Strategy Theme 'Basin', the Committee suggested.

PCSO Minutes Item 8.2: Committee on Congresses/Conferences (C-CONGR)

32. Mr. Bryan Ward, Chair presented its report. Difficulties experienced in organizing the events were discussed at length. It was suggested that the viability of events is poor in absence of strong government sponsorship. Reduction of the share of ICID from the event proceedings was also suggested. Currency risk coverage is also needed as the registration fees are being decided almost three years in advance in US Dollars. Hence, it was proposed that the registration fees be determined in local currency and made available in US dollars (USD), when registrations were set to open, in order to mitigate the effects of fluctuating exchange rates. Looking at the issues involved, it was recommended that a Task Team may be set up for comprehensive economic investigation of the commercial models and cost sharing mechanisms.

33. To boost the attendance at the 2020 'ICID Congress' to be held in Sydney in September 2020, the Australian NC has considered adopting subsidized registration fee of 50% for delegates from member countries listed in the UN Least Developed Countries' List.

34. The Committee considered the finalized Letter of Agreement (LoA) for Hosting Congresses/World Irrigation Forums/Regional Conferences/International Micro Irrigation Conferences/International Drainage Workshops and recommended the same for the acceptance by the Council.

PCSO Minutes Item 8.3: ICID Young Professional's e-Forum (IYPeF)

35. Ms. Kathleen Murray, Coordinator presented its report and based on the report, the Committee recommended that the social media strength of the YPs need to be utilized for making ICID presence felt on social media. YPs' help for populating and testing the oncoming knowledge portal was also recommended.

PCSO Minutes Item 9: Organizational issues related to IEC, Congresses, Forums and Conferences

PCSO Minutes Item 9.1: Report of the Sub-Committee on Themes, Topics and Work Plans of future ICID Events (SC-E-THEMES)

36. The Chair of the Sub-Committee, PH Dr. Gao Zhanyi presented its report and indicated that the many issues on WIF3 and Working Group meeting formats have been resolved. The Committee recommended that the experience gained in the present event may be utilized for optimizing the time and resources utilization at the physical meetings of WGs.

PCSO Minutes Item 10: Any other business

