

Report of 37<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the  
**PERMANENT COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES (PCTA)**  
 13 October 2017, 09.00-17.00 hours  
 Mexico City, Mexico

**Members Present:** (1) Vice President Dr. Ding Kunlun, Chairman (China, 2015); (2) Prof. Masayoshi Satoh (Japan, 2012); (3) President Hon. Mr. Peter S. Lee (UK, 2013); (4) Vice President Dr. Mohamed Abd-El-Moneim Wahba (Egypt, 2015); (5) Mr. Ali Reza Salamat (Iran, 2015); (6) Prof. Graziano Ghinassi (Italy, 2012); and (7) Er. Avinash C. Tyagi, Secretary General, ICID

**Permanent Observers Present:** (i) Ms. Patricia Mejias-Moreno, FAO Representative and (ii) Mr. Ian Makin, IWMI Representative.

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** (i) VP Dr. Mohamed Wahba (Egypt), Co-Theme Leader, Strategy Theme – Basin; (ii) VP Dr. Charlotte de Fraiture (Netherlands), Co-Theme Leader, Strategy Theme – Basin & Chair, WG-ENV; (iii) VP Mr. Waseem Nazir (Pakistan), Co-Theme Leader, Strategy Theme – Knowledge; (iv) VP Dr. Ding Kunlun (China), Co-Theme Leader, Strategy Theme – Schemes; (v) VP Ian Makin (UK), Co-Theme Leader, Strategy Theme – Schemes & Chair, WG-M&R; (vi) VP Irene G. Bondarik (Russia), Co-Theme Leader, Strategy Theme – Schemes; (vii) VP Bong Hoon Lee (Korea), Co-Theme Leader, Strategy Theme – On- Farm; (viii) VP Madhav Belbase (Nepal), Co-Theme Leader, Strategy Theme – On- Farm; (ix) VPH Mr. Larry D. Stephens (USA), Chair, C-PR&P and Secretary, PCTA; (x) PH Prof. Bart Schultz (The Netherlands), Chair, EB-JOUR;; (xi) Dr. Kamran Emami (Iran), Chairman, WG-HIST & TF-VE; (xii) VPH Franklin E. Dimick (USA), Acting Chair, WG-DROUGHT; (xiii) Dr. Ruey-Chy Kao (Chinese Taipei), Chair, WG-SDTA; (xiv) Dr. Tsugihiko Watanabe (Japan), Chair, WG-CLIMATE; (xv) VPH Dr. Ragab Ragab (UK), Chair, WG-CROP; (xvi) Dr. Samia El-Guindy (Egypt), Chair, WG-PQW represented by VPH Dr. Ragab; (xvii) Dr. A.K. Randev, Chair, WG-SON-FARM; (xviii) PH Dr. Chandra A. Madramootoo (Canada), Chair, TF-WWF8; (xix) Dr. Fuqiang Tian (China), Chair, WG-BIO-ENERGY; (xx) Dr. Bernard Vincent (France), Chair, WG-SDRG; (xxi) VPH Dr. Hafied Gany (Indonesia), Chair, WG-IOA; (xxii) VPH Ms. Mary Jean M. Gabriel (South Africa), Chair, WG-IDM; (xxiii) Mr. Mehrzad Ehsani (Iran), Chair, WG-WATS and (xxiv) PH Dr. Gao Zhanyi, Chair, SC-E-THEMES.

**Observers Present:** (i) President Dr. Saeed Nairizi (Iran); (ii) VPH Felix B. Reinders (South Africa); (iii) VPH Dr. Gerhard Backeberg (South Africa); (iv) VPH Dr. Adama Sangare (Mali); (v) VPH Prof. Laszlo Hayde (Hungary); (vi) VPH Laurie Tollefson (Canada); (vii) VPH A.B. Pandya (India); (viii) VP Mr. Waseem Nazir (Pakistan); (ix) Mr. Naoki Hayashida (Japan); (x) Mr. Hitsuo Ishijima (Japan); (xi) Mr. Batali El Houssine (Morocco); (xii) Mr. Hidefumi Murashita (Japan); (xiii) Mr. Yeji Imayoshi (Japan); (xiv) Mr. Stanislaus M. Chisakuta (Zambia); (xv) Mr. Geumjun Lee (Korea); (xvi) Mr. Takeshi Kikutsuji (Japan); (xvii) Dr. Sylvester Mpandeli (South Africa); (xviii) Mr. Marcos Cerrillo (Mexico); (xix) Mr. Yasunori Saiki (Japan); (xx) Mr. Mamoru Watanabe (Japan); (xxi) Mr. Aidan Senzanjee (South Africa); (xxii) Mr. Jalal Aboohassani (Iran); (xxiii) Mr. Gao Lihui (China); (xxiv) Ms. Narges Zohrabi (Iran) and (xxv) Mr. Muhammad Reza Shemsei (Iran).

### **PCTA Minutes Item 1: Water Accounting and water use efficiency: Presentation**

1. Ms. Patricia Mejias-Moreno (FAO) made a presentation on “Water Accounting and Water Use Efficiency” which was appreciated by the members and several questions were discussed. The Committee has taken note of the ICID’s participation in the WWC Members’ initiative on ‘Water Accounting for decision making in the agricultural sector’ and considered the suggestion of ‘Water Accounting as a Policy Tool’. The members pointed out that WA should be able to take in to account the groundwater which constitutes a vital role in agriculture water management and the data gaps to incorporate the same have to be bridged for being useful in real-time operations. It urged experts from member countries to make use of the tools generated under the initiative.

### **PCTA Minutes Item 2: ATR on the minutes of the 36<sup>th</sup> Meeting of PCTA**

2. The Committee noted with satisfaction the ATR on the minutes of the 36<sup>th</sup> meeting of PCTA.

### **PCTA Minutes Item 3: Membership of the PCTA and Workbodies**

3. PCTA considered the proposals for its membership and for the membership of various workbodies associated with it and recommended for acceptance by the Council. Consequent upon the acceptance by the Council, an updated consolidated membership of all workbodies, including those of PCTA and its workbodies, is given in Annex 7 (Page 55) of 68<sup>th</sup> IEC minutes.

**PCTA Minutes Item 4: Sub-Committee to investigate the Structure, Scheduling of Meetings and Membership of Working Groups (SC-SSMWG)**

4. VP Ding Kunlun, Chair, SC-SSMWG presented the report of the Sub-Committee together with its recommendations and the Committee made the following recommendations to the Council.

- (a) For establishing any WG, an agreement for participation from at least 10 NCs should be a must.
- (b) A WG can have more than one member from a NC with a maximum of four experts from a particular NC, with one of them necessarily being a Young Professional.
- (c) It should be obligatory on the part of NCs to ensure the participation of nominated Experts in the activities of WG and review their participation in WG activities, periodically.
- (d) The present mechanism of Strategy Theme leaders presenting a review on the functioning of WGs under their respective theme every year to PCTA should be followed rigorously and the Theme Leaders should try to attend the meetings of the WGs under their respective themes, discuss with the chairs on the issues and ensure that there are no overlaps.
- (e) SG should take up the drive to increase the membership of the WGs by writing to NCs and at the same time explore the possibility of providing concession in registration fee for ACTIVE members (one or two) of well-functioning WGs.
- (f) WG Chairs to make the WG meetings technically more attractive by taking preparatory steps through virtual meetings of the WG before preparing the agenda.
- (g) The outcomes of the technical workshops should be shared widely by publishing an article in ICID News, etc.

5. The Committee was informed that first two recommendations have already been incorporated in the ICID By-laws.

**PCTA Minutes Item 5: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030: Role of Working Groups**

6. President Dr. Nairizi emphasized the need for ICID to achieve its Vision 2030 to remain relevant. He pointed out it was the first time that the Commission has clearly laid out common goals that would help its various stakeholders move towards the desired objectives.

7. The Committee deliberated upon the “Road Map to ICID Vision 2030”, which provides new vision, mission, organizational goals, and strategies to put ICID’s Vision into Action. The Committee considered the Action Plan for 2017-21 where the activities identified by the various WGs, RWGs, NCs and Central Office to implement the identified strategies, have been provided. The Committee noted that the chapter on ‘Action Plan: Vision to Action’ which identifies the actions required to be taken up by the ICID network for fulfilling of its vision.

8. The Committee emphasized the pivotal role of the Working Groups in putting the vision into action. The WGs should incorporate the identified activities into their Action Plans and at the same time develop their activities aligned to the strategies. It is important that WGs focus their activities towards measurable outputs which could form part of the products that could be disseminated to the NCs. These products should be useful to the NCs in delivering on the goals that the NCs might be required to achieve as part of their national mandates. The products should also address the needs of multi-disciplinary actions required for a water secure world free of poverty and hunger, the new vision of ICID. The Committee noted (based on the reports considered under subsequent agenda items) that the WGs have started taking guidance from the Action Plan 2017-21.

9. Vice President Waseem Nazir, while lauding the Vision and Action Plan, wondered whether ICID could achieve the desired objectives by continuing to work the way it is presently being organized. Does ICID need to change to accomplish its aspiration for 2030? He pointed out that ICID represents the Global collective wisdom and its technical contributions on irrigation and drainage have been great with a treasure chest of Data and Knowledge. At the same time, he pointed out that ICID is inward focused and deficient in marketing its contributions.

10. VP Nazir pointed out that there is a need to enhance ICID’s attractiveness for participants, practical utilization of knowledge, interaction with non-technical stakeholders, address issues directly. He suggested that efforts must be made to ensure that ICID is an efficient, effective and sustainable organization. In order to achieve its vision and mission, ICID should address policy issues and preserve irrigation legacy for generations to come. It should enhance its engagement with private sector stakeholders.

11. VP Nazir suggested that the organization should challenge itself and promote out-of-the box thinking by curtailing technical papers presentation within one day, addressing one question per Congress while looking at other important issues, and organizing joint meetings of the WGs under each of the four core thematic areas thereby promoting visibility among participants and enhance networking.

12. Considering similar suggestions emanating from other speakers under various other agenda items and the resolve under the chapter 6 of the Road Map, PCTA recommended that SC-E-THEMES may be tasked to work out the structure of its Annual events.

**PCTA Minutes Item 6: International Research Program for Irrigation and Drainage (IRPID) Scheme**

13. Representatives of the Heads of Regional Nodes (RNs) of IRPID in Tehran and Beijing updated the Committee on the activities under their respective nodes.

14. The Committee noted that the IRPID program is one of the activities that could provide the NCs an opportunity to improve its profile within the countries as it provides various research stakeholders in AWM research, a window to exchange and showcase ongoing research activities in the irrigation and drainage sector worldwide. It would also help ICID in its objective of serving as a repository of knowledge in irrigation and drainage sector.

15. The Committee noted that there were interests in establishing IRPID nodes in Africa and the Mediterranean regions. Comprehensive proposals in accordance with IRPID Scheme are yet to be received. The NCs of Egypt and Italy may prepare formal proposals to establish RNs in Egypt and Italy for consideration of the AC-IRPID established to administer and guide the Program. PCTA encouraged NCs for the establishment of more RNs elsewhere.

16. PCTA was informed that as per the directions of AC-IRPID, the Central Office has prepared an Irrigation Research (IrriSEARCH) database template in AWM, which needs to be populated by the RNs and its affiliate NCs. It noted that the database can serve as an important tool in fulfilling the objectives of IRPID.

**PCTA Minutes Item 7: Review of reports of the activities of Workbodies under the Strategy Theme – Basin (ST.B)**

**PCTA Minutes Item 7.1: Working Group on Water for Bio-Fuel and Food (WG-BIO-FUEL)**

17. Dr. Fuqiang Tian, Chair of the WG presented the report of the new WG. The WG has identified activities under three strategies for Vision 2030. The WG is planning to organize a webinar during the upcoming year. PCTA members noted that the WG had organized an invited talk on “water-food-energy nexus” by Professor Margarita González Brambila from Metropolitan University of Mexico. The PCTA desired that WGs while inviting such specialists, particularly dealing from multi-disciplinary field, should advertise such lectures in advance so that experts from other WGs should be able to take advantage of such talks.

**PCTA Minutes Item 7.2: Working Group on Climate Change and Agricultural Water Management (WG-CLIMATE)**

18. Dr. Tsugihiko Watanabe, Chair of the WG presented the report. The WG held a workshop during the Mexico City IEC meeting and will organize another workshop during the 2018 in Canada. The WG proposed one Webinar by Dr. Jaepi Cho of APEC Climate Center, Korea, of which tentative title is “Downscaling and Seamless Climate Service for Adapting against Climate Change”.

**PCTA Minutes Item 7.3: Working Group on Environment (WG-ENV)**

19. Dr. (Ms.) Charlotte de Fraiture, Chair of the WG presented the report and informed that the WG proposes to develop a ICID technical paper on Ecosystem Services from Irrigation Systems for which first a workshop is proposed to be organized during the 69<sup>th</sup> IEC.

**PCTA Minutes Item 7.4: Working Group on Managing Water Scarcity under Conflicting Demands (WG-MWSCD)**

20. VPH Franklin E. Dimick, Acting Chair of the WG presented the report of the new WG and emphasized that the WG is not focusing on Drought, rather its focus is on Water Scarcity, which is of more permanent nature due to competing demands. The WG has prepared a Road Map of future activities. The WG will hold a webinar during the year and is planning a Workshop on *Priorities For Water Use – New (Or Emerging) Demands Competing With Irrigation* to during the 69<sup>th</sup> IEC meeting. A questionnaire is being developed for the internal use of the WG initially and for others later.

**PCTA Minutes Item 7.5: Working Group on Sustainable Development of Tidal Areas (WG-SDTA)**

21. The extended tenure of the WG has ended in 2017. Dr. Ruey-Chy Kao, Chair of the WG presented the report and informed that he has submitted the Mandate for the new WG. The WG is preparing a special issue of the ICID Journal and its activities are linked to 5 strategies identified in the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030. It was suggested that the WG should also include impacts on groundwater in coastal areas. PCTA recommends that the WG may be provisionally approved subject to at least 10 NCs supporting its activities by way of sponsoring its experts to participate in its activities.

**PCTA Minutes Item 7.6: Synthesis Report by Co-Theme Leaders of ST Basin [VP Dr. Mohamed Abd-El-Moneim Wahba (Egypt) & VP Dr. Charlotte de Fraiture (The Netherlands)]**

22. VP Dr. Wahba and VP Dr. (Mrs.) Charlotte de Fraiture presented their synthesis of ST-Basin and urged the WGs to spend more time on technical activities and less on administrative issues, which should be sorted out through virtual meetings prior to the physical meeting. VP Charlotte also urged WGs to make an effort to announce their proposed programs, especially about the special lectures which might be of general interest to experts from other WGs. VP Ian Makin suggested that several WGs meet jointly during the IEC week to attract more high-quality speakers.

**PCTA Minutes Item 8: Review of reports of the activities of Workbodies under the Strategy Theme – Knowledge (ST.K)****PCTA Minutes Item 8.1: Working Group on Capacity Development, Training and Education (WG-CDTE)**

23. In the absence of WG Chair and Vice Chair no report was presented. However, as per draft minutes and summary report, the Committee noted that Korea and Morocco will support training program for YPs in 2018 and 2019 respectively. The Committee also appreciated the offer by Mr. Jaepil Cho (Team Leader, Climate Application Team, APEC Climate Center), Korea to support any training program on climate change and adaptation at their center.

**PCTA Minutes Item 8.2: Working Group on History of Irrigation, Drainage and Flood Control (WG-HIST)**

24. The extended tenure of the WG was up to 2017. Dr. Kamran Emami, Chair of the WG presented the report. VP Honoraire Laszlo G. Hayde reported that more than 10 NCs have expressed their interest in participating in a renewed WG. PCTA recommends that the new WG be conditionally approved pending receiving willingness from at least 10 NCs to participate.

**PCTA Minutes Item 8.3: ICID Journal Editorial Board (EB-JOUR)**

25. PH Prof. Dr. Bart Schultz, Chair of the EB presented the report of the Journal. He informed that the impact factor of I&D Journal continues to increase. PCTA was informed that two sponsored Special Issues are nearly ready to be published, either in 2017 or early 2018 and six additional Special Issues are in planning process.

26. PCTA noted that 2018 is the last year of the current contract with M/s Wiley and a draft new agreement has been received from Wiley. PCTA recommends that the new contract with Wiley may be renewed for 7 years as it includes a 1% annual increase in the cost of the journal against a 3% annual increase, if the agreement duration is limited to 5 years, with all other conditions remaining similar.

**PCTA Minutes Item 8.4: Committee on Public Relations and Publications (C-PR&P)**

27. VPH Mr. Larry D. Stephens, Chair of the Committee presented the report. The Committee believes that the mandate of the Committee has been concluded as ICID no longer sells many publications and that the ICID web page is now quite successful. PCTA recommended that the Committee may be closed with immediate effect.

**PCTA Minutes Item 8.5: Task Force for Updating and Maintenance of Multilingual Technical Dictionary (TF-MTD)**

28. The Chair of the TF, Vice President Dr. Ding Kunlun, presented the report. Secretary General clarified the scope of the TF-MTD be referring to the Concept Note that was presented before the 67<sup>th</sup> IEC at the time of its approval (Refer Agenda of 67<sup>th</sup> IEC, Pages 89). It was clarified that the mandate of the TF-MTD was:

- (a) To **identify** priority chapters and terms frequently referred/ consulted by AWM professionals
- (b) To **consult**/invite professional organizations to collaborate in enriching chapters/terms
- (c) To **identify** experts/work bodies to review terms/chapters
- (d) To **encourage NCs** in preparation and building of additional translations along with English/French
- (e) To **identify** interesting pictures/diagrams suitable to illustrate various terms, where required, and
- (f) To **make** it accessible on web/ mobile

29. The Committee was informed that FAO technical dictionary AGROVAC did not include technical definitions of AWM terms, rather than the general definitions of some of the terms. Therefore, ICID is best placed to undertake further work on updating the MTD duly consulting experts from other international organizations. SG urged the TF to first of all take a decision on the priority chapters that fall within the expert purview of ICID. This will also help in clarifying which of the WGs should be taking active part in the revision process. It was suggested that a web-meeting of the TF be arranged at the earliest.

**PCTA Minutes Item 8.6: Task Force on Value Engineering (TF-VE)**

30. Dr. Kamran Emami, Chair of the TF reviewed strategies for Vision 2030. He presented a closure report and Scoping Document with the revised mandate for a new Working Group on Value Engineering. PCTA advised CO to circulate the SD to all the NCs to seek their interest. Dr. Emami pointed out that this topic has the potential to attract the Young Professionals. The decision for the establishment of the WG will be taken during the 69<sup>th</sup> IEC after review of the interest received from the NCs.

**PCTA Minutes Item 8.7: Task Force to Guide ICID Inputs to World Water Forum 8 (TF-WWF8)**

31. PH Dr. Chandra Madramootoo, Chair of the TF presented the report on Inputs to WWF 8. The ICID suggestions have been sent to the WWC, but no response has been received. The TF will plan on developing a three-hour program on water for food. Additional reports will be offered. Reports from Mexico, Central America and South America will also be offered.

**PCTA Minutes Item 8.8: Synthesis report of Co-Theme Leaders of ST Knowledge [VP Dr. Abdelhafid Debbarh (Morocco) & VP Waseem Nazir (Pakistan)]**

32. No synthesis report of workbodies under ST-Knowledge was presented.

**PCTA Minutes Item 9: Review reports of the activities of Workbodies under the Strategy Theme – On-Farm (ST.OF)****PCTA Minutes Item 9.1: Working Group on Use of Poor Quality Water for Irrigation (WG-PQW)**

33. VPH Dr. Ragab Ragab, presented a Scoping Document for a proposed new WG, to be named Use of *Non-Conventional Water Resources for Irrigation*. PCTA recommends that the Scoping Document be sent to the NCs seeking interest in joining the new WG.

**PCTA Minutes Item 9.2: Working Group on Sustainable On-Farm Irrigation System Development (WG-SON-FARM)**

34. Dr. A.K. Randev, Chair of the WG presented the report and informed that the WG reviewed its mandate in light of the Road Map. The WG has posted a questionnaire on the ICID website, seeking information on drip and sprinkler irrigation. The WG organized an internal workshop on *Sustainable On-farm Irrigation Systems for Higher Crops' Productivity*. PCTA noted that the 9<sup>th</sup> International Micro Irrigation Conference will be held during January 2019 at Aurangabad, India and that as per its mandated the WG will be technically guiding the Conference.

**PCTA Minutes Item 9.3: Working Group on Water and Crops (WG-CROP)**

35. VPH Dr. Ragab Ragab, Chair of the WG presented the report. The WG developed strategies for Vision 2030. The WG plans a seminar on *Improving the Water Use Efficiency within the Water-Energy-Food-Nexus* for the 69<sup>th</sup> IEC Meeting in Canada.

**PCTA Minutes Item 9.4: Synthesis report of Co-Theme Leaders of ST On-Farm [VP Bong Hoon Lee (Korea) & VP Madhav Belbase (Nepal)]**

36. VP Bong Hoon Lee made the report for Theme On-Farm.

**PCTA Minutes Item 10: Review of reports of the activities of Workbodies under the Strategy Theme – Schemes (ST.S)****PCTA Minutes Item 10.1: Working Group on Irrigation, Development and Management (WG-IDM)**

37. Ms. Mary Jean M. Gabriel, Chair of the WG presented the report. The WG reviewed and discussed Strategies for Vision 2030. It was noted that the WG has allocated various activities identified under the Action Plan to its members.

**PCTA Minutes Item 10.2: Working Group on Institutional Aspects of Irrigation / Drainage System (WG-IOA)**

38. VPH Dr. Hafied A. Gany, Chair of the WG presented the report. PCTA noted that The International Symposium on *Global review of institutional reform in irrigation sector for sustainable agriculture water management, including WUA*, was successfully conducted on 8 October 2017, with about 150 attendees. The Symposium featured two keynote speakers from the World Bank, presentation of 09 Country Papers and in-depth discussions on three key topics: Legal Framework, Participatory Irrigation Management and Public Private Partnership. PCTA was informed that the Proceedings of the Symposium will be published in soft copy and perhaps in the *ICID Journal*.

**PCTA Minutes Item 10.3: Working Group on Modernization & Revitalization of Irrigation Schemes (WG- M&R)**

39. VP Ian Makin, Chair of the WG presented the report and informed that the WG developed strategies for future work as part of the Road Map. The WG continues to develop a definition of the word modernization. The WG is considering to organize a workshop in Bali during the 70<sup>th</sup> IEC Meeting and WIF3.

**PCTA Minutes Item 10.4: Working Group on Sustainable Drainage Management (WG-SDRG)**

40. Mr. Bernard Vincent, Chair of the WG presented the report and informed that the WG is compiling international experiences in bio-drainage and bio-saline agricultural. The WG hopes to organize a workshop during 69<sup>th</sup> IEC in Canada on dry drainage and bioreactors or green infrastructures. He noted that the 13<sup>th</sup> International Drainage Workshop was held successfully in Ahwaz, Iran during March 2017. PCTA advised CO to send a call for organizing the 14<sup>th</sup> International Drainage Workshop from 2021 onwards.

**PCTA Minutes Item 10.5: Working Group on Water Saving in Irrigated Areas (WG-WATS)**

41. Mr. Mehrzad Ehsani, and the chair of the WG presented the report and informed that the WG was fully involved in Congress Question 60.1 and the Chair of WG was the Panel Experts for Mexico, since that topic dealt with was water savings. PCTA noted that the WG is developing a template to collect data on Water Charging Policies from the NCs.

**PCTA Minutes Item 10.6: Synthesis Report by Co-Theme Leaders on ST Schemes [VP Dr. Ding Kunlun (China), VP Ian William Makin (UK) & VP Dr. Irene Bondarik (Russia)]**

42. VP Ian Makin presented the synthesis report on the activities of the ST-Scheme and noted that some topics are being addressed by multiple WGs. So, the WGs should work jointly to avoid duplication of efforts. One suggestion was to combine WG meetings, and to make more use of virtual meetings for WG activities.

**PCTA Minutes Item 11: Newly Proposed Workbodies**

43. The Committee noted that the process of establishing a new WG addressing issues related to floods WG-IFM by developing a Scoping Document is in process. PCTA recommends that the WG can be approved if at least 10 NCs support its activities by way of sponsoring its experts to participate in the WG. PCTA requested SG to circulate the SD to all the NCs.

**PCTA Minutes Item 12: Report on the outcome of 23<sup>rd</sup> ICID Congress**

44. PCTA noted the report on the outcome of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Congress presented by Ms. Patricia Herrera Ascencio, representative of MXCID are given in **Annex 6, page 53** to the 68<sup>th</sup> IEC minutes. PCTA noted that during the presentation of the outcomes of the Congress at the Wrap-up Session, the members had objected to the statement “Low Irrigation efficiency not bad” under Q 61 recommendations. However, there was no conclusive discussion on the subject.

**PCTA Minutes Item 13: Report of the Sub-Committee on Themes, Topics and Work Plans of future ICID Events (SC-E-THEMES)**

45. PH Dr. Gao Zhanyi, Chair of the Sub-Committee presented the report of the meeting of the SC-E-THEMES and the Committee recommended that the Theme of WIF4 and the Questions for the 25<sup>th</sup> ICID Congress should be considered during the upcoming year and finalized by the 69<sup>th</sup> IEC. The Theme and Topics for 4<sup>th</sup> World Irrigation Forum in 2022 will also be selected during the 69<sup>th</sup> IEC Meeting.

46. PCTA endorsed the recommendation of the Sub-Committee that the technical outputs of Congress questions should be improved and monitored continually. Measures should be taken to increase the quality of papers with the focus to answer the designated questions, while encouraging the NCs and Work bodies to organize and recommend authors to write and submit papers.

**PCTA Minutes Item 14: Technical Support Program in ICID**

47. SG presented a comprehensive Scheme of the Technical Support Program. The Committee was informed that in order to provide support to NCs in fulfilling their national mandates, ICID had initiated various activities for which a Technical Support Unit (TSU) was established (Resolution IEC-3/66, Para 7) at ICID Central Office. Vide resolution IEC-2/67, the NCs were again requested to take full advantage of the establishment of the TSU and a TSU Core Group was established under the chairmanship of President Dr. Saeed Nairizi. The Core Group held its first meeting on 14 June 2017 that took the decisions regarding (i) Nomination of Experts to TSU, (ii) Contribution to Capacity Development Fund and (iii) Honorarium for experts from NCs and (iv) NCs’ request for getting support of TSU. Based on the deliberations at the TSU Core Group meeting, various activities under capacity development have been suggested to be combined under a Technical Support Program (TSP). PCTA recommended that the Scheme that describes TSP as presented be approved by the Council.

48. The meeting was adjourned at 18:40 hours, with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



