



News Update

ICID•CIID

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

Established 1950

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From Secretary General's Desk...

Dear Friends,

Two significant events in which I participated during the preceding month provide the inputs for this message. The Regional Implementation Meeting (RIM) for Asia and the Pacific for the 16th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-16) took place in Jakarta on 26 & 27 November 2007. ICID was invited as one of three global NGOs in Major Groups representing the interest of Science and Technology. The other partners in the Consortia in this group were International Council for Science (ICSU) and World Federation of Engineering Organisations (WFEO). By mutual interaction with the representatives, a brief statement was evolved by us keeping in view the thematic documents of UNESCAP. I had an opportunity to join the panel on Desertification and Drought. Highlights of the event are on the website www.unescap.org/esd/rim/16th/.

We also had the privilege to participate, on special invitation, in the 1st Asia Pacific Water Summit (1st APWS) in Beppu, Japan which, inter-alia, considered three priority themes: Water Financing and Capacity Development, Water Related Disaster Management, and Water for Development and Ecosystems. IUCN and FAO were involved in the convening of the Theme on 'Water for Development and Ecosystems' and ICID joined the Panel on invitation. The aspects of benchmarking of projects by FAO and the need for capacity building received support in the Panel discussions. The 'Policy Brief' document of the 1st APWF (available on the 1st APWF website

www.apwf.org) received wide support from all the summit participants which, inter-alia, included a galaxy of high level dignitaries. Falling in line with the current trend, there was also a particular focus on Climate Change, and the melting Himalayan Glaciers and their likely impact on the region's irrigated agriculture and food production was highlighted by ICIMOD. Please also refer to our brief on this subject in the ICID Newsletter 2007/4 (page 9).

Several open event programmes were also organized by the Summit Group in parallel; a workshop on Eco system services of Paddy Irrigated Basin by INWEPF (International Network for Water and Ecosystem in Paddy Fields) (*in partnership with ICID and others*) contributed significantly to highlight the multiple objectives they serve and their relevance in the Asian monsoonal situation. A special evening reception hosted jointly by INWEPF, JNC-ICID & other INWEPF partners gave an opportunity for a closer interaction within and outside our family (IUCN, IWMI, GWP and academic institutions in the region).

I had also the benefit of having a meeting with JNC-ICID members in Tokyo followed by a meeting in the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries with the Director General for discussions of mutual interest when VPH Nakamura was also present. Japan's contribution to the ASRWG's proposed work plan taking on board Climate Change impacts on irrigation in the region and bringing out a publication of the work of the Committee on LDC in the Asian Region (led by VPH Taniyama) were some of the key issues discussed. I had an excellent opportunity to network



with several key persons from WWF, WWF, IUCN, IWMI, GWP, besides the meeting VP Azhari and VP Gany.

While concluding, I may indicate about the inquiries on the progress on contributions to WWF5 by us from some, with whom I interacted. May I urge the Chairs of NCs and workbodies to give their views on the concept note on 'Agriculture, Food and Water' (Daniel Zimmer, Paul Van Hofwegen and Bart Schultz); your comments will be of value to project the ICID position by PH Bart in the consortia. We see already positive indications on workbody contributions {like TF (Poverty) and TF (Financing)} who have circulated their approaches. Others desiring to join the band in the light of Sacramento IEC decisions, either through the regional or the thematic path, may have to do so quickly. I thank you for your kind understanding.

Best regards,

M. Gopalakrishnan
Secretary General

**Season's Greetings
and Best Wishes
for a Happy and
Prosperous
New Year 2008**

10th International Drainage Workshop

The 10th International Drainage Workshop is organized in co-operation with the Finnish and Estonian national committees of ICID during 6-11 July 2008 at Helsinki and Tallinn, the capitals of Finland and Estonia.

The workshop will focus on the effects of agricultural drainage on water quality and the methods of preventing leaching of nutrients and other elements to surface and ground water. Moreover, the role of agricultural drainage in environmental river engineering as well as hydrological and ecological aspects will be dealt within the sessions. The workshop will include 6 sessions :

- **Session 1:** Agricultural drainage and environment in different farming policies. Keynote: Dr. Ing. Eiko Lübbe
- **Session 2:** Technical solutions to prevent leaching from agricultural drainage systems. Keynote: Prof. Wayne Skaggs
- **Session 3:** Agricultural water management, decision support methods and technology. Keynote: Prof. Chandra Madramootoo
- **Session 4:** Drainage in the context of environmental river engineering. Keynote: Dr. Seppo Rekolainen
- **Session 5:** Extreme weather conditions, drainage, flood management and land use. Keynote: Prof. Bart Schultz
- **Session 6:** Closing session: Drainage, the driver of sustainable environments. Keynote: Dr. W.F. Vlotman

Registration commences on 1st January 2008. **Workshop Fees:** General registration : 400 EUR, 450 EUR after March 31st 2008, **Accompanying persons:** 150 EUR, 200 EUR after March 31st 2008. **Technical tour** on 11.7.2008 (Friday) : 50 EUR. **Venue in Helsinki:** Finnish Environmental Institute, Mechelininkatu 34, 00250 Helsinki, Finland. **Venue in Tallinn:** Reval Hotel Olümpia, Liivalaia 33, 10118 Tallinn, Estonia

All are encouraged to join the event for a rewarding week in the northern hemisphere.

ICID's Second African Regional Conference

ICID held its Second African Regional Conference from 6 to 9 November in the beautiful surroundings of Glenburn Lodge in South Africa. More than 17 countries were represented by the 120 registered delegates that attended the event.

Mr. Peter Lee, President, ICID delivered the welcome address and highlighted some of the valuable lessons learnt from Africa. *"Africa taught me the importance of field work and meeting the people. In terms of poverty alleviation, enhanced rain-fed production and informal irrigation have the potential to improve rural livelihoods and local food security"*, he

said. He explained that the commercial sector covering arable agriculture, fisheries, livestock and forestry, needs to operate in harmony with subsistence agriculture and environment. With regard to global food security, Mr. Lee highlighted that 67% increase in food production (prediction) will be required over the next 25-30 years, which may have to come from the savannah regions.

The conference was officially opened by Dr Sizwe Mkhize, the Acting Deputy Director-General, Department of Agriculture, South Africa. "As a country and as an agricultural sector, we have always wanted to share our interests with the rest of Africa. My Ministry has been fully behind New Partnership for Africa

Development (NEPAD). Through NEPAD, South Africa wants to see Africa becoming a growing economy", stated Dr Mkhize.

"This conference is surely going to give us an opportunity to critically look at ourselves as Africans in irrigated agriculture, and to strengthen our relationships as regional and national irrigation and drainage committees. The knowledge gained during the 2nd African Regional Conference shall enable us to move towards liberating Africa from poverty and food insecurity, concluded Dr Mkhize. He called upon all the fellow Africans to see value in ICID and its activities. [Source : Debbie Besseling, Editor of SA Irrigation magazine and SANCID]

1st Asia-Pacific Water Summit

The 1st Asia-Pacific Water Summit (1st APWS) provided an opportunity to recognize the central role that water plays for our quality of life and the wellbeing of future generations. The key messages and recommendations presented in the Policy Brief drew a clear and realistic picture of the needs presented throughout Asia-Pacific region and of the actions required in order to achieve the level of progress deserved by all.

One of three Priority Themes of the Summit addressed Water for Development and Ecosystems. The theme was facilitated by IUCN and FAO and ICID was invited to join the Panel. Secretary General Gopalakrishnan participated in a Panel discussions on long-term, multi-sectoral needs for generating both development and environmental dividends and highlighted ICID's role and missions in the Agricultural Water Management.

A joint thrust by FAO and ICID on the policies relating to 'Modernizing Irrigation Systems' and 'Benchmarking' emerged in the sessions. Some Extracts from the Policy Brief that are of interest of ICID community is quoted below:

"Modernizing irrigation systems' management to enhance the welfare of farming communities, environmental sustainability of irrigation, and allowing reallocation of water to other uses and users. Irrigation sector reform should be reoriented to focus on the professionalization of management and service provision and the accountability of service providers to users, satisfying the needs for representation and empowerment along with performance objectives and market-based instruments. This poses many questions regarding the capacity and willingness of the institutions to deliver services on the basis of demand rather than supply. In many developing countries with large irrigated sub-sectors, there is a continued reliance upon supply management approaches with little attention to the management of existing assets. This trend needs to be reversed if agriculture is to continue to account for its water withdrawals. Reforms will require improving both physical structures and management institutions. Investments should be based upon and understanding of the changing demand in irrigation services for farmers, multi-functionality, and the need to improve the environmental performance of the systems in a river basin management context.

Investing in capacity building and mandating benchmarking systems. Bringing about this shift in irrigation management will require considerable investment in capacity building at all levels, including engineering and operations. Countries also need to adopt benchmarking systems to monitor the effects of policy changes and improve sectoral performance and quality of investment". (Brief by Secretary General)

News from National Committees

INCID

The Indian National Committee (INCID) has a new e-mail as – <msindia@yahoo.co.in> as per an indication from Mr. C.D. Khoche, Member Secretary. Their contact details are:

Indian National Committee (INCID)
2nd Floor, Wing No. 4, West Block - I
R.K. Puram, New Delhi 110066, India.
Tel: 011-26176533, Fax: 011-26181148

PNC-ICID

The Philippine National Committee (PNC-ICID) has informed that the Board of Trustees of PNC-ICID has designated Mr. Dominador D. Pascua as Acting Chairman in view of the retirement of Engr. Isidro R. Digal from government service. Mr. Pascua holds the position in concurrent capacity as Secretary.

The contact co-ordinates are : National Irrigation Administration, National Government Center, E.De Los Santos Avenue, Quezon City 1100, PHILIPPINES. Tel: 929-6071 to 78 loc. 146, Fax: 926-5896, E-mail: pnc-icid@nia.gov.ph, pncicid@yahoo.com. Website: www.nia.gov.ph

ICID extends a warm welcome to Mr. Pascua and also extends its gratitude to Engr. Isidro R. Digal, who relinquished as Chairman, PNC-ICID for his contributions to ICID activities. [Source : PNC-ICID]

UKCID

Vice President Peter Kovalenko, President of Ukrainian National Committee Irrigation and Drainage (UKCID) has new contact details as below:

Ukrainian National Committee Irrigation & Drainage (UKCID)
Vasilkovskaja Str., Kiev, 37,
Ukraine, 03022,
Tel: 8 (044) 2573348,
Fax: 8 (044) 257 40 01.
E-mail: ukcid@igim.org.ua,
kovalen@users.ukrsat.com
[Source: UKCID]

Visitors to Central Office

Dr. Mait Kriipsalu, Associate Professor Department of Water Management and Mr. Tõnu Möistus, Head, Centre of Agro-biotechnology from Estonian University of Life Science at Tartu, Estonia visited ICID Central Office on 29th November 2007.

Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize For Water, 2006-2008

The Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water was instituted in 2002. This prestigious International Prize consists of following awards in separate fields of water resources:

- **Surface Water:** Topic – Sedimentation Control in Surface Water Systems
- **Ground Water:** Topic – Exploration and Assessment of Ground Water
- **Alternative (Non-Traditional) Water Resources:** Topic – Innovative Methods and Systems Desalination
- **Water Resources Management and Protection:** Topic – Water Demand Management in Urban Areas

All relevant details for nominations can be found on their website at www.psipw.org. Nomination deadline: End of December 2007.

The World Water Week: 2008

The Stockholm 'World Water Week' will take place between 17-23 August 2008. "Progress and Prospects on Water: For a Clean and Healthy World" (including a special Focus on Sanitation), is the theme for 2008. For more details, visit www.worldwaterweek.org.

Training Programmes

Fellowships available for E-learning Diploma Program on IWRM

The Regional UN-Water Virtual Learning Centre (WVLC) at Asian Institute of

New Additions to ICID's TDS Database (November 2007)

The additions during the month to the TDS Database are:

Article Section – 52 additions (Articles / Papers) (i) Irrigation and Drainage – The journal of the ICID, December 2007, Vol. 56, No. 5 (9 nos.); (ii) Proc. of the Institution of Civil Engineers, September 2007, Vol. 160, No. EM3 (6 nos.); (iii) International Water Power & Dam Construction, September 2007, Vol. 59, No. 9 (2 nos.); (iv) Journal of Indian Water Resources Society, July-October 2006, Vol. 26, Nos. 3-4 (6 nos.); (v) Paddy and Water Environment, September 2007, Vol. 5, No. 3 (7 nos.); (vi) WMO Bulletin, July 2007, Vol. 56, No. 3 (10 nos.); (vii) Water Policy, 2007, Vol. 9, No. 5 (6 nos.); (viii) Natural Resources Journal, 2007, Vol. 47, No. 1 (3 nos.); (ix) Indian Journal of Power and River Valley Development, July-August 2007, Vol. 57, Nos. 7 & 8 (3 nos.).

Book Section – 14 additions; till date 30894 additions have been made to TDS database. The Text Delivery Service (TDS) has received five requests during the period from Hungary and India.

The Text Delivery Service (TDS) database can be accessed by visiting ICID website: www.icid.org.

Technology (AIT), Thailand, established in collaboration with United Nations University- International Network on Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH), Canada and with support from United Nations –Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA), is now inviting applications from prospective water professional for the 3rd batch starting in March 2008.

The IWRM curriculum is Internet-based as well as CD-ROM supported. The complete training program consists of 10 courses given over a period of about 18 months.

Few fellowships are available with AIT to provide partial support towards tuition fee for selected participants.

The deadline for application submission is 31 December 2007. For more information on fellowships, admission requirements and procedure, program structure, course contents, cost, etc. please visit their program website : <http://www.ait.or.th>

/www.set.ait.ac.th/courses/wvlc/ [Contact: Daves Sharma : wvlc@ait.ac.th]

New Master's Program in Disaster Management

To ensure efficiency in water-related risk management, structural and non-structural measures should be well-balanced. However, in developing countries where budget and human resources are limited, the number of experts with advanced knowledge and techniques are limited. Thus, training is urgently needed for practitioners in this field.

For this purpose, the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) has started a new Master's program, "Disaster Management Policy Program (Water-related Risk Management Course)," in collaboration with the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS). The course will also be conducted in collaboration with a training course, "Training for Experts on Flood-related Disaster Mitigation," offered by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

The ultimate goal of the course is to promote solutions for water-related disasters in developing countries, and the trainees will be expected to promote projects for flood-related disasters in their countries with the techniques and knowledge they will learn in this training course.

For more information, please access their website : <http://www.icharm.pwri.go.jp/>

Agriculture Development through Human Capacity Building

The International Agricultural Training Centre (IATC) in Israel is organizing following programmes at the Galillee College Study Centre in Israel between March 27th and April 14th 2008:

1. Water and Crop Production Management

2. Agribusiness and Export Marketing Management
3. Livestock, Dairy Farming, Technology and Management

Galillee College continues its policy of promoting excellence in transitional countries, therefore tuition scholarships (value of • 2250 each) are available for qualified candidates from Developing and Transitional countries.

Further information regarding both the programme and the application procedure may be obtained via the college website (www.galicol.ac.il) or by contacting the Programme Director, Ms. Moriel Ostrower at : mostrower@galicol.ac.il

Events

10th International Conference on Achieving 24 x 7 continuous water supply during 11-12th January 2008 at Mumbai, India. For more information, please contact : Indian Water Works Association, Mumbai Centre, Pipeline Road, Vakola, Santacruz (East), Mumbai – 400 055, India. Tel: + 91 (22) 26672665/26672666, Fax: + 91 (22) 26686113, Email: mstmjp7@gmail.com, Website: www.mumbaiiwwa.com

International Groundwater Conference on Groundwater Dynamics and Global Change during 11-14 March 2008 at Jaipur, India. For more information, please contact : Dr. A.K. Sinha, Department of Geology, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur-302004, Rajasthan, India. Ph: +91 (0141) 2711572, (O), +91 (0141) 2398507 (R), Cell : 982901304, Tele-Fax: +91 (0141) 2711572, Email groundwater2008@gmail.com.

World Environmental & Water Resources Congress 2008 during 12-16 May 2008 at Honolulu, Hawaii. For more information, please contact: American Society of Civil Engineers at e-mail: conf@asce.org

XXIVth Conference of the Danubian Countries on the Hydrological Forecasting and Hydrological Bases of Water Management during 2-4 June 2008 at Bled, Slovenia. For more information, please contact: danube@fgg.uni-lj.si

Water Resource Systems Management In Extreme Conditions during 4-5 June 2008 at Moscow, Russia. For more information,

Obituary



Prof. Janusz Ryzdewski has passed away in September 2007. Prof. Janusz was born in 1928 in Warsaw, Poland but moved to Zimbabwe in 1937. Following work on dam design, he studied for his PhD at Trinity Hall Cambridge and was then appointed as a lecturer in the Civil Engineering Department at the University of Southampton. He founded the irrigation Masters programme at Southampton in 1964. Prof. Janusz was one of the first to recognize the importance of large-scale irrigation and thought that it was necessary to include integration of social, economic, agricultural and ecological perspectives into their development. Janusz was editor of the ICID Journal from 1995 to 2001. He brought the Journal upto the level that it became listed in the Science Citation Index. He was also actively involved in the preparations with respect to the Agreement with John Wiley & Sons for publishing our Journal under the new name Irrigation and Drainage, as proposed by him. We express our gratitude to him for his important contributions to the Journal and other activities of the International Commission on Irrigation (ICID) in general.

ICID family offers its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family of Prof. Janusz Ryzdewski. May his soul rest in peace.

please access their Website : http://2008.sibico.com/?content=list§ion_id=41

International Conference on Flood Recovery Innovation and Response, FRIAR 2008 during 2-3 July 2008 at Institution of Civil Engineers, London, UK. For more information, please contact: Mr. Kimberley Robberts, E-mail: krobberts@wessex.ac.uk. Website: www.wessex.ac.uk/conference/2008/friar08

EMECs 8 : The 8th International Conference on the Environmental Management of Enclosed Coastal Seas during 27-30 October 2008 at Shanghai, China. For more information, please contact: Secretariat, State Key Lab. for Estuarine and Coastal Research, East China Normal University, Shanghai 200062, China. Homepage: <http://www.emecs-8.ecnu.edu.cn>, E-mail: emecs8@mail.ecnu.edu.cn.

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

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