



# News Update

ICID•CIID

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

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*From Secretary General's Desk...*



Dear Friends,

I am sure that many of you have had a chance to note the upcoming McGill's Global Conference on Food Security in about a fortnight in Montreal, Canada (Oct 5-7,

2009). According to its report issued June 19, 2009, UN FAO estimates that approximately 100 million people stand added to the ranks of the roughly 1 billion people of the world's hungry population, due to hike in food prices and their lack of affordability. This year's McGill conference, second of its kind in succession, brings together the knowledge of the leading experts on various aspects of food supply and production, focusing on questions related to the effect of the economic downturn on food supplies and prices. President Madramootoo as Co-Chair of the event has taken an active role and many ICID office bearers are expected to take part in the event and speak. One session is devoted to 'Response of International Agencies to Ongoing Challenges of Food Security' providing scope to reflect ICID's inputs to the World Water Forum on the topic of Water for Food and Poverty Alleviation. As well, the conference aims to take on board the effects of climate change, markets and trade, and biofuels. For fuller details, may I refer you to the conference website <http://www.mcgill.ca/globalfoodsecurity/program/>.

The World Water Council has its general assembly scheduled on 15 October in Marseille when the elections to the Board of Governors will also take place. Under College 5, Professional Organisations for whom 8 seats are reserved, ICID will be contesting in accordance with a decision taken in the Management Board as it can also help to influence policies protecting the interest of agricultural water management. You may wish to speak

about the importance of ICID joining the BoG of WWC to your colleagues who are members of WWC with voting rights.

Preparations are in full swing by our hosts, INCID to assure a rewarding Asian Regional Conference. The second bulletin, an update of the earlier one is being placed in the conference website and this will give elaboration of some of the special sessions that are being planned. The organizing committee has assured necessary help to obtain travel visa, where one encounters some difficulty. If the National Committee Chairs can give a consolidated list of their country participants to Chairman, INCID with full particulars of their travel documents and their envisaged roles in IEC / ARC, it would help them to pursue the matter with concerned Departments in the Government of India for early processing of visa papers. Where you are interested to have a specific invitation by name, please write to Chairman INCID, Mr. A. K. Bajaj for support.

To enable timely review and planning for contributions during the various meetings of the workbodies scheduled in December for the 60<sup>th</sup> IEC, Central Office will be loading the IEC Agenda in the website before the end of September 2009. The distinguished experts of different workbodies may wish to visit the website for download of agenda that concerns them. I also appeal to the National Committee Chairs and their Secretariat to alert all their membership on this; the Chairs of NCs may wish to particularly go through IEC agenda and wish to follow up in their own formations, preparatory actions as required.

Best regards,

M. Gopalakrishnan  
Secretary General

## News from ICID National Committees

### China (CNCID)

#### **China Joins World Water Council**

To connect to the global water community and enlarge its capacity to deal with the water challenge, the Chinese Government has agreed with the World Water Council upon a strong collaboration. "China is ready to increase cooperation with the World Water Council to jointly cope with water-resource challenges," said Chinese Vice Premier, Hui Liangyu. "This agreement unfolds a new chapter of co-operation between the Ministry of Water Resources and the World Water Council", added the Minister of Water Resources, Chen Lei as indicated in a communication of the World Water Council, "China is increasingly present in solving global water issues. It is the right moment to establish a more permanent presence of Chinese water expertise and know-how at the international level," said Loïc Fauchon, President of the World Water Council [Source : WWC / CNCID].

### Italy (ITAL-ICID)

The new contact details of VP Lucio Ubertini will be Tel :+39 075 5014411; Cell : +39 348 0826200 E-mail : [Lucio.Ubertini@uniroma1.it](mailto:Lucio.Ubertini@uniroma1.it)

### Prof. Tom Franks visits ICID Central Office

On 08 September 2009, Prof. Tom Franks (UK), former Chairman of the erstwhile WG-CBTE visited the ICID Central Office and held discussions on various issues. Given the importance of Capacity Building these days, he urged the importance to reformulate a new Working Group with a new mandate on Capacity Building issues. The upcoming 60th IEC meetings and 5th ARC during



December 2009 at New Delhi, India were discussed.

## New GWP-TEC Chair



ICID fraternity will be delighted to note that VPH. Mohamed Ait Kadi, President of the General Council of Agricultural Development in Morocco has been invited by GWP to take over as Technical Chair of the body. His new assignment will bring ICID and GWP closer given his strong connections with both the organizations.

## Travel Fellowship Award 2009

Irrigation Australia Limited (IAL) who hosts ANCID has called for applications for the 2009 Sustainable Irrigation / IAL Travel Fellowship Award. The sponsor for the US\$ 10,000 travel fellowship is the National Program for Sustainable Irrigation; and IAL will provide mentoring and support for the winner during their Fellowship. Guidelines and application form are available from the contact below. Application deadline is 02 October 2009.

Contact : Mr. Chris Bennett, Chief Executive Officer, Irrigation Australia Limited, Australia; Tel : +61 2 9476 0142; Fax : +61 2 9476 0792; E-mail : [chris.bennett@irrigation.org.au](mailto:chris.bennett@irrigation.org.au) and Website : [www.irrigation.org.au](http://www.irrigation.org.au)

## Integrated Flood Management

A "Training Workshop on Integrated Flood Management" for countries in Western Asia and the Arab region was

jointly organized by World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) during 11-14 May 2009 at Tehran, Iran under auspices of UNESCO. The main objective of the training workshop was to familiarize participants with the concept of Integrated Flood Management and prepare them to identify possible paths of action towards implementation of the concept in their own field of work.

More than 29 participants from 9 countries in Western Asia and the Arab region participated in the workshop. A final technical report and the material produced during this workshop will be available at UNW-DPC's website : <http://www.unwater.unu.edu/> [Source : UNW-DPC]

## Japan Water Forum Fund 2009

The Japan Water Forum (JWF) is pleased to invite grass-roots organizations in developing countries to apply for the Japan Water Forum Fund 2009.

The application form, Evaluation Criteria and Guidelines for the JWF Fund 2009 are available at: <http://www.waterforum.jp/eng/fund/index.html> [Source : JWF]

## USCID holds Irrigation District Specialty Conference

The USCID Irrigation District Specialty Conference was held during 3-6 June 2009 at Reno in Nevada, USA. The Conference theme was Irrigation District Sustainability — Strategies to Meet the Challenges. A half day tour to the Derby Diversion Dam demonstrating how the restoration of this facility plays into the politics of the Truckee River was the starting event of the Conference. The opening tour also visited Fernly, Nevada, site of a recent and much publicized canal break.

General Manager of Oakdale Irrigation District (OID) Steve Knell talked about how "sustainability" plays a part in the operations plan for their district. Executive Director of the Association of California

## New Additions to ICID's TDS Database (August 2009)

The additions during the months to the TDS Database are:

### Article Section – 45 additions (Articles / Papers)

- (i) Proc. of the Institution of Civil Engineers – Energy, February 2008, Vol. 161, No. EN1 (2 articles); and August 2009, Vol. 162, No. EN3 (2 articles)
- (ii) Irrigation Australia, 2009, Vol. 24, No. 1 (10 articles); and 2009, Vol. 24, No. 2 (11 articles)
- (iii) Journal of Hydraulic Research, IAHR, 2009, Vol. 47, No. 3 (6 articles)
- (iv) World Water and Environmental Engineering, May/June 2009, Vol. 32, No. 3 (2 articles)
- (v) Journal of Environmental Science & Engineering, October 2008, Vol. 50, No. 4 (3 articles); January 2009, Vol. 51, No. 1 (3 articles); and April 2009, Vol. 51, No. 2 (4 articles)
- (vi) Indian Journal of Power and River Valley Development, July-August 2009, Vol. 59, Nos. 7 & 8 (2 articles)

**Book Section – 23 additions;** till date 31381 additions have been made to TDS database. The Text Delivery Service (TDS) has received two requests during the period from India.

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

Water Agencies in Sacramento Mr. Timothy Quinn's presentation evaluated the past and present practices of the State with regard to water management. Cortney Duke gave a solid and practical presentation on what irrigation districts need to consider when they accept municipal water into their canals. Joe Burns gave a unique and historical perspective on the Truckee River Settlement Agreement and the politics leading to that agreement. Mervin Wright, Jr., Tribal Chairman of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of Nevada, shared his American Indian perspective on the Settlement Agreement. Twenty seven more presentations the next day covered all aspects of irrigation district operations, during concurrent sessions on Construction and Maintenance and Environment; Administration, Policy and Governance; and Water Operations.

Eleven poster presenters treated the participants to some great discussions and interaction. The Conference concluded with three outstanding presentations in a Plenary Session which provided interesting insights on a variety of water issues affecting irrigation district sustainability.

Conference Proceedings are available from USCID. Contact : Mr. Larry D. Stephens, Executive Vice President, USCID (E-mail : [stephens@uscid.org](mailto:stephens@uscid.org)) [Source : USCID]

### AMRWG's Workshop "Food vs Fuel: Implications for water resources and food security"

7 December 2009, New Delhi, India

ICID's American Regional Working Group (AMRWG) during its 60th International Executive Council (IEC) Meeting and 5th Asian Regional Conference (ARC) from 5-11 December 2009 at New Delhi, India intends to organize a workshop on "Food vs Fuel: Implications for water resources and food security"

ICID American Regional Working Group (AMRWG) will focus on valuable information for the Bio-fuel production. A common objection to bio-fuel production is that it diverts agricultural production away from food crops. In a food-insecure world, this diversion of resources can reduce the total food supply, increase food prices, and cause localized food shortages that limit the ability of poor residents in developing countries to maintain access to food. In some areas, higher food prices might benefit agricultural producers, but the net impacts on residents of developing countries are not yet clear. The topics under the workshop are likely to cover:

- ◆ Current trends and patterns of bio-fuel production, by country.
- ◆ The impacts of bio-fuel crop production on land, water, and the environment
- ◆ The impacts of bio-fuel crop production on food prices in rural and urban areas
- ◆ Opportunities that increased bio-fuel

production might provide for the rural poor

- ◆ The potential impacts of bio-fuel production on water demands and food supplies
- ◆ Perspectives regarding whether we should discuss 'food versus fuel' or 'food and fuel' when considering national policies and strategies
- ◆ Policy options to prevent negative impacts of bio-fuel crop production on natural resources and the livelihoods of the poor, in both rural and urban areas
- ◆ Outlook regarding next-generation bio-fuel crops that require less water and less prime agricultural land

**Deadlines:** Submission of Abstracts (500-600 words) by 1 October 2009 (extended); Receipt of full length papers by 1 November 2009.

**Contact:** Dr. Dennis Wichelns (USA), Workshop Chairman, E-mail: [dwichelns@csufresno.edu](mailto:dwichelns@csufresno.edu); Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar (India), Workshop Coordinator, E-mail : [icid@icid.org](mailto:icid@icid.org)

### WG-SDTA's Workshop "Monitoring Systems for Sustainable Development of Tidal Areas"

8 December 2009, New Delhi, India

A Workshop is being organized by ICID's Working Group on Sustainable Development of Tidal Areas (WG-SDTA) during its 60th International Executive Council Meeting and 5th Asian Regional Conference from 5 to 11 December 2009 at New Delhi, India, alongside its workbody meeting.

Under the theme "Monitoring Systems for Sustainable Development of Tidal Areas", the ICID Working Group will focus on valuable information for the plan, design and management of natural resources and environmental factors in Tidal areas. More scientific results from monitoring systems are required to calibrate the accuracy and adoptability of the tools vis-à-vis more advanced technology. The reliable results from scientifically monitored systems will help derive mutual

### Father of "green revolution" Norman Borlaug dies at 95



Dr. Borlaug, the father of the "green revolution" who won the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in fighting world hunger and saving millions of lives, died on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at the age of 95. The famous agricultural scientist died at his Dallas home from complications of cancer, Borlaug was a distinguished professor in Texas A&M University USA for many years. The Nobel committee honored Borlaug in 1970 for his contributions to high-yield crop varieties and bringing other agricultural innovations to the developing world. Many experts credit the green revolution with averting global famine during the second half of the 20th century and saving perhaps one billion

lives. Thanks to the green revolution, world food production more than doubled between 1960 and 1990. In Pakistan and India, two of the countries that benefited most from the new crop varieties, grain yields more than quadrupled over the period. "More than any other single person of his age, he has helped to provide bread for a hungry world," Nobel Peace Prize Committee Chairman Aase Lionaes said in presenting the award to Borlaug. Borlaug remained active well into his 90s, campaigning for the use of biotechnology to fight hunger and working on a project to fight poverty and starvation in Africa by teaching new drought-resistant farming methods. "We still have a large number of miserable, hungry people and this contributes to world instability," Borlaug said in May 2006 at an Asian Development Bank forum in the Philippines. Dr Norman Borlaug was presented the Padma Vibhushan by India in 2006.

*"We may be at high tide now, but ebb tide could soon set in if we become complacent and relax our efforts"*

Dr. Borlaug, in his Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech in 1970

understanding among various stakeholders for wise use and conservation of Tidal areas. For the efficient management of Monitoring

## 21<sup>st</sup> ICID Congress, Tehran, Iran, 2011

The ICID Central Office invited the nominations for the General Reporters (GRs) and Panel Experts (PEs) from the National Committees (NCs) for the two basic Questions and Special Session of Tehran Congress (2011). The GRs and PEs are to be appointed at the forthcoming meeting of the Council at New Delhi, India in December 2009. The topics for the two basic Questions and the Special Session for which GRs/PEs are to be appointed are :

### Question 56 : Water and Land Productivity Challenges

**56.1:** Water and Land Productivity;

- Concepts, Indices and Targets
- 56.2:** Innovations, Technologies and Best Practices for Sustaining and/ or Increasing Water and Land Productivity
- 56.3:** Productivity of Low Quality Waters for Irrigation Uses
- 56.4:** Improving Crop Water Productivity under Stressed Environment
- 56.5:** Irrigation and Drainage Management Improvements

### Question 57: Water Management in Rainfed Agriculture

**57.1:** Drainage and Flood Management in Rainfed Farming

- 57.2:** Water Harvesting and Conservation
- 57.3:** Supplementary Irrigation
- 57.4:** Rainfed Farm Management

### Special Session : Modernization of Water Management Schemes

The NCs may rush their nominations to Central Office (e-mail: [icid@icid.org](mailto:icid@icid.org)) as above such that Central Office can compile a list of nominees and include it in the Agenda of the council meetings which is in its final stage of preparation.

Please access congress website: [www.icid2011.org](http://www.icid2011.org) for other details on the Congress.

systems in tidal areas, integrated cooperation network will have to be established among related organizations. In view of the tidal water level fluctuations with increase in water temperature, national and international partnerships would be required strongly in the era of global warming. In this way, the Workshop has been designed to share valuable experiences/ technologies from the participating countries.

The authors are requested to contribute on following four sub-topics :

- ◆ Monitoring system of Tide, Wave and sedimentation characteristics;
- ◆ Monitoring of Water temperature and water level rise in tidal areas;
- ◆ Monitoring of Ecological system and water quality in tidal wetland; and
- ◆ Water management and Agricultural Productivity in tidal areas

**Deadlines :** Submission of Abstracts (500-600 words) by 01 October 2009; Intimation of acceptance of abstracts by 15 October 2009; Receipt of full text of accepted papers by 01 November 2009.

**Contact co-ordinates:** Dr. Park Sang Hyun (Rep. of Korea), [pash3142@empal.com](mailto:pash3142@empal.com), [pshpark@karico.co.kr](mailto:pshpark@karico.co.kr); Prof. Ruey-Chy

Kao (Chinese Taipei), SDTA-THL@thl.ncku.edu.tw, Website : <http://www.incid2009delhi.org/>

## Events

**McGill Conference on Global Food Security, 5-7 October 2009, Montreal, Canada. Theme : Impact of Global Financial Turmoil on Food Security.** Contact : Douglas Sweet, Director, Media Relations, McGill University. Tel : 514-398-6752, Mobile : 514-294-7268, E-mail : [douglas.sweet@mcgill.ca](mailto:douglas.sweet@mcgill.ca) or Julie Fortier, Associate Director, Media Relations, McGill University. Tel : 514-398-6751, Mobile : 514-884-1587, E-mail : [julie.c.fortier@mcgill.ca](mailto:julie.c.fortier@mcgill.ca), Website : <http://www.mcgill.ca/globalfoodsecurity/>

**Summer School on "Sustainable Use of Water in Agriculture", 5-9 October 2009 at Isola di San Servolo – Venice International University, Venezia, Italy.** Contact : R. Andreas Kraemer, Director, Ecologic Institute, E-mail : [raknews@ecologic.de](mailto:raknews@ecologic.de); Website : <http://eswg.watercivilizations.org>

**Water Congress – APAC Series during 6-7 October 2009 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.** Contact : Rhubini Asokumar, Tel : +603 2723 6611; Fax : +603 2723 6622; e-mail : [RhubiniA@marcusevanskl.com](mailto:RhubiniA@marcusevanskl.com), Website : [http://www.marcusevansassets.com/pdfs/Ep\\_15698.pdf](http://www.marcusevansassets.com/pdfs/Ep_15698.pdf)

[www.marcusevansassets.com/pdfs/Ep\\_15698.pdf](http://www.marcusevansassets.com/pdfs/Ep_15698.pdf)

**HYDRO 2009 International Conference and Exhibition during 26-28 October 2009, Lyon, France.** Contact : Mrs. Margaret Bourke, Conference Project Manager, UK; E-mail : [mb@hydropower-dams.com](mailto:mb@hydropower-dams.com)

**Third International Conference on Water Resources and Renewable Energy Development in Asia, 29-30 March 2010, Sarawak, Malaysia.** Contact : Dr. Alison Bartle and Gael Bozec, Asia 2010 Management Team, Aqua-Media International Ltd.; PO Box 285, Wallington, Surrey, SM6 6AN, UK. Tel: +44 (0) 20 773 7244; Fax : +44 (0)20 8773 7255; E-mail : [sarawak2010@hydropower-dams.com](mailto:sarawak2010@hydropower-dams.com); Website : [www.hydropower-dams.com](http://www.hydropower-dams.com)

**International Conference on Water History during 16-19 June, 2010 at Delft, The Netherlands.** Contact : Ir. Maurits Ertsen, Water Resources Management, Department of Civil Engineering and Geosciences, Delft University of Technology, PO Box 5041 2600 GA Delft, The Netherlands, E-mail : [m.w.ertsen@tudelft.nl](mailto:m.w.ertsen@tudelft.nl); Website : [www.wrm.tudelft.nl](http://www.wrm.tudelft.nl)

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