



### From Secretary General's Desk...

Dear Colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure in reporting to you that the World Irrigation and Drainage Prize that you decided to institute at the 63rd IEC meeting in June 2012 in Adelaide, Australia, has been adjudicated and winner of the First Edition of the Prize is the well-known academician, researcher, engineer Dr Victor A Dukhovny, Director of Scientific Information Centre of Interstate Coordination Water Commission of Central Asia (SIC ICWC). Dr Dukhovny has been selected by a Jury consisting of representatives from IWMI, FAO and ICID and Chaired by PH Peter Lee. I put on record my sincere thanks to the members of the jury who had a tough task at hand given the galaxy of eminent personalities engaged in the sector nominated for the prize. The Prize, which carries a "Citation Plaque" and a cash award of US\$ 10000, courtesy CNCID, will be awarded during the Inaugural session of the First World Irrigation Forum on 29th September 2013.

That brings me to the preparations for the First World Irrigation Forum, which I am sure you are eagerly looking forward to. I am happy to report that our Turkish hosts TUCID and DSI are fully prepared to welcome you to the Forum. Some of you have already availed the opportunity of the Early Bird registration. If you have not already registered for the event, I suggest that you register yourself and your team at the earliest. With a very enthusiastic response from international organizations, policy makers, research community, and the industry, and to some lesser degree from the farmers, the Forum provides an excellent opportunity to have discussions that go beyond mono-disciplinary perspectives and cater to the needs of various stakeholders. The International Exhibition and Side Events proposed to be organized by many international organizations provide added attractions. I am sure you will equally enjoy the cultural and Technical Tours that have been arranged.

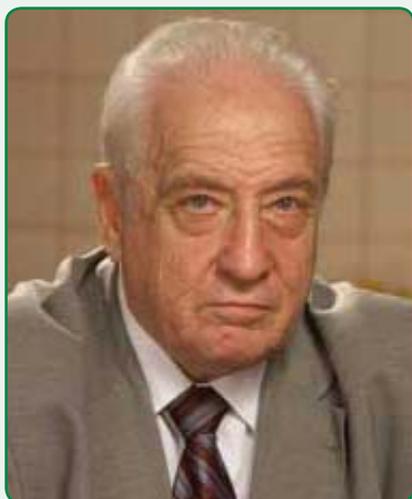
This year, in another initiative to closely involve all our ICID stakeholders, the experts participating in various technical

activities in making our meetings more effective and efficient, the President proposes to convene a brief **Plenary Session of 64<sup>th</sup> IEC on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013** before the various Working Groups, Task Forces and Committees start their deliberations. Experts, who generally participate in the working group meetings only, along with those representing the NCs, are also invited to the IEC plenary as observers. The IEC Plenary will also provide an opportunity to briefly share the new initiatives with all the experts contributing to the mission of ICID.

Let me take this opportunity to once again seek your feedback and suggestions on various initiatives, activities and services offered during the year. It will help us in shaping the Agenda for the working groups, committees and 64th IEC meeting in Mardin, Turkey.

Best regards,

Avinash C. Tyagi  
Secretary General



From a strong field of eminent candidates, the international Jury for the World Irrigation and Drainage Prize 2013, has adjudged Prof. Dr. Victor A. Dukhovny (Uzbekistan) as the winner of the First World Irrigation and Drainage Prize 2013 in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the development of agriculture water management made over 57 years.

### The First World Irrigation and Drainage Prize 2013

An eminent researcher, academician, engineer and administrator in the Irrigation and Drainage Sector, Prof. Dukhovny is known for his vision, knowledge, extensive experience, dedication, and unwavering commitment to land and water productivity improvements for agriculture and to achieving food and water security. Prof. Dukhovny is an ardent advocate of the benefits of water sharing for peace, human security and economic prosperity.

The first part of Prof. Dukhovny's career was notable for his leadership of the construction and development of irrigation over 700,000 ha of the Central Asian steppes encompassing best practice at the time, and incorporating several innovations in drainage technology as well as irrigation, which were the result of his field research.

Prof. Dukhovny was then for more than 20 years Director of the Central Asian Scientific Institute on Irrigation (SANIIRI) and helped change perspectives on the

management of water resources in the Aral Sea Basin. After the break up of the Soviet Union, he has been a key advocate of inter-state collaboration on the responsible use of water in the basin. He is well-known across the water sector internationally as a champion of irrigation and drainage, and for continuing research and exchange of ideas in its development. He has worked hard in often very difficult circumstances to further these causes, and at the same time nurture a new generation of irrigation professionals.

Prof. Dukhovny's commitment and dedication to the water-related activities, especially meeting the irrigation and drainage challenges encountered in the Aral Sea Basin, has evoked admiration among his peers. His name has always been in the forefront and synonymous with Aral Sea Basin Region and its related issues contributing to: the development of water policy and basin

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strategy for harnessing water resources; assessment of social-economic influence of water development; tackling ecological consequences of irrigation in arid zones; restoration and rehabilitation of old irrigation systems; control of salinity of lands in Central Asia; optimization of water management in river basins; and by enhancing cooperation in I&D sector in Central Asia.

Prof. Dukhovny has more than 30 patents and Certificates of Innovation awarded to him by the Soviet government especially, for new methods of lining canals, design of trench less drainage machines with depth of 3 meters, system of combined drains and others. He was given Soviet Union State Award for implementation of horizontal drainage (1978), and for implementation of specific methods of vertical drainage (1973). Under his leadership, many of these innovations such as subsurface and vertical drainage, combined lining of canals, steady method of leaching, tube irrigation from stationary and flexible tubes

and many others were implemented and recognized through numerous awards by the Governments of the erstwhile Soviet Union and the Uzbek Republic.

Born on 20 April 1934 at Kharkov, Ukraine Prof. Dukhovny is currently the Director of Scientific Information Center of Interstate Coordination Water Commission of Central Asia (SIC ICWC) where he has been actively engaged in the implementation of drip irrigation, development of theoretical and practical frameworks for integrated water resources management in arid areas, with large-scale pilot testing in the Fergana Valley, and installation of SCADA system on the Syr Darya rivers and the Fergana Valley.

Prof. Dukhovny, a leading Professor of Irrigation and Drainage, has been a universal teacher and mentor to a number of research students from all over the world guiding them in their doctorate work. He has authored more than 350 publications, 28 books and monographs.

Prof. Dukhovny has been associated with many international organizations in the water sector: as Vice President of ICID; Governor of World Water Council; Member of Board of International Water Resources Association; and Executive Secretary of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia network of International Network of Basin Organizations, to name a few.

Prof. Victor A. Dukhovny will be presented with the First World Irrigation and Drainage Prize comprising of a Cash Award of US\$ 10000 and a Citation Plaque at the inaugural ceremony of the First World Irrigation Forum in Mardin, Turkey, on 29 September 2013.

World Irrigation and Drainage Prize has been instituted by ICID to recognise the contribution of individuals and institutions promoting sustainable irrigation and enhanced agriculture production around the world. The Jury for the First Edition of the Prize was chaired by President Honoraire Mr Peter Lee, with members drawn from FAO, IWMI and ICID.



29 September - 03 October 2013, Mardin, Turkey

## An Update

The Second Steering Committee set up for the organization of the First World Irrigation Forum from 29th September – 3rd October, 2013 was held on 3-5 July in Ankara, Turkey. Mr Akif OZKALDI, DG, DSI and Chairman, TUCID, and Dr Gao Zhanyi, President ICID chaired the Steering Committee meeting. Mr Akif was hopeful that there will be 500-600 participants at the Forum which can reach 700. The Committee took stock of the various aspects of organizational arrangements. President, ICID expressed his satisfaction on the preparations based on his interaction with various sub-committees of the National Organizing Committee. He thanked the entire team of DSI, TUCID and other partners in Turkey who have worked hard and have made a good progress in the preparation to the WIF1. He expressed his satisfaction on the kind of interest that the WIF1 has generated globally.

More than 165 full length papers and 45 Short Communications have been received. These papers from researchers, academicians and practicing engineers from around the world have been reviewed, and some 60 papers have been selected for oral presentation and the authors have been informed. The remaining papers will be presented as posters. There has been request from various partners and international institutions for organizing 27 side events on a wide range of related topics consisting of Panel Discussions, Special sessions, Film shows etc. The International Exhibition has evoked satisfactory response from various sponsors and companies. WIF provides an opportunity to the ICID community to better understand the complexity of development in a increasingly resources constraint world by interacting with experts from various other disciplines. We have been able to get confirmation from a galaxy of Keynote Speakers – Mr. Jeremy Bird (IWMI), Dr Shenggen Fan (IFPRI), Dr. Bruce Stewart (WMO), Mr. Irfan AKER (Turkey), Prof. Roberto Lenton (USA), Dr. Uma Lele (GWP), Dr. Olcay Ünver (UNESCO) and others.

We are thankful to the keynote speakers and look forward to listening to their views on how they see the challenges of irrigation and drainage sector being addressed? What are their expectations from irrigation and drainage sector and how they can themselves contribute to overcome these challenges coming from different perspectives?

As the number of participants is expected to be around 700, you are requested to please register at your earliest to avoid any disappointment at a later date as the Hotel accommodation is limited. Outline of the combined WIF and IEC program is now updated and available on the website.

Please note that this year we also propose to organize a Plenary Session of the IEC in the evening of 1st October 2013 before the experts start their deliberations on various technical issues as per the program. The plenary will be held just after the thematic wrap up session of WIF1, before the start of its ancillary and working group meetings. The preparations for IEC meetings are also right on track.

## President Gao Zhanyi at GLAST – 2013

ICID President Gao Zhanyi was invited to the 4th Global Forum of Leaders for Agricultural Science and Technology (GLAST-2013) and to participate in a panel discussion. The Forum was held on 5-6 June 2013 in Beijing, China and was hosted by Chinese Academy of Agricultural Science. The purpose of the Forum was to share the experiences on international cooperation of agricultural

research and management. It was also the occasion to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of China – Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) Cooperation.

Dr. Jonathan Wadsworth, Executive Secretary of CGIAR Fund Council, Dr. Frank Rijsberman, Chief Executive Officer of CGIAR Consortium Office, Dr. Carlos Perez del Castillo, CGIAR

Consortium Board Chair and Director Generals/BOT Chairs from 13 CGIAR centers, as well as many senior CGIAR administrators attended the event.

A JOINT DECLARATION between Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences was prepared and circulated.

## MoU between CNCID and INACID

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Chinese National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (CNCID) and the Indonesian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (INACID) was signed on 24 June 2013, the ICID Foundation Day. The MoU was signed by Prof. Wang Aiguo, Chairman of CNCID and Mr. Mohamad Hasan, Chairman of INACID. The MoU aimed to strengthen the exchange of experts and cooperation between the CNCID and the INACID, will promote mutual understanding in irrigation and drainage areas, and enhance the communication and cooperation between the two sides under the principles of ICID.

The first technical visit of INACID delegation to China, consisting of 8 persons, was conducted during 22 June to 1 July 2013. The INACID delegation and the CNCID exchanged their experiences, challenges and future plans in irrigation and drainage areas during this visit. They visited the large scale irrigation districts of the Shijin Irrigation in north China and the Dongfeng Irrigation District in south China. They had discussions with the irrigation district management staff on the rehabilitation and modernization program and achievements of the irrigation districts, Operation and Maintenance (O&M) structures, and conjunctive use of surface water and groundwater. They also met with the Water Users Associations (WUAs) staff members for understanding their roles, responsibilities and O&M mechanism. The INACID delegation also visited the three Gorge Dam project and were impressed by its splendor and its huge comprehensive benefits of flood control, power generation and navigation.

During the visit, the INACID delegation met the ICID President Dr. Gao Zhanyi, he expressed that the ICID would encourage the bilateral cooperation and mutual technical visits between the committee members of the ICID family. The technical cooperation launched between the INACID and the CNCID would be one of the good examples for others to follow. The CNCID delegation is expected to visit Indonesia later this year or early next year.

## Conference on Water Cooperation

A High Level International Conference on 'Water Cooperation' will be held from 20-21 August 2013 at Dushanbe, the capital city of Tajikistan. The Government of the Republic of Tajikistan convenes the Conference according to the General Assembly Resolution A/67/204 "Implementation of the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013", adopted on 21 December 2012. The Conference will be organized by the Government of Tajikistan jointly with UN and its institutions.

## Know your National Committees



SANCID, representing South Africa at ICID, is a broad based National Committee and extends its membership to government quasi-government and private organizations.

The objective of the SANCID, among others, is to stimulate interest and develop advance knowledge in the area of irrigation, drainage and flood management. The executive committee of SANCID consists of Chairman, Vice chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and immediate past Chairman and organizes Annual General Meeting in April each year.

SANCID participates strongly in the activities of ICID. Presently, Dr. Gerhard R. Backeberg is one of the nine Vice Presidents (2011-14). Many experts are participating in various activities of ICID Working Groups. SANCID is also playing a crucial role in the region by bringing together all member countries of Southern Africa under the banner of SARIA.

With the hard work of the Executive and all its members, SANCID won the 4th Best Performing National Committee (4th BPNC) Award for its outstanding achievements and contributions towards the mandate and mission of ICID for period 2011-14. SANCID joined ICID in the year 1993, and is presently celebrating its 20th Anniversary.

Mr. Felix B. Reinders with more than 25 years of professional experience in the field of irrigation and drainage, is presently the Chairman of the South African National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (SANCID). A keen advocate of taking innovations from drawing boards to field, Mr. Reinders is the Chairperson of the ICID Working Group on On-Farm Irrigation Systems (WG-ON-FARM) since 2004. He was elected as the Vice President of ICID for the term 2005-08, and presently serves as Chairperson of the ICID Permanent Committee on Technical Activities.

Mr. Reinders has been actively involved with development and testing of irrigation equipments at the Agricultural Research Council of the Institute for Agricultural Engineering (ARC-IAE) since 1979. He was the Chief Engineer of ARC-IAE and Head of Irrigation, co-ordinating and initiating irrigation research programmes

as well as supervising of irrigation projects. Since 1995, as Programme Manager of Agricultural Water Resources and Conservation at the ARC-IAE, he has been responsible for all irrigation and drainage related projects. Mr. Reinders has played a significant role in the selection, approval and execution of the various projects.

During his leadership, the Irrigation group had received the medal from South Africa Irrigation Institute for development of outstanding irrigation technology. During these years (1993-1995), he was the Head of the Regional Office, looking over professional engineering services based on irrigation schemes, irrigation systems and soil conservation projects. He was the Project leader for various Water Research Commission (WRC) funded projects in the field of irrigation engineering.

Mr. Reinders has served several professional organizations/institutes, either as Fellow, President or simply as Professional Engineer. He is the recipient of many prestigious professional awards as well. His main achievements are – (a) Author of the Water Conservation and Demand Strategy for Agriculture as an outflow of the New Water Act of South Africa; (b) Research of an infiltrometer to size centre pivots which received international recognition; (c) Formulation and compilation of the National Sub-surface drainage design manual for the Department of Agriculture of South Africa; (d) Developed and implemented a mobile irrigation laboratory to determine the efficiency of irrigation systems in the field; and (e) Author of many scientific and semi-scientific papers and articles, especially in the irrigation field.

Mr. Reinders believes in inherent honesty and integrity of all people and concentrates on good communication with people at all levels to ensure that objectives are achieved. His philosophy of life - positive outlook on life and team-work to reach goals. He is a strong believer of the famous adage by Roosevelt - **We must hang together, otherwise we are going to hang separately!**

ICID congratulates Vice President Hon. Mr. Felix Reinders for the above achievements and looks forward to his continued involvement in the activities of ICID towards fulfilling the mission of ICID.

The main objective of the Conference is to contribute to improvement of water cooperation, particularly at the trans-boundary level, through advocating the successful policies and best practices, wider public participation, encouragement

of policy makers to promote water cooperation at all levels to achieve the internationally agreed goals on water.

The Conference also gives an opportunity to discuss and develop new measures

aimed to accelerate the efforts on achievement of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and recommendations for further actions after the year of 2015 including contribution to development of the water related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The session themes are: (a) Water Cooperation: a key to poverty reduction, social equity and gender equality; (b) Water Cooperation: for economic benefits; (c) Water Cooperation: to preserve water resources and protect the environment; and (d) Water Cooperation: for peace.

President Gao Zhanyi and SG Avinash C. Tyagi have been invited to the conference.

Please visit to Conference website <[www.hlicwc.org](http://www.hlicwc.org)> or follow the link <[http://hlicwc.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=4&Itemid=5&lang=en](http://hlicwc.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4&Itemid=5&lang=en)> for more information.

## Tranboundary Water Assessment Programme Launched



The International Hydrological Programme (IHP) of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the UN World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) jointly organized a meeting to launch the Trans-boundary Water Assessment Programme (TWAP), aimed to conduct a global assessment of the status of trans-boundary water systems.

TWAP responds to the lack of systematic and scientifically-robust methodology to assess the changing conditions of trans-boundary water systems that result from human activities, as well as natural and climate-related events. It aims to fill this gap by developing trans-boundary waters assessment methodologies for the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) in setting priorities and catalyze a partnership for conducting such a global assessment for each of the five categories of trans-boundary water systems, namely trans-boundary groundwater, trans-boundary lakes/reservoirs, trans-boundary river basins, Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs), and open ocean areas. The meeting was hosted at the UNESCO Programme Office for Global Water Assessment in Perugia.

More information is available at <<http://water-l.iisd.org/news/transboundary-water-assessment-programme-launched/>>

## 64th ICID Foundation Day



International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) celebrated its 64th Foundation Day on 24 June 2013 by inviting Delhi based water experts and direct members of ICID to a round table on Ways to bring together various actors in irrigation and drainage sectors under the umbrella of the national committee in India. Held at ICID Central Office, New Delhi, the round table was lead by Er. A. B. Pandya, Member (Designs & Research), Central Water Commission & Ex-officio Addl. Secretary to Government of India, was the Chief Guest of the 64th ICID Foundation Day and in his opening remarks he invited all to present their views as to how INCSW with involvement of all stakeholders from the country could contribute to the goals of

the Commission. Vice President Hon. A.K. Bajaj, Dr. T.B.S. Rajput, former Director, Water Technology Centre (WTC), Mr. C.P. Arora, Manager (Corporate Communication) of WAPCOS Ltd., Dr. B.R. Sharma, Senior Researcher of IWMI and Mr. V.K. Kanjlia, Secretary of Central Board of Irrigation and Power (CBIP) were important dignitaries, among others, can make a number of suggestions. Secretary General Avinash Tyagi moderated the discussion. He also briefed the participants on ICID's 1st World Irrigation Forum at Mardin, Turkey and the newly opened Direct Membership of ICID. All the attendees eventually raised a toast wishing ICID well in its march towards its mission!



## WATER INTEGRITY FORUM

Good water governance is crucial for equitable use and distribution of water supply and sanitation services, and for a well-managed water sector. But it is often hindered by corruption which affects all aspects of the water sector and puts lives and livelihoods at risk. Transparency, accountability and participation are key to increase integrity, without which corruption cannot be successfully addressed. It is therefore urgent to extend the base for and increase the pace of joint water integrity action.

The First International Water Integrity Forum titled 'Global engagement to tackle corruption in the water sector' was jointly organized by the Water Integrity Network (WIN), UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education and the World Governance Centre (WGC) during 5-7 June 2013 at Delft, The Netherlands. It was attended by more than 100 water and integrity experts from 60 organizations across the world. The main objectives of the Forum were to take stock of progress in addressing corruption issues in the water sector; to share knowledge, approaches and experiences; and to build alliances to address integrity challenges in the water sector.

The forum brought together co-convening partners and various important stakeholders such as policy makers/regulators, investors, private sector, NGOs and other water professionals from different continents and with different backgrounds. They shared theories, approaches, cases, tools, lessons, views and ideas about improving water integrity. The forum consisted of sessions, working groups, round-tables and an open-space. The outcomes of the Forum will be the basis of a publication on Water Integrity, and will feed into other processes and events such as the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals, the Budapest Water Summit, World Water Week 2013 and the 7th World Water Forum.

The Water Integrity Forum draft statement called for moving towards a universal code of conduct for individual and institutional behaviour. It cautioned that the costs of inaction are too high to remain passive.

The Forum and its partners called on governments, UN and other international organizations, the corporate sector and civil society to promote water integrity.

For more information on the Forum, please visit their website <<http://www.waterintegrityforum.org/>>

## News from ICID National Committees

### IACID (Australia)

#### Irrigation Australia: Sharing irrigation knowledge for better outcome

Irrigation Australia's 2013 Regional Conference titled "Sharing irrigation knowledge for better outcomes" was successfully held on 28-30 May 2013 at Griffith, NSW Australia, which is the centre of one of Australia's oldest and most productive irrigation regions – the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area.

Presentations, workshops, technical sessions on topics such as design software, activities and function of the Irrigation Australia Committee on Irrigation and Drainage and mobility solutions were held during the Conference.

Conference papers are available at the IAL website <<http://irrigation.org.au/publications-resources/2013-conference-papers>>

### IWF-ICID.UK (United Kingdom)

The British National Committee of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID.UK) has changed its name to 'The Irrigation and Water Forum – British National Committee of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (IWF-ICID.UK)'. The website of the IWF-ICID.UK is <[www.iwaterforum.org.uk](http://www.iwaterforum.org.uk)>

Water and the Green Economy: The IWF-ICID.UK and University of East Anglia (UEA) will be co-hosting a one-day Conference on "Water and the Green Economy" on 8 November 2013 at Institution of Civil Engineers, London. The conference will focus on agricultural aspects of irrigation. However, the interpretation of agriculture, water and the economy will be wide and include the environmental conservation, productivity, the food chain, the private sector and consumer demand and behaviors.

Please contact Mr. Tim Fuller, Secretary, The Irrigation & Water Forum, UK (E-mail: [Tim.Fuller@ice.org.uk](mailto:Tim.Fuller@ice.org.uk)) or click at <<http://www.uea.ac.uk/watersecurity/events>> for more information.

### JNC-ICID (Japan)

ICID fraternity extends its warm welcome to Mr. Masao Miyazaki (Japan), who has taken over as the new Secretary General of Japanese National Committee of ICID (JNC-ICID). The contact coordinates of Mr. Miyazaki are:

Japanese National Committee, ICID (JNC-ICID), Overseas Land Improvement Cooperation Office, Design Division, Rural Infrastructure Department, Rural Development Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, 1-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo 100-8950, Japan. Tel: +81-3-3595-6339; Fax: +81-3-3592-148; E-mail: [jncid@nm.maff.go.jp](mailto:jncid@nm.maff.go.jp)

We thank you Mr. Kanehiko Shindo, former Secretary General of JNC-ICID for his active support and contributions to ICID during his tenure.

#### Postal address of Prof. Dr. Tsugihiko Watanabe

The new postal address of Prof. Dr. Tsugihiko Watanabe (Vice-Chairman of ICID Working Group on Global Climate Change and Agricultural Water Management (WG-CLIMATE) is: Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies, Kyoto University, Yoshidahoncyo, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto, 606-8501, Japan. E-mail : <E-mail : [nabe@kais.kyoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:nabe@kais.kyoto-u.ac.jp)> Tel : +81-75-753-6367 & Fax : +81-75-753-6370.

### NETHCID (The Netherlands)

The new postal address of Mr. Bert Pijpers, Treasurer of the Netherlands National Committee of ICID (NETHCID) is: Mr. Bert Pijpers, Duo Advies, Herenstraat 33C, 3512 KB Utrecht, The Netherlands, E-mail : <[bert.pijpers@duo-advies.nl](mailto:bert.pijpers@duo-advies.nl)> Tel.: +31 (0) 6 51505289

### PANCID (Pakistan)

#### World Environment Day 2013

The World Environment Day 2013 was celebrated by Pakistan Engineering Congress on the theme of "Think - Eat - Save" on 5 June 2013 at Congress Headquarter in Pakistan.

Engr. Asif H. Qazi, former member of Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) and former Secretary of Ministry of Water & Power was the Chief Guest. Engr. Riaz Ahmad Khan, President, Pakistan Engineering Congress delivered the Welcome Address. Technical Session was chaired by Engr. Hasnain Afzal, Member of WAPDA. Eleven technical papers were presented by water / agriculture experts, economists, environmentalists, which will be printed in Book form.

### CEYRD (Spain)

The new e-mail IDs of Vice President Hon. Dr. José Antonio Ortiz Fdz.-Urrutia, Executive of CERYD are <[ja.ortiz@serina.es](mailto:ja.ortiz@serina.es)> and [aeryd@aeryd.es](mailto:aeryd@aeryd.es)

#### 31st Spanish National Congress on Irrigation and Drainage

The Spanish National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (CERYD), together with the Spanish Association on Irrigation and Drainage (AERYD) organized the 31st Spanish National Congress on Irrigation and Drainage successfully at the University Miguel Hernandez (UMH), Spain from 18-20 June 2013. The opening ceremony was chaired by H.E. Prof. Fernando Villar, Vice-Chancellor of University Miguel Hernandez (UMH) and Mr. José Alberto Comos. Director General of Water, Government of Valencia delivered the inaugural lecture, entitled "Irrigation in Valencia: Modernization, Efficiency, and Sustainability".

In all 61 technical papers were presented under four categories : (i) Hydrology, crops water requirements, climatology, effects of climate change; (ii) Drainage, salinity, irrigation water and water resources quality, environmental impacts; (iii) Irrigation engineering, modernization, water and energy saving, etc.; and (iv) Irrigation economy, management, farming inputs saving, sustainability, water laws, etc.

During the Congress a Round Table was held on the theme "Comprehensive analysis of Irrigation in the lower Segura Basin", including four lectures delivered on (a) History of irrigation of the area since Arab times; (b) Water availability to guarantee irrigation and urban supply; (c) Structures' modernization plan, and (d) Irrigation as the main driving force in the whole development of the area.

High interest aroused to organize a Special Conference and Session to make clear the problems caused by absence of specific regulations for the safety of irrigation ponds. Currently, the same legislation is still being used either for dams and ponds, which hinders and makes more expensive the construction of such storage structures for irrigation.

At the end of the 31st Congress, participants visited the huge Torrevieja (Alicante) treatment and sea water desalination plant (Europe's first and world's 2nd largest in capacity). The participants also visited the Irrigation structures and storage ponds of St. Isidro Irrigators Community and the Hidroten Factory of irrigation equipment.

### INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

48 Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110021, India, Tel: 91-11-2611 5679, 91-11-2611 6837, 91-11-2467 9532

Fax: 91-11-2611 5962; E-mail: [icid@icid.org](mailto:icid@icid.org); Website: <http://www.icid.org>

Editor: Dr. V.K. Labhsetwar, Director; DTP: Keshav Dev Tanwar, Central Office