Minutes of the 7th Meeting of the
TASK FORCE ON FINANCING WATER FOR AGRICULTURE (TF-FIN)
03 October 2013: 09.00-10.30 hours
Mardin, Turkey
Strategy Theme: Systems

Year of Establishment: 2007
Completion of the Mandate: 2013

**Mandate:** The focus of TF-FIN is to get a better understanding and assessment of (i) the required investments and beneficiaries of those investments in agricultural water, (ii) the presently available financing mechanism and constraints for maintaining or improving physical irrigation capacity; and (iii) the expected changes and innovations for more appropriate financing mechanisms to enable sustainable water use for food production.

**Members Present:** (i) Vice President Dr. Gerhard R. Backeberg, Chairman (South Africa, 2009); (2) Prof. Dr. Kazumi Yamaoka, Vice-Chairman (Japan, 2009); (3) Mr. E. Farhadi (Iran, 2009) represented by Ir. Hassan Shantia; and (4) Secretary General, ICID represented by Dr. S.A. Kulkarni, Executive Secretary, ICID Central Office.

**Observers:** (i) Ir. Giovanni Munoz (FAO); (ii) Mr. Kotavo Mizoguchi (Japan); (iii) Dr. Hossein Dehghanisani (Iran); and (iv) Ir. Aysena Oreolde (Turkey).

**TF-FIN Minutes Item 1:** Overview of Activities by Chairperson

1. The activities of the Task Force consisted of 3 Workshops organized over the period from 2009 to 2012. The themes of the workshops were (a) Principles and approaches on financing irrigation development; (b) Policies and strategies for financing water for irrigation; and (c) Case studies of water use charging and financing irrigation. Contributions were made through presentations and papers. Opportunities were also given to members who did not participate in workshops to submit papers. All 7 members of the Task Force completed papers on policies and strategies for financing, while 4 members also completed papers on country case studies of water use charging systems.

**TF-FIN Minutes Item 2:** Publications of the TF-FIN

2. The final report of the papers completed according to the mandate of the Task Force, was submitted during the final meeting held in Mardin, Turkey. The report was distributed to members who could not attend and handed to those members present or represented. This report will now be edited and during the final meeting it was suggested that a "definition of terms" be added. Prior to the final meeting, the Secretary General of ICID indicated by e-mail that this report will be published by ICID and this option was accepted by all Task Force members. On advice of Dr Kulkarni, this may be in the form of a limited edition of printed copies and electronic copies on CD.

**TF-FIN Minutes Item 3:** Conclusion of activities of the Task Force

3. With submission of the final report in accordance with the mandate of the Task Force and within the term of activities which end in 2013 (Annex), the activities of the Task Force are now concluded.

**TF-FIN Minutes Item 4:** Any other business

4. The recommendation was made that consideration be given to establishment of a new Working Group on ‘Irrigation Development and Management of Water User Associations’. The motivation for this new Working Group will be submitted by the Chairman to PCTA. It is further recommended that all National Committees of ICID be invited to submit a Scoping Report to PCTA for consideration and formation of this New Working Group.

5. Finally, thanks are due to all active members of the Task Force for their contributions over the last 4 years.
REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE ON
FINANCING WATER FOR AGRICULTURE (TF-FIN)

During the term of activities from 2009 to 2013, 3 workshops were organized on (i) principles and approaches; (ii) policies and strategies; (iii) country case studies of water use charges and financing of irrigation development. Contributions through presentation and papers on all 3 topics were made by Task Force members from Australia, France (on Thailand), and South Africa, while contributions on strategies and water use charges were made by the Task Force member from Japan. The representatives from India and Pakistan and member from Iran submitted papers on policies and strategies regarding water use charges and financing of irrigation. The draft final report was submitted during the meeting held in Adelaide, Australia in June 2012. Since then all papers on presentations made during the 2012 workshop have been completed. The final report on papers addressing the mandate of the TF with conclusion and recommendation has been submitted to members and ICID Central Office. The activities of TF-FIN are therefore concluded with the meeting held in Mardin, Turkey in 2013. It is recommended that (1) the report is finally edited for publication by ICID; and (2) establishment of a new Working Group on Development and Management of Water User Associations (WUAs) is considered.

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