



News Update

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

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From Secretary General's Desk...

Dear friends,

At the outset, let me convey our readership my greetings for a rewarding and fruitful year ahead. This being an ICID Congress year we await a rich exchange of ideas and



notes on the theme on IWRM and a few other key issues earmarked for the Forum 5 next year. We have about 18 countries contributing about 80 responses to the Congress Questions, the Special Session and the Seminar, so far. We are yet to have a response for the sub theme on 'Mineral Tolerant Plants in Waterlogged and Saline Areas' under Question 54 'Sustainable IWRM' and any quick response would be a welcome addition. There will be several workshops planned by the work bodies. Overall, thus, we have a lot of action envisaged.

The Congress year is also the year when ICID awards for the Best Performing ICID National Committee and Best Performing ICID Workbody will be announced. This is an opportunity for getting a citation given the creditable performances that some of you are accomplishing. We have also sought the nomination of a distinguished speaker for the 'N.D. Gulhati Memorial Lecture'. I hope the circulars on each one of them sent to the National Committees and work body Chairs are receiving your kind attention. The circulars inviting WATSAVE award nominations are also issued and please disseminate the contents of the award to get best responses. The dates set for these activities are to be carefully noted so that we do not miss your timely submissions for consideration.

The other important ICID event of the forthcoming year will be European Regional Working Group's meetings and the 10th International Drainage Workshop in July this year which will be hosted jointly by the Finnish and Estonian National Committees. The event highlights include the six session theme speeches to be delivered by eminent scholars.

In tune with the decisions made in Sacramento IEC meetings last year, ICID

contributions for the WWF5 may have to be ready in time as the time frame indicated by Forum Organisers is tight. I hope that many of you are busy looking into your work group commitments. During my visit to JNC-ICID in December 2007 there were good indications of the efforts of the ASRWG for contributing to the regional agenda. I hope that you will be apprising PH Schultz who is helping as the coordinator of the TF for WWF5 inputs.

In the key note of Dr. Vlotman presented during the last IEC in Sacramento, the applications of MASSCOTE and DRAINFRAME were recognized as the twin tools that will help us in achieving sustainable water management in respect of large modernised irrigation canal systems. By a separate communication, PCTA Chair, Dr. Malano emphasized the significance of Benchmarking and the need to take it further to FAO before Asia Pacific Water Summit (APWS) in Japan. Our interaction with FAO in some recent events in Jakarta and Beppu (1st APWS) has resulted in an appreciation that both our organizations could promote, taking on board other partners in agricultural water management, the requisite emphasis on '*irrigation services*' (which includes *Drainage*) for achieving MDG and poverty reduction. Our National Committees could help to promote this message further. In this direction, apart from the forthcoming scheduled joint workshop (FAO and ICID) in Lahore in October 2008 on '*Service Oriented Irrigation Management*', an international workshop planned in December 2008 by the Indian Central Board of Irrigation and Power on '*Reforms in Irrigated Agriculture Management for Effective IWRM*' will also provide a valuable opportunity. This topic will be further followed up during the Asian Regional Conference scheduled by INCID in 2009.

We observe from the above that a year studded with commitments to accomplish is ahead of us!

Best regards,

M. Gopalakrishnan
Secretary General

News from National Committees

ANAFID

The Morocco National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (ANAFID) is going to organize, in collaboration with FAO and IPTRID, an electronic conference on "Water saving in irrigation" from 11-14 February 2008. Similar electronic conference was organized last year by ANAFID on "Impact of irrigation and farming intensification on water quality".

In view of the importance of climatic change, this conference may provide a platform to discuss agricultural production in regional context. All are invited to participate in this conference.

For further information, please contact : El Hassan El MAHRAZ, General Secretary, ANAFID, e-mail : anafid@menara.ma, website : www.dgroups.org/groups/fao/economie-eau [Source : ANAFID]

Irrigation Australia Limited (IAL)

Irrigation Australia 2008 : Conference and Exhibition

The Irrigation Australia Limited's 2008 National Conference themed "**Share the water, share the benefits**" offers a world class conference program during 20-22 May 2008 at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre for all those involved in the irrigation industry. The event includes:

- a full conference program including business, policy and regulatory and technical sessions covering the latest irrigation related issues
- a program of half day workshops covering major irrigation issues in a practical way delivered by industry specialists

- post conference tours to major irrigation sites
- a full social program for partners

Irrigation Australia is the only event that involves the entire value chain of the irrigation industry and is a unique opportunity for all sectors of the industry to interact in an informal setting. The biennial Irrigation Australia 2008 will also be the most comprehensive irrigation related trade exhibition ever seen in Australia.

For more information on Irrigation Australia 2008 visit www.irrigationaustralia.com.au. Contact: Robby Clark at e-mail : rjclark@etf.com.au and Dr. Jolyon Burnett, Chief Executive Officer, Irrigation Australia Ltd. at e-mail : jolyon.burnett@irrigation.org.au.

Note : ANCID has now merged with the Irrigation Association of Australia (IAA) to become Irrigation Australia Limited (IAL) (www.irrigation.org.au).

INCID

The contact details of the Indian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (INCID) were published in the previous issue of News Update. Inadvertently, their phone number got switched with fax number. Apologies for inconveniences. The correct contact details are :

Tel : 011 – 2618 1148, Fax : 011 – 2617 6533, E-mail : msincid@yahoo.co.in

INCID's new Website: <http://www.cwc.gov.in/main/INCID/welcome.html>

IRNCID

Workshop on "Improving Water Use Efficiency in Greenhouse"

Water scarcity in arid and semi-arid areas, as well as, population growth rate in such areas makes us find out proper methods of increasing agricultural water productivity. Extension of greenhouses can considerably increase irrigation water productivity besides agricultural productivity. A workshop on "Improving Water Use Efficiency in Greenhouse" held by the Iranian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IRNCID) in

October 2007 had aimed to compile, process, and transfer experiences on greenhouse extension.

Various technical papers relevant to Greenhouse Irrigation Management, Designing, Programming, Operating, Irrigation Water Quality, Irrigation Fertilizers, Plant Water Requirement and Greenhouse Monitoring were presented in this scientific Workshop.

IRNCID received 27 full-length papers of which 10 papers were presented orally and 17 were illustrated and discussed in poster session. Having attended the workshop, 300 experts and researchers rated the scientific quality of the event as excellent. The workshop proceedings were in Persian, and are downloadable from IRNCID website: www.irncid.org. [Source : IRNCID]

MAKCID

Prof. dr. sc. Ordan Cukaliev has succeeded Prof. dr. sc. Zvonimir Vukelic as the new President of Macedonian National Committee of ICID (MAKCID). Dr. Cukaliev is the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and Food, University St. Cyril and Methodius in Skopje. Our heartiest felicitations to Dr. Cukaliev on taking over as the new President and hope that under his leadership MAKCID would participate more actively in the technical activities within the ICID fora. Our gratitude to Dr. Vukelic for his excellent co-operation and his guidance to MAKCID as its past President.

Dr. Cukaliev can be contacted at Ordan.Cukaliev@zf.ukim.edu.mk. [Source : MAKCID]

Water & Education

Such is the name of a new section in the series 'Water at a glance' on the WWC website. Developed with the objective of exploring the intricate relationship between water and education and gathering links to relevant organizations, these pages provide information, facts and figures, examples and concrete tips on this important theme.

To visit the pages, please access their URL at : <http://www.worldwatercouncil.org/index.php?id=2058>. Contact : WWC, e-mail : d.bostrom@worldwatercouncil.com

Obituary

Mr. Gordon P. Hawkins (USA) passed away in November 2007. He was very active in the then ICID Committee on Construction (1979-1987) for many years. Mr. Hawkins joined USCID in 1968 and was living in Spokane, Washington when he passed away. He was 85 years of age.

ICID family offers its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family of Mr. Hawkins. May his soul rest in peace.

Brisbane Declaration

After the 10th International River Symposium (September 2007), 800 delegates from 57 countries announced the 'Brisbane Declaration' - described as a commitment to protect the Earth's water while taking environmental flows to the next level. "Environmental flows are necessary for healthy rivers to benefit people and nature," said Dr. Ger Bergkamp, Head of the IUCN's Water Programme. "We have most of the science needed to get on with the job. The challenge now is gaining agreement from society, particularly governments, for implementation, to work together to restore rivers." Full text of the Brisbane Declaration is available at : <http://www.riversymposium.com/>

Defining water governance

Rogers and Hall, in their work for the Global Water Partnership in 2003, define water governance as 'the range of political, social, economic and administrative systems that are in place to develop and manage water resources, and the delivery of water services, at different levels of society'. They build on this by adding concepts of power and agency: they see water governance as the 'the system of actors, resources, mechanisms and processes which mediate society's access to water'.

This definition helps to distinguish between governance, government and management, a distinction sometimes blurred in the literature. Government represents the formal structures through which the state orders its affairs, including its water affairs. Management comprises the actual processes by which water resources are allocated and delivered.

Both government and management form part of the wider system of governance which mediates peoples' access to water.

For more information, please access TEC Background Paper No. 7, Global Water Partnership, by Peter Rogers and Alan W. Hall, 2003 at www.gwpforum.org/gwp/library/TEC%207.pdf.pdf. [Source :id21 insights 67, June 2007]

Room for the river

More than a quarter of the land area of the Netherlands lies below sea level, and for centuries, the government's policy has been to reclaim land from the sea by creating "polders," or tracts of grassland and farmland protected by high dikes. The Noordwaard polder in the southwest is about to reverse that trend. In 2015, the protective outer dike will be lowered by 2 m to allow the area to flood when

the water level in the Merwede River gets too high. "Room for the River," as the project is called, is a response to climate change: the government decided to sacrifice certain sparsely populated areas to keep the rest safer from floods. [Source : European Water Management News, 27 December 2007]

One Drop: a Global Foundation for Access to Water

The founder of 'Cirque du Soleil', Guy Laliberté, has created a foundation called One Drop. Having traveled around the world with the circus company, Mr Laliberté has witnessed the immense distress that the lack of water can cause. The situation in these poor countries has encouraged him to donate money to the foundation that will finance projects such as the rehabilitation of wells, the purification of water or the construction of reservoirs to capture rainwater. To know more about the foundation, please visit their website: <http://www.onedrop.org/> [Source : WWC News Update, Issue 30]

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

The additions during the month to the TDS Database are:

Article Section – 59 additions (Articles / Papers) (i) International Water Power and Dam Construction, October 2007, Vol. 59, No. 1 (3 nos.); (ii) HRW, September 2007, Vol. 15, No. 4 (3 nos.); and November 2007, Vol. 15, No. 5 (2 nos.); (iii) Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers – Civil Engineering, 2007, Vol. 160, No. 4 (2 nos.); (iv) Journal of Environmental Science and Engineering, January 2007, Vol. 49, No. 1 (2 nos.); and Vol. 49, No. 2 (1 no.); (v) Journal of the Institution of Engineers (India), Vol. 88, August 2007 and (2 nos.); and September 2007, Vol. 88 (3 nos.); (vi) Journal of Indian Water Resources Society, IWRS, January-April 2007, Vol. 27, Nos. 1-2 (6 nos.); and July-October 2007, Vol. 27, Nos. 3-4 (6 nos.); (vii) Water Policy, 2007, Vol. 9, No. 6 (5 nos.); (viii) Paddy and Water Environment, December 2007, Vol. 5, No. 4 (9 nos.); (ix) WMO Bulletin, October 2007, Vol. 56, No. 4 (8 nos.); (x) Canadian Journal of Plant Science, October 2007, Vol. 87, No. 4 (7 nos.).

Book Section – 10 additions; till date 30904 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.

Facts and figures about Water and Food

- While drinking water intake usually varies between 2 and 3 liters/person/day and other domestic water requirements for personal and household hygiene necessitate between 30 and 300 liters/person/day, the production of food requires much more: between 2,000 and 5,000 liters/person/day.
- Most of the water that is used on crop production comes from rain that is stored in the ground (known as green water).
- Worldwide, rainfall provides 90% of the water used by crops.
- Of the world's total land area, 13 billion hectares (ha), 12% is cultivated and approximately 27% is used for pasture. Of the 1.5 billion ha used for crops, 277 million ha of this is irrigated (18%).
- In terms of population, crops equate to 0.25 ha/person.
- Historically, irrigation comprises between 70% and 80% of all water uses. There are some countries that use up to 90% of their water for irrigation.
- As a result of increased cropping intensity, the area of harvested crops

under irrigation is expected to increase 30% by 2030.

- Also by 2030, the amount of water that is expected to be allocated to irrigation will go up by 14%.

[Source: 2nd United Nations World Water Development Report: "Water, a shared responsibility"]

Events

2nd International Symposium on Water Resources and Renewable Energy Development – ASIA 2008 during 10-11 March 2008 at Danang, Central Vietnam. Contact : Gael Bozec at gb@hydropowerdams.com. Website : www.hydropowerdams.com.

Water Down Under 2008 : Incorporating the 31st Hydrology and Water Resources symposium and the 4th International Conference on Water Resources and Environment Research during 15-17 April 2008 at Adelaide, South Australia Contact : Plevin and Associates Pty Ltd. PO Box 54 BURNSIDE 5066 South Australia. Tel : +61 8 8379 8222, Fax : +61 8 8379 8177. e-mail: events@plevin.com.au. Website: www.waterdownunder2008.com

4th International Symposium on Flood Defense during 6-8 May 2008 at Toronto, Canada, Contact : The Secretariat, e-mail : twaddington@iclr.org

Conference on Urbanization of Irrigated Land and Water Transfers during 28-31 May 2008 at Scottsdale, Arizona, USA. Contact : USCID, The U.S. society for irrigation and drainage professionals, 1616 Seventeenth Street, #483 Denver, Colorado 80202, Phone: 303-628-5430, Fax: 303-628-5431, E-mail: stephens@uscid.org

Conference on "Water Resource Systems Management in Extreme Conditions" during 4-5 June 2008 at Crocus Expo Exhibition Center, Moscow, Russia. Contact : Conference Secretariat, P.O. Box 105, Moscow 105062, Russia. Multi-line phone/fax: +7 495 225 5986, 782 1013, E-mail: waterextreme@sibico.com. Home page: waterextreme.sibico.com

9th International Conference on Modeling, Monitoring and Management of Water Pollution during 9-11 June 2008 at Alicante, Spain. Full conference information is available at : <http://www.wessex.ac.uk/water2008rem3b.html>

HydroVision 2008 during 14-18 July 2008 at Sacramento Convention Center, Sacramento, California, USA. Contact : Leslie Eden, President. E-mail : hydrovision@hcipub.com, Phone : (1) 816 931-1311, ext. 129, Website: www.hcipub.com

11th International Riversymposium during 1-4 September 2008 at Brisbane, Australia. Please access : www.riversymposium.com for all symposium details.

IHP 2008 : The Role of Hydrology in Water

Resources Management during 13-16 October 2008 at Capri, Italy. **Contact** : Lucio Ubertini, **E-mail**: secretary@ihp2008Capri.it. Website : <http://www.ihp2008capri.it/>

International Conference on Implementing

Environmental Water Allocations in February 2009 at Port Elizabeth, South Africa. For more information, please access the conference website: <http://ewa.innercirclestudios.co.za/downloads.html>



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For 2007 Wiley has provided each ICID office bearer, work body member and subscriber a membership registration number. Your e-mail address is your user name and you can choose your own password.

Now available on the web site Volume 56 Issue SI published in December 2007. ***Drainage-an Essential Element of Integrated Water Management. 25th Anniversary of the ICID Working Group on Drainage.*** Click on <http://www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/ird> for direct access to the home page of *Irrigation and Drainage* at the Wiley site, or at the abstract of the concerned paper for a direct link to the abstract of that paper.

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