Dear Friends,

As you know, the key ICID activity in the preceding month was the 10th International Drainage Workshop held between 6-11 July 2008 in Helsinki, Finland and Tallinn, Estonia. This brought together President Lee and a few others like PH Bart, VPH Chandra, WG Drainage Chair Vlotman with our colleagues in FINCID and ESTCID. The Central Office was conveyed information on the very successful events that took place; we congratulate both FINCID and ESTCID on their great efforts. Dr. Vlotman together with Mr. Rauna Peltomaa would cover this successful workshop in the forthcoming Newsletter.

Let me devote some space to cover two key events where I participated. The first one held in Singapore was on Himalayan River Systems and enhancing the scientific base to understand the impacts due to looming Global Climate Change. The Singapore event was facilitated by ICIMOD with the funding support of the World Bank. The Abu-Dhabi Knowledge Forum was initiated as an offshoot of the ongoing Abu-Dhabi Dialogue on South Asia Water Cooperation. The Himalayan region countries like Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Nepal and Pakistan were represented through their Governments, Science and Technology Organisations, besides others drawn from the Academia and Civil Society. The Abu-Dhabi Knowledge Forum, a sub set of the larger Abu Dhabi Dialogue Group is to identify the internal strength and weakness of the region and explore areas where a coordinated research and training activities would be of immediate use. In so far as agricultural water management and flows are concerned, the floods as well as drought mattered and some progress was made in focal groups to identify the cooperation possibilities cutting across borders. The Group felt the need for an increased effort to advance the knowledge transcending borders. In the light of the Global Climate Change impacts, the Himalayan River system as a whole, from the source to sea had to be studied: the data gap surfaced as the priority attention area. Given the wider implications on the economy of a sizeable population whose livelihood depends on the Himalayan Rivers, the Dialogue process aimed to envision augmenting the scientific data base with joint efforts and cooperation.

While the assessment of the impact of climate change was a starting point for coordinated research, the need to look into water governance structure and current management in place shall also be looked into. Exploring future management options to maximize benefits by increasing water use efficiency came to the fore. The occasion brought together some of us in the ICID fraternity together. Most of the participating countries were our active members and we could exchange our views. Mr. Syed Raghib Abbas Shah (PANCID) and Mr. Mir Sajjad Hossain (BANCID), to name a few, were in the assembly. We were able to convey to the assembly not only the role that ICID could play in looking to the objectives of the knowledge forum, but also at the forthcoming Lahore Congress and IEC events. We invited Bhutan and Afghanistan to join ICID fold during our meetings through the experts present from these countries.

I utilized the opportunity to confer with our colleagues from Pakistan (Syed Raghib Abbas Shah is the Secretary General of the Organising Committee of the Congress) on the preparations for the forthcoming Lahore Congress. Senator Nisar A.Memon of Pakistan who chaired the proceedings of the Knowledge Group’s sessions was considerate to provide a slot to us to introduce ICID and Lahore Congress in the plenary/valedictory session. To conclude, a few lines on the forthcoming IEC and Congress events in Lahore. We were assured of a very successful IEC event and congress by Syed in my meetings with him in Singapore. I shared the concerns of a few of our colleagues from countries with certain travel advisory restrictions. On behalf of the Organising Committee, Syed assured me that all efforts would be made to ensure utmost security to delegates participating in the Congress / IEC. Senator Nisar too came forward to enable a meeting with the Ambassadors of these countries to explore getting a support letter. I have written on this to VP Shaikh and am sure that we will not have any difficulty in having a successful and well attended event.

Best regards,

M. Gopalakrishnan
Secretary General

Cóordova Thomas to be the new Secretary of CHICID. She is in charge of the Irrigation Projects Department and can be contacted at:

Dirección de Obras Hidráulicas, MOP, Morandé N° 59 Oficina N° 536, Santiago, 8340652, Chile. Tel /Fax : +565 2 671 0764, E-mail : brenda.cordova@mop.gov.cl, Website : http://www.doh.gob.cl

The ICID Central Office welcomes Ms. Cóordova and looks forward to her active participation in the activities of ICID. We express our thanks to Mr. Jorge Galvez Blanco, former Secretary of CHICID for his contributions and support to activities of ICID. [Source : CHICID]
Iran (IRNCID)

- German Professor and Students visiting Irrigation and Water Structures in Iran

Iranian and German National Committees of ICID (IRNCID & GECID) and German Water History Association (DWhG) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in 2007 to study and conduct research on Historical Hydraulic Structures, among others objectives. Following the MoU, the two parties arranged and finalized the study tour itinerary to visit the historical hydraulic structures and monuments in Iran. The German delegation (18) visited numerous historical hydraulics structures, dams, weirs, water museums, Qanats etc at Tehran, Ghom, Kashan, Isfahan, Yazd, and Shiraz Cities.

The delegation also held meetings with Mahab Ghods Consulting Company (MGCC) Board of Directors and IRNCID officials on future prospects of bilateral research projects. [Source: IRNCID]

- 2nd Seminar on Improving and Rehabilitation of Surface Irrigation Systems

IRNCID organized the 2nd Seminar on “Improving and Rehabilitation of Surface Irrigation Systems”. Over 300 experts and professionals from the research institutes, consulting engineering companies, and government officials participated in the seminar. In the seminar, oral papers (18) and posters (14) were presented.

The speakers emphasized on improving and rehabilitating the surface irrigation systems and techno-economic evaluation of the surface irrigation methods. The role of historical developments in surface irrigation methods, extension of innovative ways of surface irrigation, and using unconventional waters for surface irrigation were some of the issues discussed in the seminar. [Source: IRNCID]

Malaysia (MANCID)

Hon. Dato Ir. Ahmad Hussaini bin Sulaiman has assumed the charge as the Chairman of the Malaysian National Committee of ICID (MANCID) and as the new Director General of Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID) in Malaysia in place of President Hon. Datuk Ir. Hj. Keizrul bin Abdullah.

We congratulate and welcome Ir. Sulaiman on assuming the office of Chairman of MANCID and Secretary General of DID and look forward to his active participation in ICID activities. Our profound gratitude are due to Ir. Keizrul Abdullah, who has been very closely associated with activities of ICID especially when he was President of ICID during 2002-2005.

Vice President Ir. Mohd. Azhari Ghazalli has new contact co-ordinates as below: E-mail – azhari@moa.gov.my; Phones: +603 88701618/19 (Source: MANCID)

Nigeria (NINCID)

60th IEC and 3rd ARC in 2009

The preparations to host the 60th International Executive Council (IEC) and the 3rd African Regional Conference (ARC) during 11-17 October 2009 are on course. Numerous abstracts have been received for the conference. To ensure a wider input from stakeholders, the Technical Committee has decided to extend the ‘Call for Papers’ by about 2 months and agreed on a revised schedule.

Abstracts due by : 30 August 2008
Notify authors by : 31 October 2008
Draft papers by : 30 January 2009
Review comments to authors by : 20 February 2009
Final papers due by : 29 April 2009

The Conference theme is “The Role of Irrigation and Drainage in Food Security: Towards attaining the Millennium Development Goals in Africa” and the Sub Topics are :

(i) Food Production and Income Generation through Irrigated Agriculture;
(ii) The Role of Private Public Partnership in Irrigated Agriculture in Poverty Reduction,
(iii) Performance Appraisal of Different Irrigation Systems towards achieving Millennium Development Goals and the Way Forward;
(iv) Irrigated Agriculture as a strategy for poverty reduction in developing countries; and
(v) Environmental Suitability and pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals.

Contact : Engr. D.B. Madu, Secretary General, Nigerian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (NINCID), Nigeria, E-mail at nincid@yahoo.co.uk for more information. [Source: NINCID]

Spain (CERYD)

The Spanish National Committee of ICID (CERYD) and the Spanish Association on Irrigation and Drainage organized the XXVII Spanish National Congress on Irrigation with the collaboration of several regional and national institutions at Huesca, Spain. More than 250 delegates participated in the Congress. The published proceedings consist of a printed book of Summaries and a CD-ROM with the complete texts of accepted papers.

Contact: Dr. Jose A. Ortiz Fdez.-Urrutia, Vice President Hon. ICID and Executive Secretary of CERYD, E-mail : aeryd@serina.es; ja.ortiz@iies.es for proceedings and/or for more information. [Source: CERYD]

USA (USCID)

The U.S. National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (USCID) is organizing a Conference on “Managing Water in a Climate Changing World: Implications for Irrigation, Drainage and Flood Control” during 17-20 September 2008 at Portland, Oregon in USA.

The Conference Program features presentations by Scientists and water agency managers. Roundtable and panel discussions will encourage interactions among Conference participants.

The Conference Exhibition will be held on 17 and 18 September 2008. Please contact Mr. Larry D. Stephens, Executive Vice President, U.S. National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (USCID) (E-mail : stephens@uscid.org, Website : http://www.uscid.org) for more information. [Source : USCID]

Relocation of UNEP GPA Coordination Office

The Coordination Office of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) has been located in The Hague, The Netherlands since 1996. However, with a view to consolidate and strengthen the marine and coastal
OBITUARY

It is with profound grief and sorrow that we inform the readers about the sad demise of Vice Presidents Hon. Tan Sri J.G. Daniel (Malaysia) and Prof. C. Fasso (Italy).

Tan Sri Daniel was born in 1921, Graduated in Civil Engineering from the London University. He spent his whole career in the Drainage and Irrigation Department in Malaysia. As Vice President of ICID for the term 1975-1978, Tan Sri J.G. Daniel’s contribution and dedication to ICID are widely recognized in the ICID fraternity and will be long remembered. His valuable contributions as an outstanding professional in the filed of Irrigation and Drainage are well known.

Prof. Fasso was born in 1920, Graduated in Hydraulic Engineering from Politecnico of Milano, Italy in 1944. He was Professor in the Agricultural School, Catholic University in Piacenza; in the Universities of Gagliari and Magadisco. He was Vice President of ICID for the term 1993-1996 and Vice Chairman of erstwhile ICID Committee of Practices and Member of WG-CONST. As Chairman of ICID Permanent Committee for Technical Activities from 1999 to 2005, he contributed to the Committee and the work bodies with dedication, zeal and significant sense of duty. His significant role as Chairman of Task Force on ‘Global Issues Related to Food Production, Security and Trade’ will always be remembered. Every one in ICID fraternity regarded him for his amicable nature, knowledge, jovial interactions and pleasing personality.

ICID family offers its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of Vice Presidents Hon. Mr. Daniel and Prof. Fasso. May their soul rest in eternal peace.

59th ICID Foundation Day

ICID Central Office organized a special session in New Delhi on 24 June 2008 to celebrate 59th ICID Foundation Day. The New Delhi Centre for World Water Council (NDC-WWC) also had its 58th Brainstorming Session together with ICID foundation day.

5th World Water Forum

As you are aware, Turkey will host world’s largest water related event in Istanbul during 16-22 March 2009. 5th World Water Forum is open, all-inclusive, transparent and multi-stakeholder processes which aim to raise the importance and awareness of water issues and to propose concrete solutions to address global challenges. Given Turkey’s unique position at the crossroads between continents, regions, cultures and civilizations, ‘Bridging Divides for Water’ has been chosen as the over-arching theme for the 5th World Water Forum. For detailed information please visit their web site: [www.worldwaterforum5.org](http://www.worldwaterforum5.org)

The “Second Announcement” and its summary are now available at:

- [http://www.5thworldwaterforum.org/fileadmin/giden_duyurular/2ndan_summary.pdf](http://www.5thworldwaterforum.org/fileadmin/giden_duyurular/2ndan_summary.pdf)
- [http://www.5thworldwaterforum.org/fileadmin/giden_duyurular/2ndannouncement.pdf](http://www.5thworldwaterforum.org/fileadmin/giden_duyurular/2ndannouncement.pdf)

Revisiting multiple uses of water 5 years on

Five years ago, in January 2003 an international symposium held in Johannesburg, South Africa (see [www.musgroup.net/page/425](http://www.musgroup.net/page/425)) led to the formation of the MUS (Multiple-use services) Group on multiple uses of water, and a number of research and pilot project initiatives. Practitioners, researchers and policy makers from 14 countries shared papers and experiences about the positive and negative aspects of multiple uses systems.

Five years on, it is time to revisit these issues and discuss progress in influencing policies, promoting implementation, testing technologies and evaluating the impacts. This will be the main event of MUS Group in 2008. This symposium, to be held later this year in Ethiopia, will also be a preparatory event for the 5th World Water Forum to be held in March 2009 in Istanbul, where multiple use services have been identified as a main topic.

For more information, contact Stel Smits and John Butterworth, International Water and Sanitation Centre at E-mails : smits@irc.nl; butterworth@irc.nl

Events


The 3rd Regional Conference on Agricultural Water Management in Eastern and Southern Africa during 5-19 September 2008 at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Contact : Prof. B.M. Mati, E-mail : 3rdawmconference@cgiar.org and b.mati@cgiar.org, Website : www.asareca.org/swmnet/imawesa/3rdAWWconference.008
20th ICID Congress – Updates

As you are aware, Pakistan National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (PANCID) is going full throttle to make arrangements for the 20th ICID Congress to welcome you. In case you have not registered, please do so early. You also need to initiate procedure for procuring your Pakistani Visa immediately, as it may take some time. National Committees are advised to make their reservations (it is FREE !) promptly for their National Committee displays before space runs out. Similarly, exhibitors also need to urgently contact the organizers for their space requirement.

Please feel free to consult Dr. I.B. Shaikh, Chairman, PANCID at e-mail: <pancid@icid2008.org> and/or Mr. Syed Raghib Abbas Shah, Secretary General, Organizing Committee at e-mail: <gmcwater@wapda.gov.pk> ; <icid@icid2008.org> for making your final plans and for more information on Congress.

Africa Water Resources Management 2008 (AfricaWRM 2008) during 8-10 September 2008, Gaborone, Botswana. This conference is being organized by the International Association of Science and Technology for Development (IASTED).

McGill Conference on Global Food Security during 24-26 September 2008 at McGill University, Montreal, Canada. Contact: Mr. Richard W. Pound, E-mail: foodsecurity@mcgill.ca. Website: www.mcgill.ca/macdonald/events

Second International Symposium on ‘Food and Water Sustainability in Asia 2008’ during 6-8 October, 2008 at Macau, China. For more information, please access this website at http://www.prime-intl.co.jp/FW2008/


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For 2008 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 website Volume 57.3, Special Issue on Capacity Building. Edited by T. Franks, C. Gárceīs-Restrepo, F. Putuhena, to be published in July. 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.

Volume 57, Issue 3
Research Articles

Tom Franks, Carlos Gárceīs-Restrepo, Ferry Putuhena
Developing capacity for agricultural water management: current practice and future directions. Abstract

Pay Drechsel, Olufunke O. Cofie, René van Veenhuizen, Theophilus O. Larbi
Linking research, capacity building, and policy dialogue in support of informal irrigation in urban West Africa. Abstract

Wilfried Hundertmark
Building drought management capacity in the Mekong River basin. Abstract

Thierry Facon, Daniel Renault, P. S. Rao, Robina Wahaj
High-yielding capacity building in irrigation system management: targeting managers and operators. Abstract

J. Huamanchumo, Y. Peña, L. Silva, J. Hendriks
Developing capacity in water users organizations: the case of Peru. Abstract

Sam H. Johnson III, Joop Stoutjesdijk
WUA training and support in the Kyrgyz Republic. Abstract

W. Leathes, J. W. Knox, M. G. Kay, P. Trawick, J. A. Rodríguez-Díaz
Developing UK farmers’ institutional capacity to defend their water rights and effectively manage limited water resources. Abstract

Bancy M. Mati
Capacity development for smallholder irrigation in Kenya. Abstract

Carel Keuls
Knowledge network development in water resources and irrigation management: the case of CKNet-INA in Indonesia. Abstract

Henk Ritzema, Wouter Wolters, Catharien Terwisscha Van Scheltinga
Lessons learned with an integrated approach for capacity development in agricultural land drainage. Abstract