

News Update

Managing water for sustainable agriculture

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE (ICID)



From Secretary General's Desk...



Dear Friends,

I was privileged to join the FAO's Regional Workshop on the "Analysis of Sustainable Water Resource Use" in the Asia Pacific region during the month of December in Bangkok, Thailand on invitation from FAO. A wonderful opportunity to meet our THAICID colleagues was also possible for me, utilising my trip to Thailand. THAICID and ASRWG were also represented in the FAO's Regional Workshop respectively through ICID Vice President Chaiwat Prechawit (*Thailand*) and Dr. Tai-Cheol Kim (*Vice Chair of ASRWG*). The latter made a presentation on possible collaboration areas between ICID-ASRWG and FAO-RAP while I made another introducing ICID and its significant contributions for the WWF5 coordinating a consortium of over 56 global water organisations. The workshop aimed to identify collectively define and identify issues relating to Sustainable Water Use. It came out that there were more preferences on knowledge pooling by improved information flows and creation of the 'Centres of Excellence' and 'Knowledge Networks and Partnerships'.

Representatives from the four Project partner countries who were involved in the FAO's Japanese aided programme – Vietnam, China, Malaysia and Thailand, several international organisations such as UN-ESCAP, ICID, GWP, IUCN, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), USAID, AusAID, Regional Groups like ICID- ASRWG, and national organizations such as THAICID, Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC), and CEDAC (*Centre d'Etude et de Développement Agricole Cambodgien*) were participating in the event. The aim was set as to collectively chalk out the project roadmap until its completion (*funded by Japan*). Each one of the countries projected certain case studies of their own; the dialogue processes adopted involving different stakeholders and investment framework and priorities while carrying out the project was explained to the audience.

The presentation on ASRWG by Prof. Kim highlighted what the Working Group targets, particularly on issues relating to Climate



Change. It brought out possible areas of cooperation with FAO, particularly while ICID addresses them in a few of the topics of forthcoming Congress(es) and annual conferences. ICID delegates pointed out that the synergising several and similar efforts will yield positive results in the ICID network countries in Asia.

Interaction with THAICID during my visit to Bangkok was extremely rewarding. I could call on the Director General at Royal Irrigation Department in his chamber who presented a publication brought out by the National Committee titled "History of Water Resources Development in Thailand". I was conducted around the impressive facilities that were utilized by the country for planning river basin management, holistically. *Inter alia*, this included the state-of-the-art flood forecast measures and actions that would ensure minimizing damages. I was also shown around "Greater Chau Priya Project" an impressive irrigation scheme that serves the agricultural and industrial needs of the rural communities in Northern Thailand. This glorious project has strengthened Thailand's food security enabling it as a food export country. I visited the Royal Development Study Centre, built around Chiang Mai. This was a wonderful experience. This planned development in the lines of IWRM advocacy, serves indeed as a model to emulate. It amply demonstrates as to how best holistic water resources management could be planned in areas that were once upon a time wastelands. I express my gratitude for the excellent arrangements that THAICID made during my visit to conduct around various facilities and meet with the higher authorities in Bangkok and Chiang Mai.

The other significant event of the month is my meeting with the distinguished Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Mali H.E. Mr. Aghatam AG Alhassane during his visit to Delhi. He was accompanied by Mr. Aliou Bamba, Technical Advisor of the Ministry of Agriculture who called on us in Central Office earlier. Very useful discussions were held on ICID's role in Africa and the upcoming African Regional Conference in Mali with the Hon'ble Minister. Elsewhere in the News Update, you will find a brief on this.

The New Year ahead has set before us a few committed actions to realize the enshrined objectives in respect of some key issues, which had figured in the discussion agenda in the last IEC. One relates to the 'Way forward on the Intensification of Irrigation and Drainage Research to achieve Global Food Security'. The other key item relates to 'Broadbasing of ICID membership' on which follow up actions will be taken up in Central Office. On the former first: I could have very useful discussions with Mr. Arjun Thapan, ADB on several issues in a meeting held on 13th this month. These inter-alia, covered our fresh efforts to invigorate the Intensification of Research and Development in Irrigation and Drainage Sector involving our NCs. Mr. Thapan informed us ADB's efforts to promote better water management in the region and the new initiative through Global Water Resources Group. Preliminary discussions were held on the scope for cooperation in the research and Development. ADB's enthusiasm to see our renewed efforts in promoting innovations in water savings succeed was apparent during our mutual exchanges. More discussions on these were agreed to for future.

I have great pleasure to wish you all a VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Yours sincerely,

M. Gopalakrishnan
Secretary General

Mali Delegation Visits Central Office

Mr. Aghatam AG Alhassane, Minister of Agriculture and Mr. Aliou Bamba, Technical Advisor of the Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Mali visited New Delhi in December 2010. Secretary General Gopalakrishnan met the Mali delegation and briefed about ICID activities in Africa Region. In particular, he apprised about the forthcoming 3rd African Regional Conference to be held in Mali. Mr. Bamba, visited the Central Office on 16 December and held a meeting with the Secretary General and Professionals to review the preparations



Secretary General M. Gopalakrishnan receiving Malian Minister of Agriculture Hon. Aghatam AG Alhassane at New Delhi

for the 3rd African Regional Conference scheduled to be held in December 2011 at Bamako in Mali. Mr. Bamba informed that the Mali National Committee (AMID) is gearing up towards various preparations for hosting the event. He informed that the first call for papers will be released and a special Conference website will also be launched, shortly. Mr. Bamba collected some recent and past technical books (including some French version) from the Central Office Technical Library.

New Contacts of Members

- New contacts of Mr. V.C. Ballard (Australia), Member of the Working Group on Environment (WG-ENV) are - 1063 Burke Rd, Hawthorn East, Vic 3123, Australia, Tel. : + 61 3 9882

1588, Mobile: 0419 161 811; E-mail <ballardc@ocean.com.au>

- Mr. Yaser Barghi (Iran), Chairman of the Working Group on Young Irrigation

Professionals Forum (WG-YPF) has recently moved to Canada. His new contacts are - 605-256 Doris Ave., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M2N 6X8), Cell phone: +1 647 523 7677 and E-mail: <yaser.barghi@yahoo.com>

ICID Invites Nominations for the WatSave Awards 2011

ICID instituted 'WatSave Awards' in 1997 to recognize 'outstanding, contribution to water saving / conservation in agriculture' annually, across the world. Entries for the nominations for the 2011 awards are now open.

The WatSave awards are given in four categories viz. (i) Technology; (ii) Innovative Water Management; and (iii) Young Professionals; and (iv) Farmer. The awards will be presented at the 62nd IEC meeting scheduled to be held in October 2011 at Tehran, Iran. The Awards are only made in respect of actual realized savings and not for promising research results, plans and/or good ideas/ intentions to save water.

Nominations are invited for the 'WatSave awards 2011' from individuals/team through National Committees/Committee. The entries are open to all professionals / teams from ICID member countries as well as non-member countries. In case of an entry from a 'non-member' country, the nomination has to be routed through and validated by an active National Committee of ICID, who should be in touch with the nominee and is aware of his / her work. The contact coordinates of the ICID National Committees/ Committee, the 'Nomination Form', 'Conditions and Criteria', and 'Check list' of the documents to be submitted are available at <www.icid.org/awards.html>. The deadline for receipt of the entries from the National Committees along with a completed 'Nomination Form' etc. to

the ICID Central Office, New Delhi is 30 June 2011.

The entries should be submitted electronically to respective National Committees well in advance of the deadlines to facilitate processing. The nominations sent directly to the Central Office, ICID will not be entertained. The selection of the winners from amongst the nominations received will be made by an International Panel of Judges. National Committees are urged to give a wide publicity to these awards in their country among actual farming communities and persons actively engaged in water savings/conservation practices. For further information, please contact Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar, Director, ICID at E-mail: <icid@icid.org>

View Draft Minutes of 61st IEC Meeting and Workbody Meetings - Online

The Draft Minutes of 61st International Executive Council and Workbody meetings held from 10-15 October 2010 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia have been posted on the ICID website <<http://www.icid.org/minutes.html>> for information. The printed copies of the 'Minutes' will be sent to all the Office Bearers, Chairs of National Committees, and Chairs of Workbodies by post.

21st ICID Congress and 8th International Micro Irrigation Congress, Tehran - Updates

Various preparations towards hosting of the 21st International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage, 62nd International Executive Council (IEC) Meetings and 8th International Micro Irrigation Congress (8IMIC) of ICID during 15-23 October 2011 at Tehran, Iran are in full swing. The theme of the Congress is "Water Productivity Towards Food Security". The 8th International Micro Irrigation Congress (8IMIC) will be an added advantage this year. Our host Iranian National Committee (IRNCID) is expecting a gathering of around 1000 delegates from various countries including Iran, and international organizations.

Papers were invited for two Congress Questions, 8IMIC, Special Session, Symposium, and numerous Workshops. ICID Central Office has circulated 'Call for Papers' for submissions to the National Committees, Office-Bearers, Chairs & members of the workbodies of ICID, International Organizations and others from time to time. Central Office has received an overwhelming response to the above events. So far, more than 300 abstracts of papers from 35 countries have been received.

The registration fees for the participants are – (i) US\$ 800 for Member country delegates; (ii) US\$ 850 for Non-Member country delegates; (iii) US\$ 300 for Accompanying person; and (iv) US\$ 400 for Young professionals (under 40 years by 15 October, 2011). Participants can take advantage of the 'Early Bird' registration which closes on 1st June 2011. Please fill up the "Registration Form" and send it to the Congress Secretariat on E-mail: icid.congress@gmail.com. For paying the registration fee you can choose one of the following ways: (a) Bank transfer to Bank account given in website, (b) payment with credit card - you may contact the bank at E-mail info@taice.de for assistance, and (c) on-site registration at the venue.

For further information, please contact: Congress Secretariat - Mr. S.A. Assadollahi, Secretary General, IRNCID and Mr. Ehsani, Secretary, IRNCID, No.1 Shahrshaz Alley, Kargozar St., Zafar (Dastgerdi) St. Tehran, Iran. Tel: +98 21-2225-7348; Fax +98 21-2227-2285; E-mail: icid.congress@gmail.com. Please access Congress website <http://www.icid.2011> for more information.

New Additions to ICID's TDS Database (December 2010)

The additions during the months to the TDS Database are:

Article Section – 46 additions (Articles / Papers)

- (i) Irrigation and Drainage – The Journal of the ICID, December 2010, Vol. 59, No. 5 (10 articles)
- (ii) Canadian Journal of Plant Science, July 2010, Vol. 90, No. 4 (5 articles)
- (iii) World Water, March/April 2010, Vol. 33, No. 2 (2 articles)
- (iv) International Water Power & Dam Construction, April 2010, Vol. 62, No. 4 (2 articles); July 2010, Vol. 62, No. 7 (6 articles); and October 2010, Vol. 62, No. 10 (6 articles)
- (v) Proc. of the Institution of Civil Engineers – Water Management, September 2010, Vol. 163, No. WM8 (6 articles)
- (vi) Water and Energy International, January-March 2010, Vol. 67, No. 1 (5 articles); and April 2010, Vol. 67, No. 2 (4 articles)

Book Section – 10 additions; till date 31658 additions have been made to TDS database. The Text Delivery Service (TDS) has received four requests during the period from India.

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

Doctorales G-Eau and Henri Tardieu Award: A New Initiative by AFEID

A Doctorales (PhD students winter school) event of Nils Ferrand, Gestion de l'Eau, Acteurs et Usages (UMR G-EAU) was held on 15-16 December 2010. During the event research work carried out by PhD students in the field of water management was presented and was collated by AFEID and Association Scientifique et Technique pour l'Eau et

l'Environnement (ASTEE) professionals. The event commenced with various presentations. To perpetuate his memory, a 'Henry Tardieu Award' has been instituted, which will be given to a young researcher every year for the excellence of his / her publication or the outstanding thesis. This event was also an occasion to present the contributions of the unit to

the forthcoming conference on 'Groundwater Management' during 14-16 March, 2011 at Orléans, France. For more details, please access AFEID website <http://afeid.montpellier.cemagref.fr> or contact: Dr. Sami Bouarfa, President of the Technical Committee of AFEID at sami.bouarfa@cemagref.fr [Source: AFEID]

Forthcoming and Future Events

ICID Events

The 24th European Regional Conference (ERC) will be held during 14-16 March 2011 at Orléans, France. The theme of the

Conference is 'Groundwater Management' and the topics are: (1) Hydro-geological studies, (2) Conjunctive use of ground and surface water, (3) Collective action and multi-actors processes, (4) The EU water

framework directive and groundwater daughter directive, (5) Economic approaches, and (6) Each groundwater use has its own quality requirements. The deadline for early-bird registration is

Obituary

Professor John J. Pigram (Australia) has passed away on 5 January 2011 after a long and distinguished career at the age of 77. Professor Pigram's dedicated lifetime service to research and education in global water management places him among the most distinguished water scientists in the world. Dr. Pigram has made many outstanding contributions to the field of water policy, provided exceptional academic leadership in water

resource management and water reforms in Australia and other regions of the world. His achievements were recognized and appreciated by the International Water Resources Association (IWRA), global community of water professionals. Dr. Pigram was a strong supporter of the World Water Council, the Global Water Partnership, and other organizations involved in the formulation and implementation of water policy initiatives

globally. For more than 30 years, Dr. Pigram had dedicated his career to bringing about a new paradigm in water resources management becoming an acknowledged authority in Australia and outside. President Madramootoo and entire ICID family expresses deep sympathy on his passing away.

May his soul rest in eternal peace!

15 January 2011 (revised); while the deadline for submission of revised two-page paper is 28 February 2011. For details please access the conference website at <<http://www.groundwater-2011.net>>, or Dr. Sami Bouarfa, Chair, Scientific Committee at sami.bouarfa@cemagref.fr or Ms Miralles at <afeid@cemagref.fr>.

The 25th European Regional Conference (ERC) will be held during 16-20 May 2011 at Groningen, The Netherlands. The theme of the Conference is 'Integrated water management for multiple land use in flat coastal areas' and the topics for the Conference are: (i) Multiple landuse, (ii) Fresh water management and salt intrusion, (iii) Flood risk management, and (iv) Institutional arrangements and history. For further details, please access the conference website at <<http://www.icid2011.nl>>, or contact Dr. Bert Toussaint, Chairman of Organizing Committee of 25th ERC at <bert.toussaint@rws.nl>.

3rd African Regional Conference of ICID and 3rd African Show of Irrigation and Drainage (SAFID), December 2011, Bamako, Mali. The main theme of the Conference is "Food security in Africa and climate change: Improving the contribution of irrigation", and subthemes are- the impacts of climate change on irrigation development in Africa; policies and strategies to improve the contribution of irrigation and drainage to food security in Africa in the context of climate change; and productivity of water for agriculture and the challenges of climate change. In addition, two panels of experts and to special

sessions will be organized. 1st Call for Papers will be available soon. Please contact : Dr. Adama SANGARE, Secretary General, (AMID), Tel : (223) 222 75 21 < E-mail : a.sangare@betico.net; betico@betico.net> for more information.

The 21st Congress, 62nd IEC and 8th International Micro Irrigation Congress of ICID will be held during 15-23 October 2011 at Tehran, Iran. Please send the abstracts of proposed papers for 21st Congress to ICID Central Office at <icid@icid.org> and the abstracts of papers for 8th International Micro Irrigation Congress (IMIC) to Ms. Fatima Aghdasi, Secretary, Technical Committee of 8th IMIC, Iran at <micro.congress@gmail.com>. For details of Congress Questions / Subtopics / Special Session / Symposium and IMIC Sub-topics please visit <<http://www.icid2011.org>>.

63rd IEC and 7th Asian Regional Conference, 24-29 June 2012, Adelaide, Australia. Contact: Mr Chris Bennett, Chief Executive Officer, Irrigation Australia Limited (IAL), (Incorporating ANCID, the Australian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage), P.O. Box 1804, Hornsby, NSW 1635 Australia. Tel: +61 2 9476 0142, Fax: +61 2 9476 0792, Mobile: +61 439 997 491, E-mail: <chris.bennett@irrigation.org.au>, Website: <<http://www.irrigation.org.au>>

11th International Drainage Workshop (IDW), September 2012, Cairo, Egypt. Contact: Dr. M. H. Amer, Vice President Hon., ICID and Chair, Egyptian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage

(ENCID), Shore Protection Building, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Fum Ismailia Canal, Shoubra El-Khima, Cairo, Egypt. Tel : +20 2 4464626/ +20 2 4464505; Fax : +20 2 4464504, E-mail : encid@link.com.eg

22nd Congress, 65th IEC, 2014, Republic of Korea. Contact: Dr. Jin- Hoon JO, Secretary General, Korean National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (KCID), 1031-7 Sa-dong, Sangnok-gu, Ansan-Si, Gyeonggi-do 425-170, Republic of Korea. Tel: +82 31 400 1755/1758, +82 31 400 1759, Fax: +82 31 406 7278, E-mail: kcidkr@gmail.com, kcid@ekr.or.kr

Other Events

University of East Anglia (UEA) / ICID.UK Seminar on Water Security as Foreign Policy, 04 February 2011, at the Institution of Civil Engineers, 1, Great George Street, Westminster, London SW1p 3AA, UK, Tel: +44 (0) 20 7665 2234; Fax : +44 (0)20 7799 1325; E-mail : icid@ice.org.uk. More information is available at <<http://www.uea.ac.uk/watersecurity>>

The 64th Canadian Water Resources Association (CWRA) National Conference will be held during 27-30 June 2011 in Canada. The theme of the Conference is "Our Water – Our Life – The Most Valuable Resource". For details, please contact the Organizing Committee of the 64th CWRA National Conference at <cwra2011nl@gmail.com> or <contactus@cwra2011nl.ca>

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

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