Dear Friends,

A dialogue on ‘Sustainable Management of Transboundary Water Regimes in South Asia (including Bangladesh and India)’ has been launched by IUCN; a project titled ‘Ecosystems for Life’ under this initiative shall look into regional Food Security issues linking Water, Climate Change and Ecosystem protection. The funding support is provided by the Government of The Netherlands to IUCN. The test bed shall be the Ganga Brahmaputra system, one of the fairly large river basin systems in South Asia involving several countries’ interest. The countries to be involved in the consultations as envisaged are Bangladesh and India. Such inter dialogues of global interest involving regional and national groups can help address the issues much better in a basin wide context. A ‘track 3’ approach is envisioned to consider multi sectoral and cross cutting issues like water for food, people and ecosystems. Enhanced water productivity and irrigated agriculture as a tool for poverty alleviation, environmental security and bio-diversity conservation are some of the aspects taken on board initially. IUCN has approached me to be a member of the Regional level Advisory Committee (RAC) besides NAC. I considered this as a privilege to ICID. I have agreed to serve the committees and bring in our institutional knowledge inputs, as relevant. The project, I am sure, will provide yet another opportunity for ICID to get together on common issues on knowledge inputs, as relevant. The project, I am sure, will provide yet another opportunity for ICID to get together on common issues.

There have been six targets under the main theme. ICID together with FAO shall help to handle the Target II viz: “Increase global water productivity of irrigated agriculture X% (for specific crop categories), as compared to 2005-07 baseline, by 20yy”. Yet another one, target 6 relating to “Promote development and management of sufficient environmentally and socially sound storages in support of irrigated agriculture” is also of ICID’s interest. We have offered to help contributing on it too partnering with ICOLD. May I suggest you to kindly pay attention to a few circulars on WWF 6 from time to time? Your feedback is of importance. In addition to replying to Central Office, please send any of your impressions to the other members of this Committee that will work on this important aspect. Should you so desire, please send any of your impressions to the Committee, as soon as you can.

For the forthcoming 21st ICID Congress, I am glad to inform you that the responses to the Call of Papers have been overwhelming. A total of 427 papers have been received though we observe a skew in as much as the sub questions and other seminars do not have an equal balance. Responding the sessions with some adjustments shall be attempted soon. The overall interest in submission of papers is a proof positive of the general interest in Tehran Congress. It also serves as an indicator of the likely attendance’ which for sure would be fairly large. Our hosts are getting geared up to make the Congress quite memorable and impressive. May I urge you to mark these dates in your diary as your participation is quite important for making our ICID Congress rich? For updated programmes, please visit the Congress website: http://www.icid2011.org

Best regards,

Yours sincerely,

M. Gopalakrishnan
Secretary General

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VPH Dr. El-Atfy assumes his new role as Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt

Vice President Hon. Dr. Hussein Ehsan El-Atfy has been sworn in as the Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation of Arab Republic of Egypt on 31st January 2011.

ICID is once again made proud of with its lead members assuming significant positions in their countries. Heartiest congratulations to VPH El-Atfy on his new role as the Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation! [Source: ENCID]
News from ICID National Committees

BANCID (Bangladesh)

Mr. Md. Habibur Rahman, Director General, Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) has assumed the office of the Chairman of Bangladesh National Committee of ICID (BANCID). The contact coordinates of Mr. Md. Habibur Rahman are as below:

Mr. Md. Habibur Rahman, C/o Mr. Md. Ahasan Ullah, Member-Secretary, Bangladesh National Committee of ICID (BANCID), Director, Joint Rivers Commission, Bangladesh, Ministry of Water Resources Janata Tower (3rd Floor), Plot No. 49, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh. Tel: +88-02-8189358, +88-02-8189359; E-mail: jrcb@qubeemail.com.bd, Website: http://www.jrcb.gov.bd

ICID fraternity extends its warm welcome to Mr. Md. Rahman and expresses its thanks to Mr. Sharif Rafiqul Islam, former Chairman for his contributions to ICID.

[Source: BANCID]

GECID (Germany)

The German Secretariat has moved from ZALF Muencheberg to vTI in Braunschweig. The complete new address will be:

Prof. Dr. Klaus-Dieter Vorlop (Secretary), German National Committee of ICID (GECID), Bundesallee 50, D-38116 Braunschweig, Germany. Tel: +49 531 596 4102; E-mail: gecid@vti.bund.de>

The new Secretary replacing Prof. Quast is Prof. Dr. Klaus-Dieter Vorlop, Head of the Institute of Agricultural Technology and Biosystems Engineering within vTI. More information about vTI and its Research Institutes is available at <www.vti.bund.de>. VPH Ekko Luebbe will remain as Chairman of GECID until 30 June 2011. Thereafter Mr. MinR Theo Augustin from his department in the ministry will take over.

[Source: GECID]

PANCID (Pakistan)

Mr. Asjad Imtiaz Ali has assumed the charge of the new Chairman of the Pakistan National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (PANCID) as well as Chief Engineering Adviser/Chairman of Federal Flood Commission. The contact coordinates of Mr. Ali are as below:

Mr. Asjad Imtiaz Ali, Chief Engineering Adviser/Chairman, Federal Flood Commission/Chairman PANCID, Plot No. 6, Sector G-5/1, Islamabad, Pakistan. Tel: +92-51-9244604, and E-mail: pancid@fpc.gov.pk

ICID fraternity extends its warm welcome to Mr. Asjad Imtiaz Ali and expresses its thanks to Mr. Zarar Aslam, former Chairman for his contributions to ICID.

[Source: PANCID]

4th Best Performing ICID National Committee Award (BPNCA): Invitation of Applications

As you are aware, ICID Award for the Best Performing National Committee (BPNCA) presented triennially at every ICID Congress started during the 18th ICID Congress held at Montreal in July 2002. The first award was presented to the Korean National Committee (KCID) during the Montreal Congress in July 2002, the second to Egyptian National Committee (ENCID) during the Beijing Congress in September 2005, and the third, to Iranian National Committee (IRNCID) during the Montreal Congress in July 2008.

Applications for the Fourth Best Performing National Committee Award (BPNCA) are now invited from the National Committees. The excellence in performance of the award winning National Committee will be judged by a Panel of Judges approved by ICID Management. The 4th award to be presented in Tehran will be based on the performance of the ‘Candidate National Committee’ during the 3-year period between 20th and 21st Congresses (covering calendar years 2008 to 2011). A few of the various factors/facets for rating of excellence in performance of a National Committee are listed in the ICID website <http://www.icid.org/awards.html>. However, the new Panel will be free to amend them and seek more information, if needed, while they consider the cases received to make their final decision.

The Award comprises of a Rolling Trophy and a Citation Plaque. The Rolling Trophy is kept by the awardee National Committee for a period of 3 years after which it will be passed on to the National Committee that may be selected for the next Award. Citation Plaque will, however, be retained by every awardee National Committee.

Applications from the National Committees are hereby invited for the Fourth Award (2008-2011) for the Best Performing National Committee so as to reach the Central Office not later than 15 April 2011. Contact: Dr. S.A. Kulkarni, Executive Secretary, ICID, E-mail <icid@icid.org>.

Vice President Chaiwat Prechawit at UN-Water Meeting

Vice President Chaiwat Prechawit (Thailand) represented ICID in the Special UN-Water Meeting for the Rio+20 Summit on 20 January 2011 at the UN Convention Centre in Bangkok, Thailand.

This one day meeting was attended by UN-Water members, partners and stakeholders from around the world.

The purpose of the meeting was to pull together the collective wisdom and energy of the international water community for preparing to put water in the dialogue at the Rio+20 summit (United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in May 2012). Discussions were focused on the two main themes of the summit and identify how water can become a key driver for a “green economy” and poverty reduction, as well as relate to institutional frameworks for sustainable management. The three broad objectives of the summit were also discussed, namely:
2011. The Award will be in the form of

- Securing renewed political commitment for sustainable development
- Assessing progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the international-agreed goals
- Addressing new and emerging challenges

The meeting also discussed cross-links and build synergies with major events such as World Water Week 2011 in Stockholm, the Bonn 2011 Conference on Green Economy and the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille, France. [Source: Vice President Chaiwat Prechawit (Thailand)].

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Profs. Yoshinaga and Hatcho visit Central Office

Prof. Dr. Kenji Yoshinaga and Prof. Dr. N. Hatcho (Japan) visited ICID Central Office in New Delhi on 25 January 2011. The discussions covered topics such as food security in general and food security of Japan and India, in particular. Other issues covered included food trade, water security/scarcity, future policies and environmental impacts.

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ICID WatSave Awards 2011

Nominations are invited for the WatSave Awards 2011 from individuals / team through National Committees / Committee. Awards are given in four categories viz. (i) Technology; (ii) Innovative Water Management; and (iii) Young Professionals; and (iv) Farmer.

The deadline for the 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 facilitate processing. The nominations sent directly to the Central Office, ICID will not be entertained. Please visit <www.icid.org/awards.htm> for other details. For further information, please contact Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar, Director, ICID at E-mail: <icid@icid.org>

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3rd Best Performing Workbody Award (BPWA) – Invitation for Nominations

As you are aware, ICID in 2003 instituted the Best Performing Workbody Award (BPWA) to be presented triennially at the time of ICID Congress, based on the various facets demonstrated by the workbodies in between two Congresses. The first Award was presented at the 19th ICID Congress held in Beijing in September 2005 to Working Group on History of Irrigation, Drainage and Flood Control (WG-HIST) and the second Award was presented to ICID Journal Editorial Board (EB-JOUR) at the 20th ICID Congress held in Lahore in 2008 for their excellent performance, impressive achievements and outstanding contribution.

It is our pleasure to invite formal proposals for the 3rd Best Performing Workbody Award (BPWA-3) to be presented during the 21st ICID Congress in Tehran in October 2011. The Award will be in the form of

- Citation / Certificate / Plaque to each member of the Workbody (as per the latest membership composition) and publicizing the Award winning WG through a webpage on the ICID website giving achievements of the Workbody and personal profile of each member.
- Free publications of decided value to each member of the WG.

The formal proposals should be sent for consideration with all requisite information (as listed in ICID website <http://www.icid.org/w_body.html>) supported by relevant documents, for evaluation by the Panel of Judges. The last date of receipt of nominations from ICID Working Groups / Committees is 10 May 2011. Contact: Dr. S.A. Kulkarni, Executive Secretary, ICID, E-mail <icid@icid.org>.

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25th ICID European Regional Conference - Updates

25th ICID European Regional Conference Program a mix of keynote speeches, paper presentations, session workshops, excursions and debate panel sessions.

On Monday morning (16 May), keynote speeches will be delivered on the topic ‘Vision & mission on Integrated water management for multiple land use in flat coastal areas’. The theme will be introduced by Prof. Madramootoo, President of ICID. On Tuesday morning (17 May), keynote speeches will focus on Finance & practice of Integrated water management for multiple land use in flat coastal areas.

The paper sessions are set up according to the specific conference subtopics: Topic I: Multiple land-use; Topic II: Fresh water management and salt intrusion; Topic III: Flood risk management; and Topic IV: Institutional arrangements and history.

Workshops & Creativity

Partners of this conference have prepared special sessions for Thursday afternoon (19 May) to deepen insight in the theme and topics of this conference.

One of the special sessions will demonstrate a regional integrated planning project for water management, nature development, flood management and spatial rehabilitation. Other special sessions offer in-depth discussions on flood protection, emission-control programs in an agricultural area, water and education, and a comparative assessment of the vulnerability and resilience in ten deltas.

Panel discussion on Water and Food

The conference will be concluded on Friday (20 May) with a panel discussion on the theme water and food, introduced with a speech of the Dutch under-minister of water management Mr. Atsma and three keynote speeches. The panel discussion provides ample opportunities to share views and develop policy perspectives on this urgent issue.
As you know, ICID has been hosting the 'N.D. Gulhati Memorial Lecture for International Cooperation in Irrigation and Drainage' at the time of triennial Congress. The first International Lecture was delivered during the 19th Congress in Beijing in 2005 by Dr. Albert J. Clemmens (USA), and the second International Lecture was delivered by Prof. Dr. Chandra A. Madramootoo (Canada) in Lahore, 2008 during the 20th Congress.

It is our pleasure to invite from your National Committee (NC) a nomination of an eminent expert in the field of irrigation, drainage, flood management, environmental impacts and allied subjects to deliver the 3rd distinguished lecture at the 21st ICID Congress scheduled for International Cooperation in Irrigation and Drainage' at the time of triennial Congress. The rules for the said Lecture are given in ICID website <http://www.icid.org/aws.html#. The nominating National Committee will undertake to fully sponsor the invited distinguished Lecturer from supporting funds received from the family of N.D. Gulhati from a memorial fund facilitated by Prof. Shashi K. Gulhati, son of (Late) PH N.D. Gulhati (India).

The Form to be filled in by the National Committee nominating the Lecturer for the International Memorial Lecture is prescribed in the ICID website.

The material (text and graphics) for the Lecture to be presented by the chosen expert shall be made available to ICID Central Office at least one month prior to the Congress schedule i.e. 15 September 2011 so as to enable production of the papers in requisite number of hardcopies for circulation during the event.

National Committees are invited to nominate a distinguished personality of eminence from their country with expertise in the areas of ICID’s activities in the prescribed form (available in ICID website <http://www.icid.org/aws.html#>) latest by 01 May 2011. Contact: Dr. S.A. Kulkarni, Executive Secretary, ICID; E-mail <icid@icid.org>.

The ICID journal, Irrigation and Drainage is available online FREE via Wiley InterScience® for all ICID office bearers, work body members and subscribers.

- Papers are available in easy to read PDF format
- Provides access to the full text of all articles published in Irrigation and Drainage since 2001, as well as Tables of Contents and Abstracts
- EarlyView® service provides papers online as soon as they have been accepted for publication, which can be several months earlier than the papers published in print
- Sign up for FREE Wiley InterScience Alerts – receive the table of contents via email as soon as an issue is published online:

NOTE: link to the renewed Wiley website: http://onlineibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1531-0361

For 2011 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 60.1, February 2011. Click on http://onlineibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1531-0361 for direct access to the page with the papers of this issue of Irrigation and Drainage at the Wiley site.

Dereje Bacha, Regassa Namara, Ayalneh Bogale and Abonesh Tesfaye
Impact of small-scale irrigation on household poverty: empirical evidence from the Ambo district in Ethiopia

S. Speelman, A. Frijia, S. Perret, M. D’haese, S. Farolfi and L. D’haese
Variability in smallholders’ irrigation water values: Study in North-West Province, South Africa

Salih Hamad Hamid, Ali Adeb Mohamed and Yasir A. Mohamed
Towards a performance-oriented management for large-scale irrigation systems: case study, Rahad scheme, Sudan

Mohammad Karimi and Afshin Gomrokchi
Yield and water use efficiency of corn planted in one or two rows and applying furrow or drip tape irrigation systems in Ghazvin Province, Iran

A. Mishra, S. Ghosh, P. Nanda and A. Kumar
Assessing the impact of rehabilitation and irrigation management transfer in minor irrigation projects in Orissa, India: A case study

Raj Kumar Jhorar, A.A.M.F.R. Smit, W.G.M. Bastiaanssen and C.W.J. Roest
Calibration of a distributed irrigation water management model using remotely sensed evapotranspiration rates and groundwater heads

S. Isapoorn, A. Montazar, P. J. Van Overloop and N. Van De Giesen
Designing and evaluating control systems of the Dez main canal

Shang-Shu Shih, Tung-Jer Hu, Hong-Yuan Lee and Yih-Chi Tan
Ecotechnologies applied to agricultural irrigation and drainage channels: case study of the Taichung Irrigation Association in Taiwan

P.J.G.J. Hellegers, C.J. Perry and Nasser Al-Aulaqi
Incentives to reduce groundwater consumption in Yemen

Muhammad Tousif Bhatti and Muhammad Latif
Assessment of water quality of a river using an indexing approach during the low-flow season

Hussein A. A. El Gammal and Hatem M. M. Ali
Commissioning of abandoned drainage water reuse systems in Egypt: A case study of upgrading the Umoum project, Nile Delta

James E. Ayars, Richard W. Soppe and Peter Shouse
Alfalfa production using saline drainage water

Nominating Lecturer for the 'N.D. Gulhati Memorial Lecture for International Cooperation in Irrigation and Drainage'