

News Update

Managing water for sustainable agriculture

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE (ICID)

From Secretary General's desk

I have pleasure in inviting your kind attention to the message of invitation received from Chairman IRNCID.

M. Gopalakrishnan, Secretary General



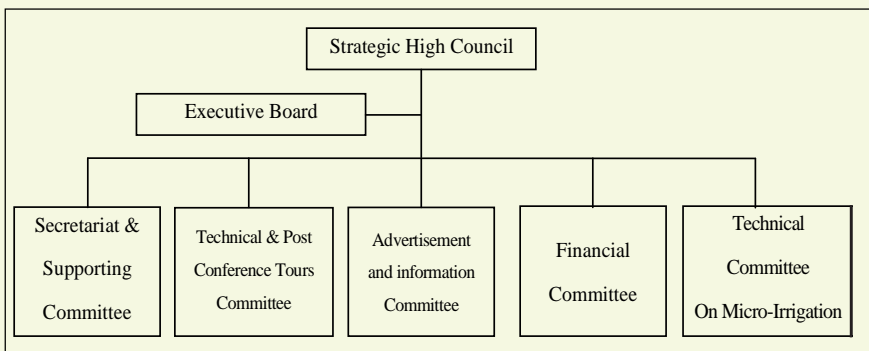
In a few months from now Iranian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IRNCID) will host the ICID's 21st Congress on Irrigation and Drainage, 62nd International Executive Council

(IEC) Meeting, 8th International Micro-irrigation Congress from 15-23 October, 2011 in the magnificent city of Tehran. There will be many other International meetings like FAO organized session on Modernization of Irrigation, high level meeting by Australian National Committee, Symposium on Climate Change among others. We hope delegates will be benefited by the variety of International events, technical exhibition and post conference tours.

IRNCID is fully geared in making this event the most successful and memorable. A special strategic high level council with the Chairmanship of Minister of Energy, a Executive Board has been setup to operationalize the technical, organizational, financial, promotional activities of the event (see box). The strategic high council will work in close cooperation with Minister of Jahad-E-Agriculture, Deputy Minister of Energy for water and wastewater affairs, representatives of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Science and Technology, Cultural Heritage Organization, Consulting engineering Companies, Contractor Companies, etc. With this arrangement we fully ensure the comfortable and pleasant stay, safety, of all the honorable delegates during the entire period of the event.

It's my pleasure to appraise the various actions taken by IRNCID and the Congress Secretariat until now as follows:

Invitation from Chairman of IRNCID



- A fully functional Congress Website in 7 languages;
- Preparing and widely distributing several bulletins, call for papers and invitations among ICID members and other International Organizations to participate in the events;
- Organization of technical and sightseeing tours to see historical monuments, beautiful coasts of Caspian Sea in the North, Historical and Modern Water Structures of Khuzestan in the South, as well as, tours to historical cities of ISFAHAN and SHIRAZ for the honorable guests. Accompanying persons shall also enjoy themselves in their free time by participating in the attractive Tehran tours.
- The Executive Board has facilitated issuing visas with the cooperation of Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). The participants are requested to fill in the registration form and visa application form by accessing the Congress website.
- The Executive Board has made agreements with many reputed hotels with reasonable prices and hope that participants' will find it satisfactory.

Information of such hotels can be found on the Congress Website.

- The Congresses and various meetings shall be held in the magnificent, modern and fully equipped venue in Tehran. The venue has glorious halls, modern audio – visual equipments, and simultaneous translation facility. The entire organization of the event is handled by a high level internationally experienced organizers.

I am honoured to take this opportunity to invite all ICID members, Office Bearers, Experts/Professionals from various International Organizations to attend this one of the unique and wonderful Tehran Congress, to enjoy the Iranian hospitality in a friendly atmosphere, as well as, to experience technical, social and cultural heritage of Iran. For further information, please refer to the Congress Website <<http://www.icid2011.org>>.

M.R. Attarzadeh
Deputy Minister of Energy for
Water and Wastewater Affairs
and Chairman of IRNCID

President's Visits, March 2011

President Chandra Madramootoo attends INCID Meeting

President Prof. Dr. Chandra A. Madramootoo, during his visit to New Delhi, graciously accepted the invitation from ICID Vice President Er. A.K. Bajaj, Chairman, Indian National Committee of ICID (INCID) and Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC), Govt. of India to attend 27th meeting of INCID held on 24 March 2011 at INCID Secretariat. During the meeting, President had fruitful exchanges with INCID members on various ICID matters which was also attended by Secretary General Er. Gopalakrishnan as a special invitee.



(LtoR): Mr. Yogesh Paithankar, Member Secretary, INCID, President Chandra Madramootoo, Vice President Er. A.K. Bajaj, Secretary General M. Gopalakrishnan and Er. M.E. Haque, Commissioner PP, MoWR, Govt. of India

President Chandra delivers a talk on the occasion of 68th NDC-WWC Brainstorming Session, 25 February 2011

During his visit to New Delhi, one of the key engagements that ICID President Madramootoo, performed related to delivering a talk on "The role of irrigated agriculture in securing global food security" before the New Delhi Associate Centre of World Water Council (NDC-WWC). To the immense benefit of audience gathered on the occasion, President Madramootoo impressed upon the major role irrigation would play when the food production needs to be doubled over the next 25 years to meet increasing population demands. The session was chaired by Secretary General Er. M. Gopalakrishnan who is also the President of NDC-WWC.



The PP presentation made by President on the occasion is uploaded on ICID website at URL: http://www.icid.org/chandra_ndc_wwc_mar11.pdf.

President ICID meets Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources, Government of India during his visit to New Delhi

President Madramootoo had the honour to meet Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources of Indian Union Dr. Salman Khurshid on 25 March 2011. President Madramootoo acknowledged the excellent support that ICID receives since 1950s from Govt. of India. ICID President thanked the Hon'ble Minister for India's continuing support and encouragement. He recalled the ICID's Indian National Committee's role in recent times. The impressive manner in which India could organize the 60th IEC and 5th Asian Regional Conference in New Delhi in December 2009 with the gracious presence of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Dr. Manmohan Singh with a galaxy of distinguished cabinet colleagues in inaugural session is still fresh in the minds of ICID fraternity, President Madramootoo told.



(LtoR): Mr. Dhruv Vijai Singh, Secretary, MoWR; Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources Salman Khurshid; President Chandra Madramootoo and Secretary General M. Gopalakrishnan

President Madramootoo extended an invitation to the distinguished Hon'ble Minister for the upcoming 21st ICID Congress to be held at Tehran, Iran, in October 2011. The 'Intensification Programme' for Technology and Research in Irrigation and Drainage (IPTRID) and the new thrust since Delhi meet, the possible role for India in the global research in irrigation and drainage sector were the other points of discussion.

Secretary General M. Gopalakrishnan accompanied President Madramootoo during the courtesy call. Vice President A.K. Bajaj (Chairman, INCID) had organized the engagement; Water Resources Secretary Mr. Dhruv Vijai Singh too spared time for the meetings.

President Madramootoo in Central Office

President visited Central Office on 25 and 26 March 2011 and held discussions on various ICID matters. He met with all Central Office staff to convey his appreciation for their selfless and dedicated service to ICID.



President Madramootoo and Secretary General Gopalakrishnan with Central Office Staff

Visit of President to UK.ICID

On return leg of his visit back to Canada, President Chandra Madramootoo made a quick visit to UK.ICID. He had an opportunity to meet and interact with UK.ICID members at Canfield and HR Wallingford. Presidents Hon. John Hennessy and Peter Lee and also Geoff Pearce, Tom Brabben and Graham Johnson, amongst others, participated. A special lecture was slotted for the ICID President by the members of UK.ICID.



President Madramootoo with PH John Hennessy

ICID Partners the Water Resources Day Celebrations in Gandhinagar, India

On invitation, ICID joined as a “Knowledge Partner” for a Seminar on “Narmada – The Lifeline” which was held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat (India) on 22 March 2011 to commemorate the World Water Day celebrations. The Seminar was inaugurated by H.E. Hon’ble Chief Minister of Gujarat, Narendra Modi who flagged the key issues in water sector touching upon the important role of irrigated agriculture.



Secretary General Er. Gopalakrishnan had the privilege to deliver the keynote soon after the inaugural session covering “Innovating approaches in water management”, and highlight ICID’s role for the Global Food Security and the Agricultural Water Management.

25th ICID European Regional Conference at Groningen, The Netherlands

ICID’s 25th European Regional Conference will be held in Groningen, The Netherlands from 16-20 May 2011 hosted by the Netherlands National Committee of ICID (NETHCID) and co-hosted by the German National Committee of ICID (GECID). The main theme of the Conference is “Integrated water management for multiple land use in flat coastal areas”.

The program offers a varied number of elements including a welcome reception on Monday night in the beautiful historical venue of Groningen, an interesting delegation of Key Note speakers covering interesting cases, policy issues and long term perspectives. Contributions will be

presented with focus on four topics that are of importance in integrated water management for multiple land use in flat coastal areas: Multiple land-use, Fresh water management and salt intrusion, Flood risk management and Institutional arrangements and history. Together with a impressive excursion and an unforgettable social event on Thursday. NETHCID intends to assure a memorable Regional ICID event in The Netherlands.

Please access Conference website: <www.icid2011.nl> for more details, and also for downloading the “Final Announcement” of the Conference or contact Dr. Bert Toussaint, Chairman of Organizing Committee of 25th ERC at <bert.toussaint@rws.nl>.

News from ICID National Committees

CYCID (Cyprus)

Mr. Sofoclis Aletraris, Director of Water Development Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment, has taken over as the new Chairman of the Cyprus National Committee of ICID (CYCID). The contact coordinates of Mr. Sofoclis Aletraris are:

Mr. Sofoclis Aletraris, Chairman, Cyprus National Committee of ICID (CYCID), Director, Water Development Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment 100-110 Kennenty Avenue, 1047 Pallouriotissa, Nicosia, Cyprus, Tel: +357 22609400, E-mail: director@wdd.moa.gov.cy, Web: <http://www.moa.gov.cy/wdd/>

ICID fraternity extends its warm welcome to Mr. Sofoclis Aletraris and expresses its thanks to Mr. Christodoulos Christodoulou, former Chairman for his contributions to ICID. [Source: CYCID]

JNC-ICID (Japan)

Dr. Yohei Sato has retired (31 March 2011) from the Presidency of the National Institute for Agro-Environmental Sciences and looked forward to an event filled life and pursue his interests. He has expressed his thanks to all for the encouragement, support and assistance that he has received during his Presidency. ICID family wishes Dr. Sato

a happy retired life. Contact: E-mail: - Tsukuba: sato-yoh@mail2.accsnet.ne.jp / E-mail: -Tokyo: yoheis@t-t.t.jp. [Source: Dr. Yohei Sato]

THAICID (Thailand)

Mr. Vira Vongsangnak, Deputy Director General of Royal Irrigation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives assumes the role of Secretary General of Thailand National Committee of ICID (THAICID). Mr. Vira Vongsangnak can be reached at thaicid123@gmail.com. [Source: THAICID]

World Water Day Celebrations

CNCID (CHINA)

On 22 March, 2011, the 19th World Water Day, Chinese National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (CNCID) organized a workshop on Groundwater management for coping with climate change in Beijing. The theme of this workshop was “Managing groundwater for coping with climate change”.

More than 80 participants from UN China’s Theme Group on Climate Change and Environment, UNICEF Beijing Office, National Development and Reform Committee (NDRC), Ministry of Water Resources (MWR), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), China Geological Survey, China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research (IWHR), Peking University, China University of Geosciences, Hohai University attended the workshop. Had 12 presentations and provides recommendations to improve China’s groundwater management. [Source: CNCID]

NENCID (NEPAL)

Nepalese National Committee observed the World Water Day on March 22, 2011 by organizing various awareness creating programs and discussions.

Nepal has been observing “World Water Day” as “Nepal National Water Week” since 2009 to mark a week long celebrations all over the country. To commemorate the “Nepal National Water

Week 2011" from 17-23 March, Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (WECS) in association with Center of Research for Environment Energy and Water (CREEW) and The Small Earth Nepal (SEN) organized the symposium on 22nd March 2011 which provided a platform to learn, debate and share knowledge on quantitative, qualitative, management, and legislative issues of surface water and ground water, and impact of global change on water resources of Nepal. Government organizations like Water and Energy Commission Secretariat (NENCID Member), Department of Water Supply, Department of Irrigation, (NENCID Member) etc. together with non-profit private organizations and UN agencies attended this year's WWD celebrations. [Source: NENCID]

Obituary

It is with deep regret and great anguish, we announce the sad demise of Vice President Hon. Dr. C.C. Patel who passed away on 04 February 2011. He was 85. A Civil Engineering graduate with outstanding academic records, Dr. Patel entered the Govt. Service in 1950. He occupied several important positions culminating the high position of Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Irrigation in 1982. He served United Nations as Senior Adviser on Water Resources for 5 years. He held the position of the Chairman and Managing Director of Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Ltd. and also the Vice-Chairman of the Interlinking of Rivers Commission.



Dr. Patel was elected as Vice President of ICID at the 27th IEC meeting held at Banff (Canada) in June 1976 and continued to contribute to INCID and ICID activities till end. We deeply mourn the sad demise of VPH Dr. C.C. Patel and convey our deepest sympathies to the bereaved family.

May his soul rest in eternal peace!

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
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Comparing irrigation management reforms in Australia and India – a special reference to participatory irrigation management

Muhammad Mehmood Ul Hassan

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

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