Dear Friends,

During last few years, ICID has gone through an intensive introspection on the functioning and relevance of ICID in the fast changing global scene of food and water security. Internal and external reviews of its mandate, scope and functioning carried out since the Beijing Congress; the external review of its research initiative IPTRID; and the internal reviews of the financial model it follows, have thrown up a number of ideas. Recently we have started converting these ideas into concrete actions - walk the talk - as some may like to put it. Be it in terms of opening the doors of ICID by broad-basing its membership or taking the lead in setting up the agenda for intensification of research and technology transfer in irrigation and drainage or streamlining the functioning of its technical working groups, many interesting as well as challenging actions have been initiated.

IEC meeting in Adelaide, Australia will provide an opportunity to take many important decisions and further consolidate these initiatives. For example, the modalities of broad-basing the membership will be presented in terms of changes in ICID constitution and by-laws.

The decision to start a new research programme aimed at meeting the growing demand for food, and by intensifying research, development and technology transfer efforts was taken in the Yogyakarta meeting in 2010. ICID has taken upon itself and with the support of its partners, to define the research agenda, and establish the institutional structure to advance it as an ICID governed and managed programme to be implemented through its National Committees. A series of regional nodes are proposed to cover various regions that would work on various themes. Two of the nodes in Beijing and Tehran have already started functioning. Capacity building and Knowledge dissemination will form the cross-cutting theme.

In Adelaide, IEC will consider appointment of the Board of Governors to guide the programme, develop the detailed work programme for the next five years and lay down the course of action for future. The National Committees have been invited to contribute to this programme and offer to host various nodes.

Despite the fact that since the last IEC meeting in Tehran, the WGs did not get full one year for perusing their activities, various Working Groups would be reviewing their activities keeping in view the proposed broadening of ICID membership.

The World Water Forum in Marseilles in March 2012 and the Asian Irrigation Forum in Manila in April 2012 have once again highlighted the importance of working closely with the other stakeholders if ICID has to fulfill its mission to support efficient management of water for sustainable agriculture. Management Guru and author Steuart Henderson Britt once wrote “Doing business without advertising is like winking at a girl in the dark. You know what you are doing but nobody else does”. Promotion and development of the arts, science and techniques in managing water resources for irrigation, drainage and flood management, the ICID mission, without reaching out to the politicians, social scientists, practitioners, general public is similar to winking in the dark. Nobody knows what we are doing. We need to reach out to the stakeholders without losing the focus on technical aspects of irrigation, drainage and flood management. Only by working together with these stakeholders, we can meet our objectives.

India Water Week (10-13 April) in New Delhi brought many visitors to the ICID Central Office. President Dr. Gao Zhanyi had the occasion to look at the condition of the infrastructure and functioning of the Central Office. President Gao is keen to move faster and consolidate the recent gains and make the required changes in the functioning of ICID with the objective to increase its relevance, outputs and outreach. We will have the occasion to discuss and take decision on some of these issues in Adelaide meeting.

Best regards,

Avinash C. Tyagi
Secretary General

President Gao Zhanyi visits Central Office

ICID President Gao Zhanyi (China) paid the first ever visit to New Delhi, after becoming the President of ICID on 9 April 2012. He was accompanied by Mr. Hao Zhao, Division Director, Ministry of Water Resources, China. The ICID Professionals and staff extended a warm welcome to the guests. During his inspection of the Central Office, the President expressed concerns at the old infrastructure and the outdated ITC hardware. During the meeting with professionals that followed, issues like improving ICID visibility, broad basing of ICID, improving activities of the WGs, helping LDCs, digitization of old publications etc. were discussed. He mooted the idea of organizing ‘World Irrigation Forum’ and establishes a new irrigation prize. These proposals would be brought up before the IEC. President appreciated dedicated services of all the staff of ICID. On behalf of professionals and staff, Secretary General assured the President of the full support and dedication to the Presidents new initiatives and further pursuing the objectives of ICID.

It’s time to consolidate....
**Update on RIO+20 process**

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, "Rio +20", will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20-22 June 2012 preceded by the third Preparatory Committee meeting of the Conference, from 13-15 June 2012. Earlier, on the call of UN General Assembly, a submission on behalf of ICID was made by the Task Force established at the 62nd IEC meeting in Tehran. [http://www.unccd2012.org/rio20/index.php?pagename=337&type=509&template=509&str=ICID&style=exact&case=view&nr=337&type=510&menu=20&te

"The Future we Want", the Zero Draft of the RIO+20 outcome document that is being negotiated can be accessed at [http://www.unccd2012.org/rio20/mgzerodraft.html](http://www.unccd2012.org/rio20/mgzerodraft.html).

Some extracts from the document relevant to the ICID community are given in the Box. The document is now open for discussions and comments. Incidentally the term 'Irrigation' does not appear anywhere in the document. The food security and water paragraphs are getting great attention but, as can be expected, very divergent views are encouraging. The full documents with various comments in track change mode can be seen at [http://www.unccd2012.org/rio20/content/documents/474Zerodraft%20NGOs.pdf](http://www.unccd2012.org/rio20/content/documents/474Zerodraft%20NGOs.pdf).

**Extracts from the Zero Draft of RIO+20 outcome document**

64. We reaffirm the right to food and call upon all States to prioritize sustainable intensification of food production through increased investment in local food production, improved access to local and global agrifood markets, and reduced waste throughout the supply chain. [Food Security]

67. We underline the importance of the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights. Furthermore, we highlight the critical importance of water resources for sustainable development, including poverty and hunger eradication, public health, food security, hydropower, agriculture and rural development. [Water]

68. We recognize the necessity of setting goals for wastewater management, including reducing water pollution from households, industrial and agricultural sources and promoting water efficiency, wastewater treatment and the use of wastewater as a resource, particularly in expanding urban areas. [Waste water management]

69. We renew our commitment made in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) regarding the development and implementation of integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans. [IWRM]

75. We recognise and acknowledge that social well-being and growth are also built on robust and high quality infrastructure that creates jobs and wealth, adds long term value and allows for broad inclusion. In this regard, we commit to enhanced infrastructure investment which promotes sustainable development. [Infrastructure]

87. We reiterate the call for disaster risk reduction to continue to be addressed in the context of sustainable development and placed within the post-2015 development agenda. We call for increased coordination among national, regional and international levels for a robust response to environmental emergencies and improved forecasting and early warning systems. [Natural Disasters]

88. We reaffirm that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, and express our deep concern that developing countries are particularly vulnerable to and are experiencing increased negative impacts from climate change, which is severely undermining food security and efforts to eradicate poverty, and also threatens the territorial integrity, viability and the very existence of small island developing states. [Climate Change]

**Cooperation between ICID and CNCID**

President Gao Zhanyi and Mr. Hao Zhao, Division Director, Ministry of Water Resources, China visited Central Water Commission (CWC) and Indian National Committee of ICID (INCID), and held discussion with Mr. R.C. Jha, Chairman, CWC/INCID and Mr. Yogesh Paithankar Member Secretary, INCID on the occasion. The President proposed a closer collaboration between the INCID and CNCID for knowledge sharing as the two countries face similar challenges to achieve food security. He proposed exchange of experts in the form of study tours. Mr. Hao Zhao later attended the First ‘India Water Week – 2012’ in New Delhi.

**Small Holders Agriculture is the key to Food Security**

Vice President Hon. Prof. Lucio Ubertini (Italy) represented ICID at the 35th Session of the Governing Council of IFAD meeting held during 22 to 23 February 2012 at Rome in Italy. The theme of IFAD 2012 Governing Council was “Sustainable smallholder agriculture: feeding the world, protecting the planet”. H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, H.E. Mario Monti, Prime Minister of the Italian Republic and IFAD President Kanayo F. Nwanze delivered keynote speeches during the opening ceremony.

A high level panel discussed and debated the measures to ensure food security while protecting the environment. Panelist shared their views on different farming methods and highlighted the importance of building institutions, investing in research and technology, and adapting and adopting new practices. Mr. Bill Gates, Co-Chair of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, shared his perspectives on the subject. Mr. Gates discussed the importance of agriculture and how sustainable productivity improvements could reduce poverty in developing countries. Mr. Gates also challenged both global players and the national governments to adopt a new approach to supporting smallholder farmers.

**KAITEKI: Sustainability, Health and Comfort**

Japanese experts Dr. Shoji Yamaguchi, Future Study Division and Dr. Akira Tanaka, Research Promotion Division of the KAITEKI Institute, Inc of Mitsubishi Chemical Holdings Group from Tokyo, Japan visited ICID on 27 March 2012 and held discussions with Dr. S.A. Kulkarni, Executive Secretary and Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar, Director of ICID. Dr. Shoji explained the objective of KAITEKI Institute is working on a futuristic agenda with 20-50 years perspective in order to anticipate and tackle some of
the most difficult challenges that future generations are likely to face – namely how to provide sustainable solutions for the energy, water, and healthcare needs of the society. They are looking forward to collaboration with ICID.

Water Resources and Hydro Development in Asia

The ASIA – 2012 was organized and hosted by the International Journal on Hydropower and Dams during 26 and 27 March 2012 at Chiang Mai, Thailand. This year the focus was on ‘Water Resources and Renewable Energy Development in Asia’. Secretary General of ICID attended the conference and delivered a keynote on “Irrigation: the way forward”. During the conference the Secretary General met Mr Lertrviroj Kowattana, Chairman THAICID and Director General of Royal Irrigation Department (RID) of Thailand and held discussions focusing on preparations for the 67th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting and 9th Asian Regional Conference to be held in 2016 in Chiang Mai, Thailand. In Bangkok SG had detailed discussions with the Deputy Director General of RID, Mr Suhep Noipairoj, VP Mr Paichawat, the Secretary General of THAICID Dr. Arthon Suttigarn and his team. SG explained the progress on various issues since the 21st Congress in Tehran. He also took the opportunity to visit the 2011 – Bangkok Floods’ affected areas and encouraged THAICID to make a presentation on the experiences from these floods at the 63rd IEC in Adelaide.

Water, Energy and Food Security: India Water Week 2012

Under the leadership of Mr. R.C. Jha, Chairman, CWC and the Indian National Committee of ICID (INCID) and Mr. A.B. Pandya Director General of National Water Development Agency, and in collaboration with other organizing partners ‘India Water Week 2012’ on the theme “Water, Energy and Food Security - Call for Solutions” was successfully held during 10-13 April 2012 at New Delhi. Members from various National Committees: Dr. Javed Mamon (IRNCID), Mr. Bernard Vincent (AFEID), Dr. Zhao Hao (CNCID) participated in the conference and made valuable presentations. The session on “Infrastructure and Water” was chaired by SGH M Gopalakrishnan. The session was well attended and drew some lively discussions. SG Avinash C. Tyagi delivered a keynote address on “Droughts and Flood Management”. SGH M.A. Chitale chaired the session on Water Governance and SGH C.D. Thatte chaired a session on Research and Development within water sector.

Besides the conference, an exhibition ‘Water Expo 2012’ was alsoorganised where Central Office setup an ‘ICID Counter’ for display of exhibits/posters and sale of ICID publications.

22nd ICID Congress on Irrigation and Drainage

ICID Congresses are held once in three years in any one of its member countries. The 22nd Congress of ICID will be held during 14-20 September, 2014 at Gwangju Metropolitan City, South Korea. The theme of the Congress is “Securing Water for Food and Rural Community under Climate Change”. During the Congress, papers are presented and discussed for two Questions, a Special Session, a Symposium, and numerous Workshops. For the Questions, authors can submit papers through their National Committees, or through the International Organizations active in the field of irrigation and drainage. The detailed ‘Call for Papers’ will be available shortly. The topics for the two Questions are:

Question 58: How do Irrigation and Drainage play an important role in Climate Change Adaptation?

Question 59: How do Irrigation and Drainage Interventions secure food production and livelihood for rural community?

Contacts: Dr. Kamran Emami (Iran), Chairman, WG-HIST, E-mail: <emami@kuntkara.com>, Dr. Kamran Emami (Iran), Chairman, WG-HIST, E-mail: <emami@kuntkara.com>, <kkemami@gmail.com> and Seminar Coordinator: Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar, Director, ICID, E-mail: icid@icid.org; Congress website: http://www.icid2014.org/

- Comparison of traditional methods with modern technology in rural areas

Deadlines: Abstracts in 600 words (in word file) to be submitted for acceptance by 5th May 2012 and full length papers submitted: 5th June 2012.

2nd Regional Workshop for Asia on Safe Use of Wastewater in Agriculture

16-18 May 2012, New Delhi, India

The UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC), the United Nations University Institute on Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH) ICID jointly with (International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)) and others have joined forces to promote the safe use of wastewater in agriculture in developing countries and countries in transition. As a result, a Capacity Development Project on Safe Wastewater Use in Agriculture has been launched.
We are organizing the 2nd Regional Workshop as part of the Capacity Development Project on the Safe Use of Wastewater in Agriculture. This is the second workshop in the series for Asia and is being hosted by ICID in New Delhi. In this connection 19 National Committees have been invited to participate in this 3-day workshop to be held at NAS Auditorium, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Pusa Campus, New Delhi 110012, India. A field visit to a Wastewater Treatment Plant operated by Delhi Jal Board in Delhi will be organized. For more details, please visit www.icid.org

14th NETHCID Symposium, The Netherlands

The 14th NETHCID Symposium on 'Land and Water Development in a rapidly changing setting' is scheduled to be held on 8 May 2012 at UNESCO-IHE, Delft, The Netherlands. The symposium is being organized in the honour of President Hon. Prof. Bart Schultz who will be retiring from UNESCO-IHE and Prof. Charlotte de Fraiture will be his successor. The symposium otherwise takes stock of land and water development over the past decades and explores the challenges that lie ahead. Prof. Schultz will be delivering a valedictory address on this occasion 'Finding the balance between decision making, implementation, management and sustainability'. For more information, please contact: T. Morgenstond, UNESCO-IHE, Westvest 7, PO Box 3015, 2601 DA Delft, The Netherlands, Tel: +31 15 215 1821; E-mail: t.morgenstond@unesco-ihe.org, Website: www.unesco-ihe.org

News from ICID National Committees

BANCID (Bangladesh)

Mr. K.A.M. Shahiduzzaman, 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. Shahiduzzaman are as below:

Mr. K.A.M. Shahiduzzaman, C/o Mr. Md. Ahasan Ullah, Member-Secretary, Bangladesh National Committee of ICID (BANCID), Director, Joint Rivers Commission, Bangladesh, Janata Tower (3rd Floor) 49, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215, Bangladesh, Tel: +880-2-8189359, Fax: +880-2-8189357, E-mail: jrcb@qubeemail.com.bd, and Website: http://www.jrcb.gov.bd

ICID fraternity extends its warm welcome to Mr. K.A.M. Shahiduzzaman and expresses its thanks to Mr. Md. Habibur Rahman, former Chairman for his contributions to ICID.

GECID (Germany)

Mr. Theo Augustin, Chairman of the German National Committee of ICID (GECID) has informed that the new contact details of Dr. Eiko Lübbe, Vice President Hon. ICID are:

Dr. Eiko Lübbe, Viktoriastrasse 3, D-53173 Bonn, Germany. Tel: +49 228 355501 and E-mail: <eiko.luebbe@t-online.de>

Nethecid (The Netherlands)

New postal address of Prof. (Mrs.) L. Vincent (Chairperson of Working Group on Technology and Research Uptake and Exchange (WG-TRUE) and Member of Working Group on Role of Irrigation in Poverty Alleviation and Livelihoods (WG-POVERTY)) is - Professor of Irrigation and Water Engineering Wageningen University, P.O. Box 47, 6700 AA Wageningen, Tel: +31 317 484195, Fax: +31 317 484759 and E-mail: linden.vincent@wur.nl

New Additions to ICID’s TDS Database (March 2012)

The additions during the months to the TDS Database are:

Article Section – 41 additions (Articles / Papers)

(i) Irrigation, Drainage and Rural Engineering Journal, April 2011, Vol. 79, No. 2 (1 article); (ii) Hydropower & Dams, 2012, Vol. 19, No. 2 (5 articles); (iii) Water Policy, 2011, Vol. 13, No. 1 (6 articles); 2011, Vol. 13, No. 2 (7 articles); 2011, Vol. 13, No. 3 (8 articles); and 2011, Vol. 13, No. 4 (6 articles); (iv) Journal of Indian Association for Environmental POVERTY)) is - Professor of Irrigation and Water Engineering Wageningen University, P.O. Box 47, 6700 AA Wageningen, Tel: +31 317 484195, Fax: +31 317 484759 and E-mail: linden.vincent@wur.nl

Fellowships offered by Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, India

Department of Hydrology offers the following academic programs:

• M.Tech. (Hydrology): 24-months academic programme.
• P.G. Diploma (Hydrology): 12-months academic programme.

Fellowships for Foreign Candidates

The courses are sponsored by the Government of India through Ministry of External Affairs under ITEC and SCAAP programmes; Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs). Foreign candidates may apply through proper channel for the following fellowships.

a. Indian Technical Economic Cooperation (ITEC) and Special Commonwealth African Assistance Plan (SCAAP) administered by Ministry of External Affairs.
b. Technical Cooperation Scheme of Colombo Plan (TCS-Colombo Plan) implemented through Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs in 15 countries.

For these fellowships, applications should be sent through the Indian Embassy/ Legation in that country for onward transmission to Roorkee.

For details the candidates may visit the websites:

Upcoming Events

ICID Events

The 63rd IEC Meeting and 7th Asian Regional Conference, 24-29 June 2012, Adelaide, Australia. Contact: Mr. Ian Atkinson (Australia). E-mail: iacid@irrigation.org.au, ian.atkinson@irrigation.org.au or SANE Events for Irrigation Australia Limited (IAL), E-mail: IAL2012@saneevent.com.au, Conference Website: www.irrigation.org.au/2012.

11th International Drainage Workshop (IDW), 23-27 September 2012, Cairo, Egypt. Contact: Prof. Dr. Mohamed Hassan Amer (Egypt), E-mail: encid@link.com.eg, IDW website : www.encid.org.eg/idw/11

64th IEC Meeting and 8th Asian Regional Conference, 29 September - 5 October 2013, Mardin, Turkey. Contact: Mrs. Serpil KOYLU, Turkish National Committee, ICID (TUCID), Delvet Mahallesi İnçü Bulvari No. 16, 06100 Cankaya, Ankara, Turkey, Tel/Fax +90 312 425 4614, E-mail : tucid@dsi.gov.tr, serpil.koylu@dsi.gov.tr, Website: http://www.icid2013.org

12th International Drainage Workshop (IDW), June 2014, St. Petersburg, Russia. Contact: Ms. Irena G. Bondarik, Secretary General, National Committee of the Russian Federation on Irrigation and Drainage (RuCID), E-mail: ibond@online.ru, rusiptrid@mail.ru

22nd ICID Congress and 65th IEC, 14-20 September, 2014, at Gwangju Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea. Contact: Dr. Jin-Hoon JO, Secretary General, Korean National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (KCID), E-mail: kjsid@gmail.com, kcid@ekr.or.kr

Other Events

NGWA Groundwater Summit 2012 titled "Innovate and Integrate : Succeeding as a Groundwater Professional in a Water-Short World", 6-10 May 2012, Garden Grove, California, USA. All information is available at <http://groundwatersummit.org/>

IWA World Congress on “Water, Climate and Energy”, 13-18 May, 2012, Dublin, Ireland. For more information, please visit <www.iwa-wcedublin.org>

The 18th International Agricultural Exhibition, 15-17 May 2012, Tel Aviv, Israel. All information is available at <www. agritech.org.il>

14th International Pest Congress titled “Pestlands in Balance”, 3-8 June 2012, Stockholm, Sweden. All information is available at <http://www.ipc2012.se>


5th European Geosynthetics Congress, 16-19 September 2012, Valencia, Spain. For more information, please contact Technical and Scientific Secretary Tíresa Kennes (Spain) E-mail: eurogeo5@kennes.com or for general information at <info@eurogeo5.org>

Regional Approaches to Food and Water Security in the Face of Climate Challenges


The global focus on the threats posed by climate change has drawn attention to the fact that water will be the medium through which many of its impacts will be felt. Driven by changing rainfall patterns and increasing aridity the direct impacts of damaging floods and interruptions to water supply resulting in drought will pose a threat to food security. Many African countries already confront immediate challenges in managing present climate variability and the impacts of droughts and floods that regularly cause social distress and undermine economic performance, there is need to develop strategies that will address immediate challenges while building resilience to adapt to long term trends.

This document has been issued and widely circulated amongst ICID National Committees and members of the African Regional Working Group (AFRWG) for further dissemination. Please visit for more details.

Climate Change and Agriculture in Africa

In many parts of Africa, agro-ecological systems are characterized by recurring drought events, soil degradation and water supply shortages. Analysis of the impacts of climate change suggests that agro-ecological systems are among the most vulnerable sectors. Agriculture in low latitude developing countries is expected to be especially vulnerable because climates of many of these countries are already too hot. Further warming is consequently expected to reduce crop productivity adversely. These effects are exacerbated by the fact that agriculture and agro-ecological systems are especially prominent in the economies of African countries and the systems tend to be less capital and technology intensive. Predictions of impacts across regions consequently suggest large changes in the agricultural systems of low latitude (mostly developing) countries.

The website (http://www.ceepa.co.za/Climate_Change/climate-about.html) is devoted to providing information on the activities of the project: Climate, water and agriculture: Impacts and adaptation of agro-ecological systems in Africa. This project seeks to further understand the impact that climate has and may have on agricultural systems in Africa and what measures can be used to mitigate such effects.

The Australian International Food Security Centre

During the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in October 2011, the Australian Government announced support for the establishment of an Australian International Food Security Centre (AIFSC). The AIFSC has a broad international focus, recognizing the significance of food security to developing countries across Africa, Asia and the Pacific. Initial emphasis will be given to Africa, where the highest proportion of the population lives in poverty. The AIFSC is embedded in the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and will operate to create linkages initially between African researchers and their Australian counterparts, extending participation to co-investors and international agricultural research institutions.

Interested parties are being directed to view the information on the AIFSC page of the ACIAR website (aciar.gov.au/aifsc) and can register their interest there in becoming involved.

Handbook for Integrated Water Resources Management in the Basins of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Aquifers

The International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), the Global Water Partnership (GWP), UNECE, UNESCO, GEF, EVREN and AFD have worked together to produce the “Handbook for Integrated Water Resources Management in the Basins of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Aquifers.” (http://www.inbo-news.org//) presented at the World Water Forum in Marseilles. This book, aims to provide practical advice to improve water resources management in transboundary basins, using more than 60 examples of actions already successfully initiated in various basins. The handbook, which supplements the “Handbook for Integrated Water Resources Management in Basins” published in 2009 during the Fifth World Water Forum in Istanbul, is addressed to representatives of the governments of countries bordering transboundary basins and managers who must make decisions related to resource sharing and management, and more generally to all water users. The handbook in hard copy and its versions on CD-ROM can be obtained free of charge, subject to availability, by E-mails to gwp@gwpforum.org or riob@riob.org.