Dear Colleagues,

First World Irrigation Forum in Mardin, Turkey, earlier this month presented a wonderful sight with ICID community mingling with various stakeholders: farmers, researchers, youth, industry representatives on one hand and representatives from international organisations dealing with water in its diverse roles in agricultural productivity, extreme meteorological impacts, educational needs, governance perspectives, international cooperation, and integrated water management. With eminent personalities such as Prof. Roberto Lenton, Dr. Uma Lele and Jermy Bird sharing their perspectives on agriculture water management with irrigation managers. Freshness in the air was evident from the participation of young irrigation professionals engaged with small farmers in Africa, facilitated by down to earth civil servants such as Rudolf Cleveringa. I saw the vision of IEC taking shape at the First World Irrigation Forum. Did you? Those who were not present at the Forum, can have a glimpse by clicking here.

I think this is the first firm step taken in the right direction to make decision making more inclusive. Of course there were many ways in which the event could be made more effective. We have ample scope to improve the format. But we have to persist with this fresh approach and extend it to the national level and get the desired feedback from our clients, partners in development and co- visionaries. We propose to share the information exchanged during the Forum with those who could not make it to Mardin and come out with Post Forum proceedings shortly. For the present brief outcomes of the Forum are given in a Box inside.

The follow up deliberations at the 64th Council meeting and the associated pre-council meetings of the technical working groups were an ample proof that ICID as a network is committed to make full use of these interactions with stakeholders and is more than willing to weave the outcomes into its activities. The Council took important steps such as re-orienting some of its working groups, opening up its youth platform, etc and accordingly making subtle changes to its constitution and by-laws and bringing its implementation mechanism to take full advantage of the modern technology. Details on some other important decisions are highlighted inside.

The Golden Jubilee meeting of Board of Governors of World Water Council held immediately after the Forum in Budapest, where ICID is represented, provided the opportunity to align WIF and the World Water Forum. The Regional and Science and Technology processes leading up to WWF7 will provide the opportunity to mainstream the outcomes of WIF into WWF7 deliberations.

The Budapest Water Summit hosted by Govt. of Hungary, that followed provided an opportunity for the water development sector to push for a Sustainable Development Goal with water at its core within the development structure mechanism post 2015 MDG regime.

It is a moot point as to how complex sector like water which is the driving force behind a number of societal development objectives, could be represented through a SMART: specific, measurable, achievable, reasonable and time-bound goal. However, it is evident that using water efficiently - by reducing consumptive use, saving energy used in its application and preventing pollution of water bodies through its processes - will form the nucleus of any such SDG.

I must take this opportunity to introduce and congratulate the three new Vice Presidents Dr. Baasuki Hadimoeljono, Indonesia; Mr. Kadim Mohsin Ahmed, Iraq; and Mr. A.B. Pandya from India. I am sure they will improve upon the standards set by their predecessors Dr. Ragab Ragab, UK; Mr. Paichawat, Thailand and Mr. Husnain Ahmad from Pakistan, in achieving the objectives of ICID.

Thanks once again to TUCID, the host National Committee. Once again I remind you of the new services that have been introduced by the Central Office and urge you to make full use of these services. Your feedback on how can we make ICID meetings and CO services derive full benefits out of your money is essential.

Best regards,

Avinash C. Tyagi
Secretary General

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**First World Irrigation Forum, Mardin, Turkey, 2013 – A Summary**

The ICID’s mega event, the First World Irrigation Forum (WIF1), together with 64th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting was successfully held from 29 September to 05 October 2013 at Mardin, Turkey. WIF1 was organized and hosted by Turkish National Committee of ICID (TUCID) in cooperation with an impressive number of International Partners such as FAO, IWMN, GWP, WMO, WB to name a few. About 750 participants from 61 countries and 12 International Organisations attended the Forum. Within the context of the main theme, more than 186 papers, short communications and posters were presented and discussed under three Sub-themes: (1) Policy, Science and
Outcomes of First World Irrigation Forum

As a result of the presentations and discussions at the World Irrigation Forum, the following statements were agreed:

(i) Development of civilization over the past 5,000 years is closely adjoined with water management problems that have shaped societies and their structures. In the course of the centuries, systems and methods worked out under the various conditions have conclusively demonstrated their pertinent sustainability. Today, the knowledge and structural remains of these methods are not only interesting archaeologically, ecologically and historically, but can also help to solve current problems. The Mardin area shows us an impressive proof of this.

(ii) As water is becoming an increasingly valuable and vulnerable resource, it needs to be acknowledged that generally water will need to be managed in a better way. This may require revision of water related policies at all levels. Regional water scarcities and environmental requirements need to be considered in developing such policies. Therefore, effective cooperation among the various stakeholders: government authorities, research institutions, managers of irrigation systems, civil societies, local communities, NGO’s, businesses etc. needs to be promoted. This will speed up the development and implementation of effective and sustainable water solutions. Water can be an element of cooperation between riparian countries and needs to be treated as such.

(iii) Irrigation water delivery is a service to users. High quality and reliable service is a condition for adoption of advanced farm practices by the farmers. Irrigation and drainage face many challenges, but also provide the foundation to maintain

2013 to Vice President Hon. Prof. Victor A. Dukhovny (Uzbekistan) for his outstanding contributions to the development of agriculture-water management for over five decades. The WID prize comprised of a cash award of US$10,000 and magnificent trophy. The award winning journey of Prof Dukhovny can be accessed at http://www.icid.org/wid_prize.html

Three International Workshops, namely (i) Water Wisdom and Sustainability (emerging from WG-HIST), (ii) Developing Management Strategies for Coping with Drought and Water Scarcity (emerging from WG-DROUGHT), and (iii) Management of Water, Crops and Soils under Climate Change (emerging from WG-CROP/CLIMATE) were held. Dr. Kamran Emami, Mr. Mohammad S. Jafari and VPH Dr. Ragab Ragab Chaired the workshops, respectively.

Side events and Exhibition

"Side Events" on a variety of related topics presented a spectrum of views and was one of the success-segments of the WIF. In all 23 side events were held, which basically covered the wide can-vas of irrigation, drainage and flood management. Side events showcased Turkish institutions and organizations. The exhibition area was quite large and dominated by Turkish exhibitors. It was the place to be when you were saturated with knowledge, but still wants to keep your eyes open to receive more knowledge. Kudos to Turkish organisers for bringing in all these exhibitors in such a large number to show-case their technology and products

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global food security. Modernization and improvement of irrigation is occurring worldwide at varying rates and degrees. Much is being accomplished through innovation and technical advances. However, technology alone will not resolve the issues of water and food security. Informed policies, financial management, reorientation of institutions, awareness of local communities and transparent governance require innovation and advances to respond to the challenges.

(iv) Government institutions have central roles to facilitate interaction among the stakeholders in the sector and in providing the framework for agricultural water management activities. They should assess the needs and roles of different actors, especially of the new generation professionals. If necessary, adjust legislation accordingly and arrange to collect relevant data.

(v) In the planning and design of water management systems, adequate attention needs to be given as to how water management activities can most effectively be integrated with farming practices, recognizing the multiple uses to which such infrastructure is put and the broad spectrum of services that agricultural water management systems support. This recognition may also provide new opportunities for financing agricultural water management.

(vi) The agricultural sector is the principal water user. Therefore, use of equipment and techniques that enable effective use of water in agriculture need to be among the primary targets for ensuring food security of an increasing world population. As presented in the short communications, side events and in the exhibition it is not only innovative modern technologies, but also proven traditional technologies that will play an important role in obtaining optimal benefit of the limited water resources. Information on these options needs to be made publicly available through effective extension services. Capacity building components at various levels need to be included in agricultural water management programmes.

(vii) Financial institutions need to give priority to countries/stakeholders which need agricultural water management schemes, and to support national and regional development with suitable financing mechanisms. A range of financing models have already been developed and tested for the agricultural water management sector. Some of these models have proven to be successful whereas failures have occurred in other cases. It is recommended that suitable models will be selected, further tested and evaluated for different local conditions.

(viii) The concept of sustainability cost as described in the position paper of ICID on Irrigation and Drainage Services: Some principles and Issues towards sustainability (Tardieu, 2004) deserves wider application in practice.

(ix) The impact climate change may have on water resources, food and feed production is widely recognised. The change in rainfall patterns and increase in temperature may decrease river flows and reservoir storage, increase evapotranspiration and subsequently increasing water demand for agriculture. Risk analysis and vulnerability assessments on the occurrence of extreme events are needed to enable better management of water demand and supply. Adaptation to climate change by proactive approaches, including better prediction and early warning, reduction of water losses, application of highly efficient irrigation systems, cultivation of drought tolerant varieties, (re)use of low quality and waste water, improved land management and methods of cultivation, appropriate policies for water supply and demand management during extreme events, and concerted efforts to raise farmers awareness of the climate change impacts and the provision of guidelines for farmers on how to cope with changing climate conditions.

(x) It is important that the Forum results are also made available to farmers, who are the managers of water in the lower distribution system and on-farm.

Closing

The First World Irrigation Forum was closed on 01 October 2013 during a thematic wrap-up session after presenting the First World Irrigation Forum Statement. Mr. Akif Okzaldi, DG, DSI and the Governor Mr. Ahmet Cengiz of Mardin profusely thanked ICID for giving opportunity to TUCID and Turkey to host the very First World Irrigation Forum of ICID together with the 64th International Executive Council (IEC) Meeting and its pre-Council meetings at Mardin. In turn, the President of ICID Dr. Gao Zhanyi and Secretary General Mr Avinash Tyagi thanked and expressed their sincere gratitude to Mr Akif Okzaldi, VP Dr. Hüseyin GÜNDOĞDU and all the committee members of all the organizing committees for their untiring efforts in making the ICID’s First World Irrigation Forum, a successful event.

Short video clips of various events can be viewed on ICID YouTube channel <http://www.youtube.com/icidonline>
outstanding services to the Government of Indonesia-August 2001. Presently, he is the Director General for Spatial Planning and Development, Ministry of Public Works in Indonesia. He may be contacted at e-mail: <basuki_pu@yahoo.com>

Mr. Kadhim Mohsin Ahmed (Iraq)

Mr. Kadhim Mohsin Ahmed (born in 1956), obtained his Bachelor degree in Irrigation and Drainage Engineering from Baghdad University in 1978. He has been acknowledged by the Iraqi National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IRQCID) for his role in the scope of regional and country development programmes for water resources; executing the irrigation and drainage projects; assistance in raising the matters of the international water issues and participation in solving the water disputes; and studying the challenges of food and water security. He has over 35 years of experience in executing various water resources projects. Currently, he is the Director of Iraqi Wet Lands and Marshes Refreshing Centre in Iraq. He may be contacted at e-mail: <envpolicies@mowr.gov.iq>

Er. A.B. Pandya (India)

Er. Ashwin B. Pandya (born in 1955), did his M.Tech (Structural Engineering) from Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi in 1983. He has a professional experience of 34 years in the field of water resources planning and design; project operation and management; software application and development; numerical modelling and simulation of structural behaviour of dams and appurtenance works. He is also associated with various professional societies such as Indian Society of Rock Mechanics and Tunnelling Technology; Indian Society of Earthquake Technology; Indian Society of Hydraulics etc. He has over twenty technical publications in his credit. Presently, he is Member (Designs & Research) at Central Water Commission in New Delhi, India. He may be contacted at e-mail: <memberdr-cwc@nic.in>

WatSave Awards 2013

This year only two out of the four WatSave Awards; the Technology Award to Prof. Yi Yongqing (China) for “Thin and Exposed Irrigation for Paddy Rice” and Innovative Water Management Award to Mr. Zhang Xuehui (China) for “Innovations and Reforms for Modern Irrigation Management in Large Irrigation Schemes”, were awarded during the plenary session of IEC on 1st October 2013. More details about the work that won them these WatSave awards can be accessed at <http://www.icid.org/awards_ws.html#announce>. Heartiest congratulations!

Best Paper Award 2013

Instituted by ICID in 2006, the ‘Best Paper Award’ is given to the best paper published in the issues of the ICID Journal in the preceding year. The ‘Best Paper Award’ for the year 2013 was given to the outstanding paper titled “An Interactive Water Indicator Assessment Tool to Support Land Use Planning” published in Issue 61.2 of the Journal. The paper can be accessed at http://www.icid.org/best_pap2013.pdf. In absence of the winning authors: P.J.G. J Hellegers, H.C. Jansen and W.G. M. Bastaansen from The Netherlands, Prof. (Mrs.) Charlotte de Fraiture, Chairperson, Netherlands National ICID Committee (NETHCID) accepted the award on their behalf. The award consists of a citation plaque and either US$ 500, or US$800-worth of Wiley books from M/s. Wiley-Blackwell (UK), the publisher of ICID Journal. Heartiest congratulations to the award winners!

Important Decisions taken at the 64th IEC meeting, 2013

1. To admit six persons, institutions and companies as accorded by the Direct Membership Administering Subcommittee be admitted as members of ICID for the periods for which they have paid subscription.

2. To reduce the contribution of the host National Committees towards ICID Budget from 50 to 35 per cent of the total registration proceeds in case of Congress; to fix the contribution at 35 percent for the NCs hosting World Irrigation Forum and continue with a contribution of 15 per cent in case of ordinary IEC,

3. To approve the appointment of M/s Abhyankar and Company, as the Statutory Auditors of ICID, for a period of three years starting with the financial year 2012-13; approve the revised budget for 2012-2013 and accordingly approve the audited accounts of ICID for the financial year 2012-13 as presented by the statutory auditors and approve the Revised Budget of ICID for the financial year 2013-14.

4. To rename the strategy theme “Systems” as “Schemes” and the proposal to shift the TF-BIO-ENERGY from Strategy Theme “Schemes” to...
Global Water Security

The 35th World Congress of the International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research (IAHFE) was held from 9-13 September 2013 at Chengdu City, China. The main theme of the Chengdu Forum of International Water Organizations was “Global water Security”.

The representatives from seven International Water Organizations and United Nations and UNESCO attended the Forum, including Roger Falconer, IAHFE President; Prof. Gordon Young, IAHS President; Tomás Sancho, President, World Council of Civil Engineers (WCCE); Dr. Jia Jinsheng, ICOLD Past President; Jun Xia, IWRA Past President; Prof. Zhaoyin Wang, WASER Vice President, and Gretchen Kalonji, Assistant DG for Natural Sciences, UNESCO. The participants made their presentations and had discussions with the focus on what can we do together to raise the profile of water security in policy, education, research and practice.

Dr. Gao Zhanji, President, ICID was invited to the mega Conference who made his presentation on “Improving Water Management for Food Security and Multiple Purposes” during the Forum. After presentations and discussions a ‘Joint Declaration’ was signed by the delegates, in the presence of Gretchen Kalonji, Assistant DG for Natural Sciences, UNESCO.

5. To establish new WGs (under the tentative heading of (1) Water Management in Irrigation; (2) Water Management in Drainage; (3) Irrigation Water Loss Control; (4) Irrigation Re-vitalization/ Modernization; (5) Irrigation Development and Management) under the strategy theme “Schemes”, in principal. The scoping documents for the establishing these WGs, to be prepared in consultation with potential WG members and partners should be completed and submitted by 65th IEC. The new mandate of WG-DRG is accepted

6. To approve the closure of TF-FIN, WG-DRG, and WG-WATS and to extend the tenure of WG-POVERTY, WG-DROUGHT and TF-BIO-ENERGY by one year i.e., up to 2014. WG-WATS is recommended to reformulate a new mandate to address the two newly proposed Working Groups for Irrigation Water Loss Control as mentioned above.

7. To constitute a Sub-Committee under PCTA to deliberate upon the Themes, Topics and Workplans of the various future ICID events including Congresses and World Irrigation Forums; a Task Team to review the procedure for proposing and adjudication of WatSave Awards based on the earlier decisions on the subject and to set up a Task Team to workout details for establishing WID Prize Trust Fund.

8. Adopt the amendments to the ICID Constitution and the amendments to the ICID By-laws; and to adopt the concept of “Handbook of Procedures” as part of ICID books of rules; and ask the Spe-cial Committee under PH Peter Lee to have a relook at the Article 7.2 of the Constitution and the by-law 2 “Election of Office Bearers” and come with suitable amendments, where deemed fit.
The World Water Council (WWC) held its 50th Board of Governors (BoG) meeting on 6-8 October 2013 at Budapest, Hungary. As a member of Board of Governors President Gao Zhanyi and Alternate Member Secretary General Er. Avinash C. Tyagi represented ICID. The Vice-Chair of WWC Mr Dogan Altinbleik, Mr Akif Ozkaldi Chair of TUCID and President Gao Zhanyi informed the Board about the outcomes of WiFi that had just concluded. The Council appreciated the efforts of ICID for this initiative and hoped that WIFs will form a channel to contribute towards the objectives of WWC and World Water Forums. The Council discussed the arrangements for 7th WWF among other important international issues and administrative processes.

Working towards a Sustainable Development Goal for Water

Budapest Water Summit organized with the objective to take stock of the various developments in and outside the UN system in the preparation of water-related goals under the Rio+20 agenda. Hosted by Govt of Hungary from 8-11 October 2013 at Budapest, with five main streams: (i) Striving for universal access to water and sanitation; (ii) Integrated water resources management for the 21st century; (iii) Good water governance; (iv) Green economy for blue water; (v) Financing of water related development goals. Secretary General Er. Avinash C. Tyagi represented ICID. It also aimed to present practical, accessible and affordable solutions to the main challenges identified. It was envisaged as a policy forum to facilitate consensus building amongst stakeholders concerning the role of water and sanitation in future global development policy, including the identification of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Budapest Water Summit covered these issues by combining policy, scientific, financial-economic as well as governmental approaches and inputs. The main policy discussions of the Summit were held in parallel events, including a Science Forum, Civil Forum, Youth Forum, a Business Leaders Meeting and a Philanthropy Roundtable.

Secretary General Avinash Tyagi participated in the High Level Panel Discussion on "The Water-Food-Energy Nexus" and laid emphasis on the capacity building needs to appreciate and take advantage of the nexus between food, water and energy in order to work towards sustainable development.

News from ICID National Committee

NETHCID (The Netherlands)

Lecturer / Researcher in Irrigation Management

The UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education offers post-graduate education in Delft, The Netherlands, and carries out research and capacity building projects all over the world. The Water Science and Engineering Department of the institute conducts research and provides post-graduate education and training to professionals in various fields of water resources.

The new ‘Lecturer / Researcher in Irrigation Management’ will join the Land and Water Development (LWD) Chair group, which is primarily concerned with education and research in agricultural water management for food security and sustainability; modernization and management of irrigation & drainage systems; and lowland development. The UNESCO-IHE is looking for the new staff member with expertise in the field of agricultural water management and irrigation and drainage design and management.

Application deadline is 11th November 2013. Additional information can be obtained from the Chair Professor, Charlotte de Fraiture (T: +31 (0)152 151 734 or E-mail: c.defraiture@unesco-ihe.org). Please access their website: http://www.unesco-ihe.org/lecturerresearcher-irrigation-management for other details.

IWF (United Kingdom)

The Irrigation and Water Forum (formerly known as ICID UK) and University of East Anglia (UEA) will be hosting a half-day seminar on “The daunting challenge of canal irrigation reform for water productivity and food security” on 21 February 2014 at Institution of Civil Engineers, (ICE) London.

Improvement of irrigation performance, underpinned by designs that offers better services and manageability, is a vital part of the anticipation that water and land productivity will have to raise over the next few decades to meet future food demands. Prof. Hervé Plusquellec will be a Keynote Speaker of the seminar. This seminar will be of interest to those engineers working on food and agriculture policy. The recent 2013 publication “Solutions for Sustainable Agricul-ture and Food Systems” prepared by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network failed to refer to the challenges and rewards of canal irrigation instead highlighting the popular but nonetheless risky of micro-scale irrigation technologies. Please contact: Mr. Tim Fuller, Secretary, The Irrigation & Water Forum, UK (E-mail: Tim.Fuller@ice.org.uk) or click at www.uea.ac.uk/watersecurity and http://irrwaterforum.org.uk/.

Forthcoming Events

ICID Events

12th International Drainage Workshop (IDW), 23-26 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 Gwanganji Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea. Contact: 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: kcikd@gmail.com, kcikd@ekr.or.kr, Website: http://www.icid2014.org

Other Events

International Conference on Water Cooperation for Sustainable Development (WCSD), 15-17 November 2013 at Cairo, Egypt. All information is available at <http://www.nwrc-egypt.org/wcsd/>


A USCID Water Management Conference on Groundwater Issues and Water Management - Strategies Addressing the Challenges of Sustainability, 4-7 March 2014 at Sacramento, California. All information is available at <http://www.uscid.org/14acconf.html>

5th International Conference on Water Resources and Hydropower Development in Asia, 11-13 March 2014, Colombo, Sri Lanka. All information is available at <http://www.uscid.org/14acconf.html>

2nd International Conference on Environmental and Economic Impact on Sustainable Development, 14-16 May 2014 at Ancona, Italy. All information is available at <http://www.wessex.ac.uk/14-conferences/sustainable-irrigation-2014.html>