



From Secretary General's Desk...



Dear Colleagues,

Gauging from the reports received from National Committees (NCs) on the celebrations of the World Water Day 2017, it appears that the deliberations have generated scientific debate on the environmental conditions arising from inadequate or non-existing wastewater management that pose significant threats to human health, well-being and economic activity.

In most of the cities, particularly in the developing countries, either the wastewater treatment plants simply do not cater to the needs of entire population or are bypassed due to breakdown in the system. As a result untreated wastewater is supplied to the nearby farmers for use in irrigation or the untreated waste water end up in water bodies. In semi-arid regions, in the absence of alternative sources of water, wastewater becomes one of the most lucrative income-generating source for small farmers near urban centres. In order to reduce risks to acceptable levels in such cases, mitigation measures need to be implemented to protect public health as well as health of farmers engaged in irrigation with untreated or partially treated wastewater.

Unfortunately, many farmers and consumers are unaware of the potential adverse health impacts of wastewater use in agriculture. It is hoped that the discussions initiated among the relevant stakeholders and help to initiate public programs informing farmers and consumers about health impacts and possible mitigation measures.

Main challenge of wastewater management is presented by its cross-cutting nature, where collaboration and dialogue is required between institutions under various administrative streams that include irrigation authorities, farmers, public health officials, municipal and waste managers, planners and developers. There is a need for strong and effective governance.

For planned, strategic, safe and sustainable use of wastewaters there is a need for coherent policy interventions, regulatory mechanism and inter-disciplinary programs. Little incentive to farmers, who by using wastewater help in protecting the water bodies thereby providing environmental services, are required. It is hoped that NCs participation in such deliberations would go a long way in addressing water and food security challenges.

Is an effort to facilitate better understanding among experts across institutions and disciplines to address such issues, ICID has initiated a series of Webinars on related topics such as **'Water Productivity and Water Use Efficiency'** and **'Water Accounting and Audit'** during March and April. The response in these webinars has been very encouraging with an outreach to more than 100 participants in each of the webinars. The next Webinar in the

series is on **'Practical Benchmarking for Improving Performance of Irrigation and Drainage Schemes'** by Dr. Martin Burton (UK) on 7th June 2017. It is expected to push further the agenda and help to achieve ICID's organizational goals.

The series of webinars are also paving the way for more fruitful interactions during the 23rd ICID Congress. We have already received about 280 abstracts and the authors will be receiving the acceptance letter soon and will be asked to submit their full papers.

I take this opportunity to once again encourage NCs to prepare their Country Paper on the Institutional aspects of Irrigation and Drainage and help in undertaking **'Review the Institutional Reforms in Irrigation Sector'** as envisaged through the Symposium on the subject during the 23rd ICID Congress.

I am happy to inform that the IYPeF discussions on topics related to the 23rd ICID Congress have started with first in this series on **"Water-Food-Energy Nexus in a Changing World"** coordinated by Ms. Adey N. Mersha (Ethiopia) on 6 April 2017. Young Professionals are encouraged to take active part in the discussions to get selected for scholarships.

We look forward to your feedback on how we can help disseminate knowledge on agriculture water management and serve you better.

With best regards,

Avinash C Tyagi
Secretary General, ICID

Webinar on Practical Benchmarking for Improving Performance of Irrigation and Drainage Schemes

7 June 2017, 16:30-17:30 hours (Indian Standard Time - IST)

The Third Webinar being given under "ICID Webinar Services", to outlines the basic principles of benchmarking as applied to the irrigation and drainage sector and goes on to present case studies where benchmarking has been used in a



number of countries. The common pitfalls of benchmarking will be discussed, together with a discussion on the key processes to be benchmarked and selection and use of indicators.

To introduce this important topic, ICID has requested Dr. Martin Burton (UK) a specialist

in water resources, irrigation management and institutional development with international reputation in the fields of water management, performance assessment, benchmarking, asset management and institutional development.

For more information, please visit: http://www.icid.org/icid_webinar.html



23rd International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage

8-14 October 2017, Mexico City, Mexico



The 23rd International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage on the theme "Modernizing Irrigation and Drainage for a New Green Revolution" and 68th International Executive Council (IEC) meetings will be organized by host Mexican National Committee of ICID (MXCID) during 8-14 October 2017, Mexico City, Mexico.

During the 23rd ICID Congress, papers / posters addressing two Questions i.e. Question 60: Water Productivity: Revisiting

the concepts in light of water, energy and food nexus; and Question 61: State of knowledge of irrigation techniques and practicalities within given socio-economic settings, will be discussed.

Extended abstracts /papers

About 280 extended abstracts have been received for the two questions of the Congress. An 'International Review Committee' has been established and the review process is in full swing and authors

will start receiving acceptance letters from the 1st week of May 2017.

Early Bird 'Online' Registration

The 'Early Bird' online registration for the 23rd ICID Congress and 68th International Executive Council (IEC) and its pre-Council meetings will open on 15 May 2017 and will be active till 31 July 2017. For online registration, please go to <http://www.icid2017.org/registration.html>

Applications of Geosynthetics to Irrigation, Drainage and Agriculture

A Special Workshop on "Applications of Geosynthetics to Irrigation, Drainage and Agriculture" contributing to the Congress sub-question 61.2 "Adaptability and affordability of new technologies under different socio-economic scenarios" will be organised by International Geosynthetics Society (IGS) Technical Committee on Hydraulic Applications during the 23rd ICID Congress in October 2017 at Mexico

City, Mexico. Mr. Timothy D. Stark (tstark@illinois.edu), the Workshop Chairman, has roped in six experts to enlighten the audience on various aspects of the subject. Please do visit the Congress website at <http://www.icid2017.org> for schedule of the workshop and more information and other sessions of the Congress.

The International Geosynthetics Society

(IGS) is a learned society dedicated to the scientific and engineering development of geotextiles, geomembranes, related products, and associated technologies. The purpose of the IGS is to provide the understanding of and promote the appropriate use of geosynthetic technology throughout the world. Your attendance is solicited.

Vice President Dr. Irene Bondarik visits Azerbaijan

Vice President Dr. Irene Bondarik (Russia) represented ICID at the First Baku International Water Week on the theme "Water is not only a source of life, but life itself" organized by the Azerbaijan Water Company with the support of Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan in collaboration with World Water Council (WWC) from 14-18 March 2017 at Baku, Azerbaijan. The event brought together scientists, specialists from more than 40 countries, and participation from international & regional organizations, universities, research centers, government and donors' organizations.

During the event, several important issues were discussed such as clean and sustainable water resources, access to clean drinking water, ecology and the environment, climate change as well as



emergence of droughts etc. Restoration and improvement of water supply and sanitation systems were on the top priority for further development and prosperity of Azerbaijan.

Within the framework of the Water Week, a scientific and practical Conference on "Water Resources, Hydraulic Structures and the Environment" was organized as a special program for the World Water Forum (WWF); a technical tour to the

Baku-Shollar Water supply system and an ultrafiltration cleaning complex at the Jeyranbatan Reservoir. During the event, a special indelible impression was introduced by the ancient traditions of the Azerbaijani people. While a Special Report on "**The Drainage System in the Novgorod Region**" and "**The Historical Heritage of the World's Water Resources**" were presented by VP Dr. Irene G. Bondarik.

Using this opportunity VP Dr. Bondarik met Mr. Ahmed Ahmedzade Juma Oglu, Head of the State Land Reclamation & Water Management Agency and Academician Garib Mamedov Oglu, Adviser for Agrarian Science for National Academy of Science of Azerbaijan Republic and discussed active participation of the Azerbaijan Republic in ICID activities.

Take advantage of

Irrigation and Drainage Online

The ICID Journal Irrigation and Drainage is available online FREE via Wiley Online library for all ICID Office-Bearers, Workbody Chairs, Members and National Committees.

The latest issue available on the website is Volume 66, Issue 2, Pages 145-290. Click on <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ird.v66.2/issuetoc> for direct access to the page with the papers in



this issue of Irrigation and Drainage.

ICID members can now avail a special 35% discount of all the Wiley printed publications under the Society Discount Programme introduced recently. Members are encouraged to take advantage of this special discount.

ICID Invites Nominations for 2017

Call for Country Papers

Institutional and Organizational Aspects of Irrigation/Drainage System Management

ICID's technical Working Group on Institutional and Organizational Aspects of Irrigation/Drainage System Management (WG-IOA) will be organizing a Symposium on the theme 'Global Review of Institutional Reform in Irrigation Sector for Sustainable Agriculture Water Management, including WUA' on 8 October 2017 during the 23rd ICID Congress at Mexico City, Mexico. National Committees (NCs) are requested to submit their Country Paper on the above subject latest by **30 June 2017**.

Best Performing National Committee Award

The Sixth 'Best Performing National Committee Award (BPNCA-6)' would be presented during the 23rd ICID Congress. Applications are invited from the eligible National Committees for BPNCA-6 based on the performance during the 3-year period covering calendar years 2014-2016, by submitting a duly filled in 'Entry Form' to ICID Central Office latest by **31 May 2017**. The nominations will be adjudged by the Panel of Judges (PoJ) constituted for this purpose. The BPNCA-6 comprises of a Trophy and a Citation Plaque. For more details on BPNCA, please visit http://www.icid.org/awards_nc.html

Best Performing Workbody Award

ICID presents the 'Best Performing Workbody Award (BPWA)' triennially at the time of ICID Congress, based on the performance of its workbodies in between two Congresses. The fifth 'Best Performing Workbody Award (BPWA-5)' will be presented during the 23rd ICID Congress. Nominations are invited from the Chairs of the ICID Workbodies for the candidature of their workbodies so as

to reach ICID Central Office latest by **31 May 2017**. The valuation by a Panel of Judges (PoJ) would be based on various activities undertaken by the participating workbodies in between the 22nd and 23rd Congresses. The works of the Award winning workbody is publicized through ICID media. The Award comprises of a Citation / Certificate / Plaque to active members of the workbody, who have contributed to the achievements, besides free publications of decided value that will be given to each member of the workbody. For more details on BPWA-5, please visit http://www.icid.org/awards_wb.html

WatSave Awards

The WatSave Awards are given annually to identify successful water saving technologies and management techniques in practice among the ICID family that contribute to water conservation / water saving for increasing the beneficial and/ or efficient use of water to develop and improve the sustainable use of the critical resource. Nominations are invited for the 'WatSave Awards 2017' for the innovations that have proven implementation, through respective National Committees/ Committee latest by **30 June 2017**. The WatSave Awards are given in four categories: (i) Technology; (ii) Innovative Water Management; (iii) Young Professional; and (iv) Farmers.

Nominations are routed through the National Committee (NC) in order to ensure the originality and authentication of the work and only one nomination per category per country based on merit is received. ICID member country can also support one nomination from a non-member country.

In order for the Jury to adjudicate the awards, which are highly dependent on the actual application of the technology in the field, the nominating National Committee/ Committee has to play a crucial role since members of the Jury will often

not have detailed first-hand knowledge of the situation in a particular country, and thus would not be in a position to judge the realism of individual submissions. NCs should undertake initial screening of the nominations, through a broad based National Screening Committee for WatSave Awards against the criterion laid down in this Scheme, and in the process recommending them, authenticating the research, the application cited in the nominated work and ensure that the nomination is for the original work carried out by the authors.

ICID Register of Heritage Irrigation Structure (HIS)

Twenty-five Heritage Irrigation Structures were approved for inclusion in the ICID Register of Heritage Irrigation Structures during the 67th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting held at Chiang Mai, Thailand in November 2016, which are now part of the Register and projected on ICID website http://www.icid.org/icid_his1.php

Nominations are invited from ICID National Committees for selection of "Heritage Irrigation Structures" (HIS) older than 100 years. National Committee can nominate more than one structure, using separate nomination form for each. Associated Members and non-member countries can nominate their structures through the neighboring active national committees or by submitting directly to Central Office.

The third batch of the Heritage Irrigation Structures will be included in the ICID Register of Heritage Structures and awarded a "Plaque" during the 68th IEC meeting to be held at Mexico City, Mexico in October 2017. The last date for receipt of nomination of the ICID Central Office is **30 June 2017**.

For more information about the background, scope, objectives, criterion for selection procedure, nomination form can be downloaded at http://www.icid.org/his_appendix_n_annexure.pdf

Piped Irrigation Network

A two-day International Workshop on 'Piped Irrigation Network' was organized by the Indian National Committee on Surface Water (INCSW), Central Water Commission (CWC) under the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India (GoI) from 16-17 March at New Delhi, India in partnership by ICID. The objective of the workshop was to share experiences in the planning, design, implementation and

management of piped irrigation networks for conveyance of irrigation water from the source (river, tank, canal etc.) up to the farm level. Deliberation during the workshop were focused on various aspects of piped irrigation network such as overall planning and design from reservoir to field both gravity and pressurized, optimization of design discharge and size of pipes, sedimentation and silt management including mechanism for its exclusion



and disposal, operation & maintenance, emergency and crises management, co-operation/farmer's group/WUA experience in land consolidation and so on.

The 'Opening Address' was made by Mr. Narender Kumar, Chairman of Central Water Commission (CWC) and Indian National Committee on Surface Water (INCSW). Er. Harish Kumar Varma, Executive Director, ICID in his address highlighted that Piped Irrigation Network has emerged as an option which if implemented properly with appropriate safeguards, can not only improve efficiency in irrigation sector but also help in completion of the on-going projects as piped irrigation network has other number of advantages over conventional system. Some of the advantages are reduced land requirement thus reducing the R&R issues, land acquisition cost and project overruns; due to reduced conveyance and

evaporation loss less water is required to be drawn from source, hence more water remains available to satisfy the ecological and other needs; improved productivity along with equitable distribution of water resource to all beneficiaries; expansion of command with saved quantity of water thereby resulting in more crop per drop; encourage and activate formation of WUAs. More than 100 participants attended the workshop.

The workshop was structured around four technical sessions i.e. (i) Overview of Piped Irrigation Network (PIN); (ii) Design Aspects of Piped Irrigation Network; (iii) Case Studies of Piped Irrigation Network; and (iv) Techno-economic feasibility

aspects were organized. Three experts from the National Committees of Turkey, Australia and China, Mr. Berat Kocan (Turkey), Mr. Phil Price (Australia); and Prof. Liu Qunchang (China) participated in the workshop and made presentations on the topics 'Piped Irrigation Network status-Global and Turkey'; 'Experiences in Designing and Implementation of Piped Irrigation Network in Rationalisation of Irrigation Infrastructure in North Victoria, Australia'; and 'Piped Irrigation Technology in China' respectively. In addition, a panel discussion on 'Policy issues and capacity development for implementation of modernization programme for irrigation systems' was moderated by Mr. Pradeep Kumar, Member (RM), CWC.

Role of Water Footprints in Agriculture Sector

A one-day Workshop on the theme 'The role of water footprints in agriculture sector' was organized by Network on Irrigation Research Extension for Small-Scale Agriculture (NIRESA) on 02 March 2017 at University of Pretoria, Plant Science Complex Auditorium in South Africa. During the workshop, various stakeholders, including professionals from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), Universities of Pretoria, Free State, Cape Peninsula University of Technology, Agricultural Research Council, Limpopo Department of Agriculture, KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture, Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Western Cape Department of Agriculture were attended.

Water footprint theme is being championed by WRC with their key strategic partners. In this regard, Postgraduate students were also given an opportunities to present their

research work on the water footprint issues. Two projects funded by the Water Research Commission (WRC) were presented during the workshop (a) Water foot printing of selected vegetable and fruit crops produced in South Africa, managed by University of Pretoria, and (b) Determining the water footprints of selected field and forage crops towards the sustainable use of fresh water, managed by University of Free State.

During the workshop, various presentations and discussions were held, in detail. The participants visited two experimental sites at the University of Pretoria Experimental Farm such as the Maize trial.

The Network on Irrigation Research Extension for Small-Scale Agriculture (NIRESA) was formed in May 1996 with its objective to facilitate the exchange of ideas and practices between researchers and advisory agents in different agricultural



NIRESA participants at the University of Pretoria Experimental farm in Hatfield

disciplines. The aim of the NIRESA is to build a shared understanding of the necessary activities priority areas for research and extension that seek to effectively address the considerable challenges that face smallholder irrigation schemes. The network was established to strengthen the capacity of agriculturalists to practically serve smallholder farmers.

World Water Development Report 2017: Wastewater, The Untapped Resource

The World Water Development Report (WWDR) 2017 on the theme 'Wastewater, The Untapped Resource' was launched (<http://en.unesco.org/events/launch-2017-united-nations-world-water-development-report>) during the World Water Day celebration on 22 March 2017 at the 'Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Conference Centre' at Durban, South-Africa. The WWDR 2017 provided the contents for debate throughout the year on the global theme of this year. The Report illustrated that "the costs of improved wastewater management are usually outweighed by benefits in terms of human health, socioeconomic development and environmental sustainability". Prof.

Stefan Uhlenbrook, Coordinator of the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), provided the core of the session and presented the main findings and recommendations of the World Water Development Report 2017. He pointed out that "Over 80% of the world's wastewater is released to the environment without proper treatment, with negative consequences for the environment and human health. At the same time, wastewater should be considered a valuable resource instead of a burden."

The session was attended by Mr. Mchunu, Premier of KwaZulu- National Provincial Government, Mr. Harlin, Vice-Chair of UN-Water; Mr. Engida, Deputy Director-

General of UNESCO; Prof. Verkooijen, The World Bank; and Mr. Lwenge, Minister for Water & Irrigation, United Republic of Tanzania; African Ministers' Council on Water President, respectively.



The WWDR 2017 can be accessed at <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/water/wwap/wwdr/2017-wastewater-the-untapped-resource/launch-ceremony-wwdr-2016/> for more information.

Management Board Meeting of IRPID, Iran



The 2nd Management Board of Iran Regional Node of IRPID was held on 5th March 2017 emphasized the establishment of a platform for international cooperation on research and exchange of information. KCID and KRC proposed the need of working fund and educational training programs for Young Professionals (YPs) and hoped to have collaborative research with other National Committees (NCs).

Webinar on Water Accounting and Audit

ICID, under its policy to extend its knowledge dissemination wider, has taken up a new initiative by introducing "ICID Webinar Services". The second Webinar in the series on 'Water Accounting and Audit' was organized on 3rd April 2017. Prof. dr. Wim Bastiaanssen (The Netherlands), Senior Remote Sensing expert with a specialization in agricultural water management and UNESCO Chair for Global Water Accounting presented the webinar. Dr Saeed Nairizi, President ICID; Ms. Yasmin Siddiqi, Principal Water Resources Specialist, Asian Development Bank (ADB); and Avinash C. Tyagi Secretary General joined as Panelist. Around 100 participants from all parts of the world took advantage of this important Webinar.

Central Office made arrangement for those who missed the live webinar by posting the live video recording on



ICID website < http://www.icid.org/icid_webinar.html >. A copy of the presentation is also made available for download at http://www.icid.org/webinar_2_ppts.pdf.

The third in series Webinar on Practical Benchmarking for Improving Performance of Irrigation and Drainage Schemes is scheduled on 7 June 2017. More information on this webinar is covered separately on page 1 of this issue.

IACID Chair Momir Vranes visits ICID Central Office

Mr. Momir Vranes, Chair of Irrigation Australia's Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IACID) visited ICID Central Office on 6 April 2017 and held discussions with Er. Harish Kumar Varma, Executive Director, and Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar, Director of ICID Central Office.

Er. Harish K Varma welcomed Mr. Vranes and briefly informed him of the preparation being made for the 23rd ICID Congress to be held in Mexico in October 2017. Country papers had been invited for the International Symposium on 'Global Review of institutional reform in irrigation sector for sustainable agriculture water management' to be held during the 23rd ICID Congress. Mr. Vranes informed that IACID will be having a special meeting

in the month of May 2017 to pool the IACID resources towards preparing the country paper from Australia. Further, Dr. Labhsetwar sought the assistance from IACID for reviewing abstracts for the 23rd Congress, to which he readily agreed. Mr. Vranes further informed that the IACID will be soon engaging an Event Manager to guide the preparatory processes for 24th ICID Congress and 71st IEC meeting in September 2020 at Sydney, Australia. The theme of the 24th ICID Congress is "Innovation and research in agricultural water management to achieve sustainable development goals" and the two Congress Questions are: Q.62: What role can information and communication technology play in travelling the last mile;



and Q.63: What role is played by multi-disciplinary dialogue to achieve sustainable development goals.

The guidelines and schedule of major activities for preparation and conduct of ICID Congresses were shared and discussed. The structure of the Congress was explained through the standard format for ICID Congresses and IEC meetings.

World Water Day 2017 Celebrations

World Water Day is held annually on 22 March. On the occasion of the World Water Day 2017 with the theme 'Wastewater' various National Committees organized technical activities, which are presented herein.

India (INCSW)

The Indian National Committee (INCSW) in association with the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation; and Central

Water Commission (CWC) hosted a conference on Wastewater - Monitoring and Management on 22 March 2017 at CWC Auditorium, New Delhi, India. The event was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources Sushri Uma Bharti in the presence of Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Water Resources Mr. Vijay Goyal, Dr. Amarjit Singh, Secretary, MoWR, and Mr. Narendra Kumar, Chairman, CWC.

The session was chaired by Mr. U.P. Singh, Additional Secretary and Director General of National Mission for Clean



Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources Sushri Uma Bharti

Ganga (NMCG) along with Mr. Pradeep Kumar, Member (RM), CWC as Co-Chair. UN World Water Development Report was



introduced by Secretary General Avinash Tyagi Various experts presented Challenges in wastewater reuse; Eco-Friendly Waste Water Treatment and Reuse; and Waste water reuse.

India Water Partnership (IWP)

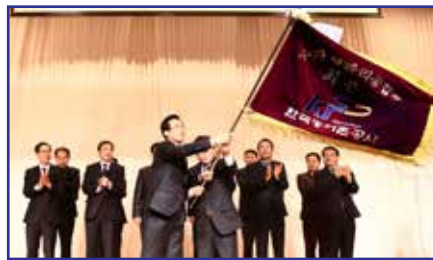
IWP, in association with International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) organized a conference on the theme Wastewater on 27 March 2017 at Water Technology Centre, IARI Campus, PUSA, New Delhi, India. The event focused on raising awareness about water conservation for achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) on water.



The event was inaugurated by Dr. Amarjit Singh, Secretary of Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. The inaugural session was followed by a technical session on 'Perspectives on Water and Wastewater Synergy'. Presenters discussed about Water and Wastewater Synergies, Wastewater Management and Use in Agriculture - IARI Experiences, Water and Wastewater Management: Challenges and Perspective and Groundwater – Quantity and Quality for Sustainable Development. A brainstorming session on 'Clean Water: Absolute Right or Duty' was also. Please access <http://www.gwp.org/en/gwp-SAS/WE-ACT/change-and-impact/News-and-Activities/2017/world-water-day-2017---india/> for more information.

Korea (KCID)

The Korea Rural Community Corporation (KRC), a state-run company for agriculture and rural development organised a special Workshop titled "Water Security and



Agriculture" on 9 March 2017 at Hyundai Hotel in Young-am, Jeollanamdo Province, Republic of Korea. Professor Dr. Jae-Kwon Son of Chonbuk National University, Vice Chairman of Korean National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (KCID) delivered his Keynote Speech on 'Climate Change and Water Resources'. In addition, a total number of 110 Director-Generals of all Province Headquarters, Project Offices and District Offices of KRC attended the event. A total 9 thematic discussions were conducted the workshop.

During the workshop, more than 300 specialists shared status quo and management methods of water resources and discussed future challenges to develop the projects on rehabilitation of irrigation and drainage system.

Iraq (IRQCID)

On 22nd March 2017, Ministry of Water Resources of Iraq celebrated the World Water Day at Baghdad, Iraq. The main attraction of the event was H.E. Dr. Fuad Masum, President of Iraq attended the event to highlight the significance of water. The 'Welcome Speech' was made by H.E Dr. Hassan Janabi, Minister of Water Resources.



H.E. Dr. Hassan Janabi emphasized on the effective role of the ministry and organized number of scientific and technical activities raised the society awareness about the importance of water supply, problems and solutions which produced useful results. The aim of the workshop was to include these activities of researchers, scientists and activists in different fields to participate in an open scientific discussion.

President H.E. Dr. Fuad Masum in his address highlighted on the efforts of maintenance and rehabilitation works in irrigation and projects which raised water shares of water stations and large projects serving the people and agricultural lands. While the other participants also highlighted water importance, considered the core brick of life and more than a need to quench thirst and maintain health. The event included several lectures on water importance and its role in building civilizations throughout history such as Babel Civilization constructed on Euphrates bank.

A dialogue session was also held and discussed the latest developments of Mosul Dam, technology used in grouting works, geologic nature and geodetic monitoring of the dam. In addition, there were other activities, including workshops about information system and vocational safety. The program was concluded with a program of Awareness and Education Units for Spreading 'Ramsar Agreement' due to its effect on environmental and biological facts.

News from ICID National Committees

Korea (KCID)

Mr. Jong Myong Kim has taken over as Secretary General of the Korean National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (KCID). His contact coordinates are:

Mr. Jong Myong Kim, Secretary General, Korean National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (KCID), 3F, Land Development Project Office, Korea Rural Community Corporation (KRC) 126, Suin-ro Gwonseon-gu, Suwon-si, Gyeonggi-do, 16429, Korea. Email: kcidkr@gmail.com, kcid@ekr.or.kr, Tel:

+82-31-201-0467, +82-31-201-0468; Fax: +82-505-300-0471

New email ID of Dr. Yong Jig Lee, Vice-Chairman of Korean National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (KCID) is <leejung268@gmail.com>

Vice President Bong Hoon, Lee & Chairman of Korean National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (KCID) and delegates from Korea Rural Community Corporation (KRC) participated in the 13th International Drainage Workshop (IDW-13), 2nd Management Board of the



Iran Regional Node of IRPID. 2nd Joint Technical Committee (JTC) meeting was held between KRC and KWPA, Khuzestan Water and Power Authority between 2-9 March 2017 at Ahwaz, Iran.

The 2nd Joint Technical Committee (JTC) meeting following the 1st JTC held in August 2016 and KRC & KWPA agreed to pursue a pilot project on ICT-based Smart Water Management System (SWMS) development in Khuzestan. The project is expected to help the region's water shortages and to leave a good impression on water management and technology in Korea.

Fiji (FIJICID)

Mr. Mahendra Kumar has taken over as Director, Land and Water Resources Management Division

Ministry of Agriculture of Fiji. His contact details are:

Mr. Mahendra Kumar, Director, Land and Water Resources Management Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Fiji National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (FIJICID), Robinson Complex, Rainwaqa, Suva, Fiji. Email: mahendra.kumar@agriculture.gov.fj, Tel: +3383155 Extn.302, Fax: +3383546

ICID fraternity extends its warm welcome to Mr. Mahendra Kumar and expresses its thanks to

Mr. Colin Simmons, former Director of Land Water Resources Management Division, Ministry of Agriculture of Fiji and represented Fiji National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (FIJICID) for his valuable contributions to ICID.

Saudi Arabia (SACID)

Engr. Naif G. Alshammari has taken over as Director-General of Department of International Relations, Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture. His contact details are:

Engr. Naif G. Alshammari, Director-General of Department of International Relations, Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture, King Abdulaziz Road, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Email: frel@mewa.gov.sa, Email: +966 (11) 4172040; and +966 (11) 4031722

ICID fraternity extends its warm welcome to Engr. Naif G. Alshammari and expresses his thanks to

Mr. Abdul Kareem M. Al-Ghamdi, former Director of Ministry of Agriculture (Irrigation Department) for his valuable contributions to ICID.

UK (IWF/ICID.UK)

A one-day Gerald Lacey Memorial Lecture titled "Water Scarcity Crisis – Fact or Fiction?" will be organized by The Irrigation and Water Forum 'British National Committee of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (IWF/ICID.UK) is scheduled to be held on 15 May 2017 at the Institution of Civil Engineers, London, UK. Prof. Ian Barker, Managing Director of Water Policy International Ltd., and Vice President Environment will deliver a lecture on "Water Scarcity Crisis - Fact or Fiction?".

Please access online <https://www.ice.org.uk/events/the-water-scarcity-crisis-fact-or-fiction-london> for joining the event.

Young AWM Professionals – Come, Join the e-Discussion on IYPEF

As the 23rd ICID Congress draws closer, ICID Young Professional e-Forum (IYPEF) as a LinkedIn Group is planning to start e-Discussions on certain topics to enable the young professionals to contribute to the discussions. Out of the active participants, best YPs will be selected for Scholarship to join 23rd ICID Congress and 68th IEC meeting at Mexico City, Mexico in October 2017.

In case you missed joining IYPEF Group on LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6990321>), don't miss this last chance to join the discussion and get a chance to meet us at Mexico City.

e-Discussion Topics:

1. Water-Food-Energy Nexus in a Changing World (6-30 April 2017)

2. Climate Change and its Impact on Irrigation Especially on Women (1st week of May 2017)
3. Drainage Issues (1st week of June 2017)
4. On-farm Efficiency for Small Scale Farming (1st week of July 2017)
5. Role of Irrigation in Food Security (1st week of August 2017)

Forthcoming Events

ICID Events

23rd ICID Congress and 68th IEC, 8-14 October 2017, Mexico City, Mexico on the theme 'Modernizing Irrigation and Drainage for a new Green Revolution'. Contact: Lic. Roberto Ramirez de la Parra, President, MXCID, E-mail: info@icid2017.org; info@mxcid.org; Website: www. icid2017.org

8th Asian Regional Conference, March 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal. Contact: Mr. Bashu Dev Lohane, Secretary, Nepal National Committee, ICID (NENCID), Deputy Director General, Department of Irrigation, Email : lohanibas@ yahoo.com, irrigation@wlink.com.np

69th International Executive Council Meeting and International Conference, Saskatoon, Canada, 12-17 August 2018, Saskatoon, Canada.

For more details <http://www.icid2018.org>. Brochure at http://www.icid.org/brochure_69iec.pdf

9th International Micro Irrigation Conference, January 2019, Aurangabad, India. Contact: Mr. Anuj Kanwal, Member Secretary, Indian National Committee on Surface Water (INCSW), Email: incid-cwc@nic.in, Website: <http://www.cwc.gov.in/main/INCID/welcome.html>

70th IEC Meeting and 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3), 2019, Indonesia. Contact: Ir. Mohamad Hasan, President, Indonesian National Committee of ICID (INACID), Director General of Research and Development, Email: inacid_indonesia@yahoo.co.id, mohasan53@yahoo.co.id

71st IEC Meeting and 24th ICID Congress, 12 May to 18 May 2020, Sydney, Australia. Contact: Mr. Bryan Ward, Chief Executive Officer,

Irrigation's Australia Limited (IAL) (Incorporating IACID), Email: Bryan.ward@ irrigation.org.au, Website: <http://www. irrigation.org.au>

Other Events

XVIth World Water Congress "Bridging Science and Policy", 29 May - 02 June 2017 at Cancun, France. For details, visit www.worldwatercongress.com

Stockholm World Water Week on the theme "Water and Waste: Reduce and Reuse", 27 August - 01 September 2017 at Stockholm, Sweden. For details, visit <http://www.worldwaterweek.org>

GeoAfrica 2017 - 3rd African Regional Conference on Geosynthetics', 8-11 October 2017 at Marrakech, Morocco. For details, visit <http://geoafrica2017.com>

International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)

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