AFRWG Minutes Item 1: Action taken report by Chair

1. The Chair Dr. Wahba started the meeting by welcoming the participants in the meeting and reminded them in brief about the mandate of the AFRWG.

2. Dr. Wahba informed the group about the winning of AFRWG as the Best Performing Workbody Award 2022 (BPWA). He thanked the Vice Chair Prof. Dr. Sylvester Mpandeli, Secretary Dr. Ismael El-Hassanoui of the AFRWG, and all the WG members and the YP’s for their great contributions to the activities of the group. He further mentioned that together with members, the group needs to do more achievements. Membership status is given in Annex 3 (page 29).

3. Then the chair presented a report on the actions taken on the decisions and proposals of the working group at its last meeting held in November 2021 as follows:

4. Reactivation of NCs: ANAFIDE agreed to support a one-year membership subscription for Niger National Committee for reactivating their membership. ICID Central Office sent the proforma invoice for payment of membership subscription for the Kenyan National Committee and Senegal National Committee however, the response is awaited. The chair thanked ANAFIDE and encouraged other partners to support the African Countries to be active members in ICID family (as President Dr. Ragab mentioned in the opening session that the fee for membership could be less than the publication of the paper in an international journal, which is considered nothing compared to the benefits for a country from this membership).

5. In April 2022, as a follow-up of the reactivation of National Committees in the African region, the ICID Central Office approached African Young Professionals Coordinators and requested them to share the contact coordinates of the Ministers of Water Resources/Agriculture of their countries. In July 2022, membership invitation letters were sent to many African countries for joining membership of ICID. In July 2022, Ghana has shown its interest to reactivate the membership however, the application form/payment is yet to be received.

(a) The total number of the African Young Water Professional Forum (AFYWP-Forum) in LinkedIn has reached to more than 6300 and more than 1030 members in ICID-Young Professional's e-Forum (IYPeF).

(b) So far, 44 African-Countries WhatsApp groups have been established.

(c) About 6 non-African countries’ WhatsApp groups have been established.

(d) Organized ICID’s Zoom Meeting with AYWP YP Coordinators on 5 April 2022 and three coordinators had been selected from each of the 44 African Countries.

(e) More efforts have been carried out to encourage non-member countries to join the ICID family.

(f) All the preparations for organizing the 5th Af-YWP Forum under the platform of CWW2022 have been done
(g) The Af-YWP forum honored with joining the new partners ICARDA and FAO
(h) Daily communications with YP’s for technical support and advice, recommendation letters, sharing news updates, bulletin, reports, announcements, available reports, online activities, opportunities, and others.
(i) Special issue for best papers in the 10th International Micro Irrigation Conference in Morocco in World Water Policy Journal was arranged
(j) Organized Webinar on Climate change impacts on water resources with ESCWA- Thursday, June 23, 2022
(k) Organized Webinar on Advanced Micro irrigation Technology with Precision Water and Salt Management - 25 August 2022
(l) Organized Webinar on Combining Farmer and Science-Based Knowledge Through the Virtual Irrigation Academy (VIA), 29 Jun 2022.
(m) Organized Online free course on Virtual Irrigation Academy (VIA) for YP’s from 2-30 June 2022.
(n) Organized Webinar on Capacity Building in Agricultural Water Management is in ‘Intensive Care Unit’- Can It Be Rejuvenated- 20 July 2022.
(o) Support arranged for 10 YP’s for South Africa Conference and training workshop on VIA in March 2023.
(p) Organized VIA workshop for YP’s during Adelaide conference – October 2022
(q) CDTE-WG online meeting
(r) Attending the Meeting of Arab Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Water Action Decade/Beirut on 18-19 May 2022 - ESCWA
(s) Visited Tajikistan, attended the UN water conference, and supported TajNCID in preparation of a proposal for the 14th International Drainage Workshop
(t) Supported the approval of the free membership of ICID in the World Canal Cities Organization (WCCO) China
(u) Gave a presentation on the Role of Agricultural Drainage and Challenges Facing it in Africa for the WG-IDSSST virtual meeting
(v) Supporting the cooperation between FAO and ICID by coordinating the ICID experts-Focal Points in FAO clusters and joining its Zoom meetings.

AFRWG Minutes Item 2: Brief of the virtual meeting organized in February 2022

6. Chair briefed the members about the first virtual meeting of AFRWG held on 10 February 2022 wherein representatives from the National Committees of Egypt, Italy, Morocco, and Sudan discussed the third node of IRPID for the Africa region, especially for the activation of the North Africa Node. Minutes of the virtual meetings of all work bodies have been uploaded on a dedicated webpage – https://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/152

7. The Chair informed the WG with the conclusion of the meeting to prepare a proposal for a regional project to find a suitable fund to carry out the activities of IRPID (refer draft proposal layout as Annex 1)

AFRWG Minutes Item 3: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Status of activities in the African region

8. Chair Dr. Wahba informed that AFRWG will continue its activities according to the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 (refer to Annex 2), as follows:

   (a) Goal B: to be a catalyst for change policies and practices (the final draft position paper on green evolution in Africa was presented and will be circulated to the AFRWG members for review)

   (b) Goal C: Facilitate the exchange of information, knowledge, and technology (shared and circulated all available documents, reports, news updates, and other documents to all using the ICID website, LinkedIn and WhatsApp groups)

   (c) Goal F: Facilitate Capacity Development (webinar, 6th Af-YWP Forum, online courses, webinars, training workshops, and study tours upon request of NCs)

AFRWG Minutes Item 4: Progress on Position paper on Green Revolution in Africa

9. The chair informed the group that the final version of the paper is ready for sending for an international journal and he thanked the two active Young Professionals - Dr. Ismael Elhassanoui and Eng. Sinafekehs for their great contributions in the paper and to President Dr. Ragab for reviewing the paper.
AFRWG Minutes Item 5: Progress on implementation of the action program for Africa - Strategy for capacity building in Africa (Training Needs Assessment Report)

10. Dr. Wahba informed the group that in May 2022, the final version of TNA-II was circulated in French and English versions to the partner international organizations, and requested their cooperation in carrying out the capacity-building activities in the African region. ICID Central Office also circulated the TNA Report-II to all members of the working group and requested them to submit the filled information to the Chair Dr. Wahba. The Report is also available on the AFRWG website at https://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/93.

AFRWG Minutes Item 6: Participation of Young Professionals in the Virtual Irrigation Academy (VIA) webinar and online training course in 2022

11. Chair Dr. Wahba informed the group that the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) offered funds for ten water professionals from Africa to participate in the 24th Congress and attend a one-day Virtual Irrigation Academy (VIA) workshop and study tour in October 2022 in Australia. The first webinar on “Combining farmer and science-based knowledge through the Virtual Irrigation Academy” was organized on 2 June and the second webinar on 30 June 2022. Also, an online training program from 02-30 June 2022 was organized to facilitate the selection of ten young professionals from Africa for travel to Australia. Ten YPs sponsored by ICID Central Office also joined the webinar. The chair informed that due to financial constraints, the organization of the VIA workshop and study tour for YPs from Africa during the 24th ICID Congress has been postponed to March 2023 in South Africa. Deputy Chairman of the South African National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (SANCID) made a commitment that Water Research Commission of South Africa through SANCID will sponsor 10 local Young Professionals for the VIA training taking place in March 2023 in Pretoria, South Africa.

AFRWG Minutes Item 7: 5th African Young Professional Forum during Cairo Water Week 2022, October 2022

12. The Chair informed the WG that building on African Young Water Professional’s Forum great success, the 5th African Young Water Professional Forum held during Cairo Water Week from 17-18 October 2022 (Hybrid mode) under the theme: “Smart irrigation water management to mitigate climate change impacts”. Valuing the importance of partnerships fostered by the International Commission for Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), African Regional Working Group (AFRWG) through the Af-YWPF with the Ministry of Water and Irrigation of Egypt, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Arab Center for the Study of Arid and Drylands (ACSAD) of the League of Arab States, Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean (GWP-MED)/ GWP Africa Coordination Unit, International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and its partners organized the 5th Af-YWPF (Hybrid Mode) during the CWW 2022. The two-day forum consists of 6 training sessions (9 hours), along with opening and closing sessions. The participating Young Water Professionals also took advantage of the online offerings provided during Cairo Water Week to engage with other experts and stakeholders in the water sector. About 135 YPs participants from 36 countries had registered for online participation and 20 YPs from 11 Countries were selected to participate physically.

AFRWG Minutes Item 8: Updates on Regional Irrigation Associations- SARIA by the Chair or Representative

13. Vice chair Prof. Sylvester Mpandeli gave a brief about the current activities of the SARIA and he informed the WG that a big project will support many activities for African Young professionals for next year.

AFRWG Minutes Item 9: Progress for the proposed third node for IRPID for the African region

14. Chair shared a brief about the final recommendation of the first online meeting of the group with President Dr. Ragab about the importance of having a proposal for funding this project and he shared a draft of the proposal layout with members (refer to Annex 1).

AFRWG Minutes Item 10: Af-YWPeF - Program and future activities

15. The Chair informed WG that more activities should be considered to support the capacity building of farmers and women in addition to young professionals and low cost, simple end effective technologies must be in the top of priorities.

16. Dr. Wahba provided updates on the schedule of AFRWG activities. He informed the group that next year, the group will consider at least two webinars about agricultural drainage, one webinar about climate change impact (Dr. Ragab) and more important topics will be considered. As the WG has gained good experiences in
webinar preparation, an intensive webinar, the online training course would be arranged for next year. As a draft proposal following activities would be considered:

(a) Webinars on

(i) Empowerment and Capacity Development of Women in Water Resources Management.
(ii) Roles of Agricultural drainage and achieving sustainable development goals
(iii) Modern Irrigation systems, planning, and design
(iv) Climate Change Adaptation for African Agriculture Systems and mitigating the Impacts on Water requirements
(v) Remote sensing application for performance assessment in irrigation and drainage project
(vi) More webinars for our partners will be shared and disseminated to all ICID groups

(b) Discussions on WhatsApp groups and LinkedIn. Sharing of reports, news updates, announcements, opportunities, and other activities.

(c) Tailor made training courses, upon request from our partners and African NC’s.

(d) Physical and virtual training back-to-back and during events.

(e) At least one virtual meeting for the AFRWG

(f) Preparation of the 6th African Young Professional Forum-2023

(g) Training workshop and attending a conference in South Africa for 10th African YP’s in March 2023

AFRWG Minutes Item 11: 10th International Micro Irrigation Conference, January 2023, Morocco

17. Dr. Bartali, Vice Chair of the Moroccan National Committee (ANAFIDE) informed the WG that the 10th International Micro Irrigation Conference (IMIC) on the theme “Micro Irrigation in the era of technology innovation and digital transformation” will be held from 25-27 January 2023 at Dakhla, Morocco with the following sub-themes: (i) Public Policies and the Promotion of Micro Irrigation: Lessons Learned; (ii) Innovation in Micro-Irrigation Design and Technology to Improve Resilience to Climate Change; (iii) Micro-Irrigation for Small-Scale Farming - Challenges, Opportunities, and Initiatives; (iv) Micro Irrigation to Promote the Nexus "Water - Energy - Food"; (v) Digital Transformation for the Management of Micro-Irrigation; and (vi) International Cooperation for the Development of Micro Irrigation. ICID Central Office circulated the Call for Papers for the 10th IMIC to all professionals and invited abstracts for the conference. Dr. Bartali informed that the preparation for the conference is going well and a special issue in World Policy Journal will be for best papers and the deadline in mid-October could be extended for a week to encourage more paper

AFRWG Minutes Item 12: 6th African Regional Conference on Irrigation and Drainage

18. In response to ICID Central Office’s request, in May 2022, Nigerian National Committee (NINCID) informed that they have considered the proposal of the organization of the 6th African Regional Conference and sent a formal request to the Government for approval.

19. At the meeting, Engr. Bala (Nigeria) gave a very comprehensive presentation about the preparation of the conference. The AFRWG agreed and suggested some topics to be considered and recommended to be in 2024 if possible, but after discussion with the ICID-Congress Committee (C-CONGR) it was agreed to continue as it is proposed in 2025.

AFRWG Minutes Item 13: Any other business

20. Dr. Wahba informed the WG members about the new initiative of ICID providing WG members to access their profile section using their dedicated account. He gave notice about the importance of assessing Members’ profiles for reviewing and continuously updating their respective information.

21. Also Dr. Wahba gave a brief to the WG about ICID’s initiative to document the development of irrigation and drainage schemes in the world by establishing an online Register on “World Irrigation and Drainage Schemes (WI&DS)”. WI&DS will fulfill the need for a much-awaited global repository of information in systematic irrigation and agricultural water management. Irrigation projects having 5000 Hectares and above of Command Area can submit their information for inclusion in the register. The irrigation projects approved by National Committee/ ICID Central Office for inclusion are entitled to Certification. Dr. Wahba encouraged the WG members to urge all irrigation and drainage scheme owners, managers, and researchers across the world and especially in their respective countries for contributing to the register. The review process and other details are outlined on the portal < https://wip.icidevents.org/ > in detail.
Title

(a) Objectives
1. Joint applied project work
2. Sharing information, experience, data, and knowledge
3. Capacity building & training of YP’s

(b) Composition
1. National Committees of ICID
2. National Universities and Research institutes
3. Governmental Authorities
4. Private Sectors

(c) Activities
1. Establishing pilot sites for joint applied project
2. Conducting Training as part of the capacity building program

(d) Areas of Interest
1. Enhancing water productivity and water use efficiency
2. Introducing new technologies for agricultural Water Management
3. Adaptation of Agriculture to climate change and its extreme events such as drought
4. Enhancing Water and Food security
5. Mitigating the impact of climate change in agriculture within the Water-Food-Energy Nexus concept.

(e) Expected output
1. Established pilot sites
2. Capacity building training program
3. Webinars
4. Workshops
5. Shared materials (documents, videos, blogs, presentations, etc.)

(f) Funding Organizations
1. Islamic Development Bank,
2. African Development Bank
3. ACSAD
4. FAO
5. ICARDA
6. IWMI
7. World Bank
8. ESCWA
9. UNDP, etc.

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### ROAD MAP TO ICID VISION 2030 – ACTIVITIES OF WORK BODIES

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<th>Goals/ Strategies</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Outcomes / Outputs</th>
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<th>Milestone for Year 2018</th>
<th>Milestone for Year 2019</th>
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<td><strong>B1. Strategy: Supporting Development of Appropriate Policies</strong></td>
<td>1.5 Position Paper on Green Revolution in Africa</td>
<td>Position paper</td>
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<td>Data collection</td>
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<td><strong>GOAL C: Facilitate exchange of information, knowledge and technology</strong></td>
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<td><strong>C3. Strategy: Promoting Regional Cooperation</strong></td>
<td>2.4 Activate or Establish Regional/sub-regional WGs</td>
<td>Regional WGs</td>
<td>Collaborate with Af-YWP-Forum</td>
<td>Establishments of more WG-YP’s WhatsApp Groups NC-wise for e-discussion and knowledge exchanges</td>
<td>Encouraging cooperation with partners</td>
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<td><strong>Goal F: Facilitate capacity development</strong></td>
<td>2.4 Strategy for capacity building in Africa</td>
<td>Strategy/Policy</td>
<td>Identify new themes and revise the strategy</td>
<td>Update the strategy</td>
<td>2nd Af-YWP-Forum (CWW2019) YP training programme prior to 9th AfRC on I&amp;D 16-23 November 2021 at Marrakesh, Morocco</td>
<td>3rd Af-YWP-Forum (CWW2020 virtually)</td>
<td>4th Af-YWP-Forum (CWW2021 virtually)</td>
<td>YP Preparing questioner for TNA Circulation of TNA Data analysis</td>
<td>Organizing workshops/Discussions</td>
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(Source: Consultative Group (CG) Report: A Water Secure World Free of Poverty & Hunger: A Road Map to ICID Vision 2030)

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