MINUTES OF THE 30TH MEETING OF
ASIAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ASRWG)
05 November 2023, 09:30-11:00 hours (Session I) and 11:30-13:00 hours (Session II)
Visakhapatnam (Vizag), Andhra Pradesh, India

Presented by the Chairman

Year of Establishment: 1996

Mandate: The general objective of the Asian Regional Working Group is to focus on common topics and issues and to enhance the transfer of appropriate technology in irrigation and drainage to and from the Asian Region. The mission of ASRWG is to encourage membership and to coordinate activities in the region.

Members present: (1) Vice President Dr. Tsugihiro Watanabe, Chair (Japan); (2) Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar, Vice Chair (India); (3) Mr. Momir Vranes (Australia); (4) Mr. Dang Ping (China); (5) Ms. Li Ruoxi – Young Professional (China); (6) Mr. Tony Chih-Sheng Chen (Chinese Taipei Committee); (7) Vice President Dr. Mohammad Amron (Indonesia); (8) Eng. (Ms.) Zainab Saleem-Young Professional (Iraq) represented by Eng. Nisreen Sami; (9) Mrs. Shaimaa Shihab Ahmed (Iraq) represented by Mr. Ayyed Kadhim; (10) Mr. Toru Okuda (Japan); (11) Mr. Arthon Suttigarn (Thailand) represented by Dr. Noppadon Kowsuvon.

New nominees: (i) Mr. David John Cameron (Australia); (ii) Dr. Masaomi Kimura (Japan)

Member Honorary: (i) President Hon. Keizrul bin Abdullah (Malaysia); (ii) Vice President Nor Hisham Ghazali (Malaysia); (iii) Vice President Hon. Dr. Mohamed Wahba (Egypt)

Observers: (1) Mr. M. Manivasakan (Australia); (2) Mr. Gao Lihui (China); (3) Dr. Ruey-Chy Kao (Chinese Taipei Committee); (4) Dr. Hwa-Lung Yu (Chinese Taipei Committee); (5) Ms. Huang Hsiang Ying (Chinese Taipei Committee); (6) Mr. Yawen Chiueh (Chinese Taipei Committee); (7) Ms. Yiju Lin (Chinese Taipei Committee); (8) Dr. Yuan-Chien Lin (Chinese Taipei Committee); (9) Dr. Chung-Feng Ding (Chinese Taipei Committee); (10) Dr. Tsu-Chuan Lee (Chinese Taipei Committee); (11) Mr. Yuan Fu Zeng (Chinese Taipei Committee); (12) Dr. Liu Jih Shun (Chinese Taipei Committee); (13) Mr. Yung Ching Chen (Chinese Taipei Committee); (14) Mr. Ho Ming Kuang (Chinese Taipei Committee); (15) Dr. Chueh (Chinese Taipei Committee); (16) Mr. Yen-Hsu Chen (Chinese Taipei Committee); (17) Dr. Feng Wen Chen (Chinese Taipei Committee); (18) Mr. G. Prasad Babu (India); (19) Dr. Alok Sikka (India); (20) Prof. L.B. Roy (India); (21) Ms. Lina Indawati (Indonesia); (22) Dr. Moono Shin (South Korea); (23) Ms. Maria Christina Kurniawati (Indonesia); (24) Ms. Ni Putu Arianti (Indonesia); (25) Mr. Katsuhiko Takahashi (Japan); (26) Dr. Mikiko Sugiura (Japan); (27) Engr. Mohd Azmi Ismail (Malaysia); (28) Ir. Wan Noorul Hafilah Ariffin (Malaysia); (29) Mr. Nor Azazi Bin Zakaria (Malaysia); (30) Dr. Mona Liza F. Delos Reyes (Philippines); (31) Dr. Tikaram Baral (Nepal); (32) Mr. Sanjeeb Baral (Nepal); (33) Prof. Moono Shin (South Korea); (34) Mr. Sharif Mahmudov (Tajikistan); (35) Dr. Bahrom Gaforzoda (Tajikistan); (36) Dr. Chanphit Kaprom (Thailand).

Website: http://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/104

ASRWG Minutes Item 1: Review of the membership

1. The group reviewed the membership of the WG. The nominations of Mr. David John Cameron (Australia); Dr. Arvind Kumar - Direct Member - IWF (India); Mr. Egemen Gürsoy (Turkey); Dr. Masaomi Kimura (Japan) and accepted them as Members of the working group. Membership status is given in Annex 3, page 31

ASRWG Minutes Item 2: Action taken report by Chair

2. The Chair presented the action taken report on the decisions and proposals made during the last working group meeting. The Chair informed the members that the group organized three interim (virtual) meetings in 2023. During the virtual meetings, the group discussed the progress in developing the Technical Reports and planning of the workshops. Also shared and discussed the proposal/ format for the Technical Report. The structure of the Country/Committee Case Studies (CCS) was also discussed. The areas of collaboration with IACID for ARC9 have been discussed as well. The processes towards the organization of the internal/international workshops have been initiated.
ASRWG Minutes Item 3:  Brief of the virtual meetings organized in 2023

3. The Chair briefly informed the group about the organization of virtual meetings on 12 April, 10 July and 09 October 2023, wherein the WG discussed various activities being undertaken by the WG as part of the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030, collaboration with IACID, progress on the technical report, organization of internal/international workshop, etc. Minutes of the virtual meetings of all work bodies have been uploaded on a dedicated webpage – https://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/152.

ASRWG Minutes Item 4:  Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Status of activities in the Asian region

4. The Chair reviewed the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 and discussed various milestones during the meeting (refer to Annex). It is expected that the Technical Report of the Working Group will be finalized and released during the 9th Asian Regional Conference at Sydney, Australia in September 2024. The members were invited to share their ideas about the Road Map and feedback for new activities including contribution from ASRWG to the 10th World Water Forum, which will be held from 18-24 May 2024 in Bali, Indonesia.

ASRWG Minutes Item 5:  Collaboration with IACID for the 9th Asian Regional Conference, September 2024, Australia

5. The Chair informed the members that the collaboration for the 9th Asia Regional Conference continued throughout the year. The conference theme has been finalized as ‘Irrigation’s role in delivering economically viable food security and sustainable urban green spaces in an increasingly unpredictable climate’. The sub-themes are:

   (a) Governance – identifying and addressing structural and policy impediments to the adoption of better irrigation practices

   (b) Investment – fit-for-purpose and cost-effective technologies which support end users to implement sustainable irrigation practices (Environmental, Social, Governance)

   (c) Capacity development – ensuring that end users can access and adapt knowledge and systems to support sustainable irrigation practices

6. During the meeting, Mr. David Cameron presented detailed information related to issues about ‘Call–for–Papers’ and the exhibition. He informed the group that the conference website has been launched https://irrigationconference2024.com.au/ and potential authors/participants can submit their abstracts following self-driven process after creating their accounts.

ASRWG Minutes Item 5.1:  Progress on the technical report/ case studies of the group

7. The Vice Chair Dr. Vijay Labhsetwar provided latest updates to the members and informed them that the Technical Reports on “Irrigation and Drainage for Food Security in Asia” from Sri Lanka, Chinese Taipei Committee, Australia, Turkey, China, and Japan have been received in the prescribed format and will be reviewed in due course of time. Further, Nepal and Indonesia have committed to submit their report shortly.

8. The Vice Chair also informed that consent has also been received from FAO and IWMI for their technical papers on the subject. Response from WB and ADB are awaited (Consent from ADB has since been received).

ASRWG Minutes Item 5.2:  Organization of Internal/International Workshop in September 2024, Australia

9. The Chinese Taipei Committee, Tajikistan, and Malaysia made presentations at the Internal Workshop on Food Security in their countries/ Committee and they are expected to submit their reports by early 2024.

10. The scope, theme/ sub-theme of the International Workshop on ‘Agricultural Water Management for Food Security: More than Modernization’ to be held during the 9th ARC at Sydney has been drafted and will be finalized soon by the Technical Committee of IAL.

ASRWG Minutes Item 6:  Strengthening linkages among NCs

11. The Chair informed the group that strengthening linkages among National Committees is an ongoing process. President Hon. Keizur bin Abdullah (Malaysia) informed the group that MANCID had organized some programs involving countries in the region. Dr. Mona Liza (Philippines) was present in the audience and Dr. Vijay exhorted her to get herself nominated to ASRWG from her NC to strengthen the linkages. Dr. Vijay further
requested the members to include their WhatsApp numbers in the attendance sheet to communicate better and thereby strengthen the linkages.

**ASRWG Minutes Item 7:** Collaboration with the International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering (PAWEEES) and International Network of Water Environment and Paddy Fields (INWEPF)

12. It was reported that the International Conference of PAWEEES 2023 was held from 23 to 25 October 2023 in Busan (South Korea) and the 18th Steering Meeting of INWEPF was held in Cairo (Egypt) in August 2023. The event plans of both organizations were also announced, including that the PAWEEES 2024 will be held in Chinese Taipei Committee.

**ASRWG Minutes Item 8:** Working Group webpage update

13. The group noted that the ICID Central Office requested all the members to share their ideas about the website and feedback for further improvement. The updated website of the group is available at [https://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/104](https://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/104)

**ASRWG Minutes Item 9:** 14th International Drainage Workshop in 2024, Tajikistan

14. During the meeting, the TaJNCID representatives - Mr. Sharif Mahmudov / Dr. Bahrom Gaforzoda provided updates on the 14th International Drainage Workshop. The 14th International Drainage Workshop (IDW) on “Modernization of irrigation and drainage systems for adaptation to climate change and sustainable development” will be held from 30 May to 01 June 2024 in Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan. The details about the 14th IDW (call for papers, hotel accommodation, registration, etc.) are available at [https://tajncid.tj/](https://tajncid.tj/)

**ASRWG Minutes Item 10:** Any other business

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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>
<th>Milestone for Year 2021</th>
<th>Milestone for Year 2022</th>
<th>Milestone for Year 2023</th>
<th>Milestone for Year 2024</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
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<td>3.6 Broaden relationship and mutual understanding and cooperation between NCs from developing countries and developed countries</td>
<td>Collaboration/ MoU</td>
<td>Exchange visits/training between NCs</td>
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<td>3.7 International conference/workshop/seminar</td>
<td>Compilation of proceedings</td>
<td>Review of the Process, Organization, and Outcomes of the 8th Asian Regional Conference, May 2018, Nepal</td>
<td>MoU between NCs</td>
<td>Workshop and/or Session in 9th Asian Regional Conference, Sep. 2024, Australia</td>
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<td>D3. Strategy: Facilitate Development of Intersectoral Platforms Involving NCs</td>
<td>3.1 Developing inter-sectoral engagement</td>
<td>Collaboration with PAWEES and INWEPF</td>
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