

**MINUTES OF THE 2ND VIRTUAL MEETING OF
ASIAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ASRWG)**

10 July 2023, 13:30-15:30 hours (Indian Time)

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 coordinate activities in the region.

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

Members present: (1) VP Dr. Tsugihito Watanabe, Chair (Japan); (2) Dr. Vijay K Labhsetwar, Vice Chair (India); (3) Dr. Aynur Fayrap, Secretary (Turkey); (4) Mr. Momir Vranes (Australia); (5) Dr. Nazmun Nahar Karim (Bangladesh); (6) Ms. Li Ruoxi - Young Professional (China); (7) Mr. C.P. Arora represented WAPCOS Limited (India); (8) (Ms.) Zainab Saleem (Iraq); (9) Mr. Toru Okuda (Japan); (10) Mr. Bashu Dev Lohanee (Nepal); (11) Mr. Ather Hameed represented Mr. Ahmed Kamal (Pakistan); (12) Prof. (Ms.) Kyung Sook Choi (South Korea); (13) Eng. (Ms.) Janaki Meegastenna (Sri Lanka); (14) Engr. Sharif Mahmudov represented the Tajikistan National Committee (Tajikistan); (15) Er. B.A. Chivate, Director (Technical) represented ICID Central Office.

New nominees: (1) Mr. David Cameron in place of Bryan Ward (Australia); (2) Dr. Arvind Kumar, Direct Member, IWF (India); (3) Mr. Gürsoy Egemen (Turkey)

Observers: (1) Ms. Naomi Carragher (IAL, Australia); (2) Mr. Kenji Washino (JNCID, Japan); (3) Tetsuharu Mori (Japan); (4) Takanashi (Japan)

ASRWG Minutes Item 1: Review of the membership

1. Chair Vice President Dr. Watanabe welcomed all participants and expressed his satisfaction by stating that the new members/nominees of the working group were actually present in the meeting.

2. The Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary of the WG reviewed (**Annex 1**) the nominations of Mr. David Cameron from the Australian National Committee (IACID), Dr. Arvind Kumar, a Direct Member from India, and Mr. Gürsoy Egemen from the Turkish National Committee (TUCID). The WG confirmed the membership of Mr. David Cameron, who has been playing a very active and important role in the organization of the 9th Asian Regional Conference (ARC9, 2024). Dr. Arvind Kumar (India) and Mr. Gürsoy Egemen (Turkey) were present and introduced themselves to the WG. The WG would recommend these names for the membership of ASRWG to the PCTA and IEC in November 2023 for formal approval.

ASRWG Minutes Item 2: Action taken report by the Chair

3. The Chair expressed his deep appreciation for the hard work of the Vice-Chair Dr. Vijay Labhsetwar regarding the International Workshop to be held in Sydney (2024) and the preparation of the Technical Report of the WG to be released as part of ARC9 in Sydney in September 2024 and the preparatory work continues.

ASRWG Minutes Item 3: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Status of activities

4. The Chair Dr. Watanabe presented, in brief, the Action Plan on the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 (**Annex 2**) during the virtual meeting. The Chair stated that one of the main tasks assigned to the Task Team (TT) for achieving Strategy C4.21 for preparing the Technical Report, which is expected to be released at the Asian Regional Conference during 1-7 September 2024 at Sydney in Australia. He also stated that WG needs to discuss the issues of contribution from ASRWG to the 10th World Water Forum, which will be held during 18-24 May 2024 at Bali in Indonesia.

ASRWG Minutes Item 4: Collaboration with IACID for the 9th Asian Regional Conference, September 2024 at Sydney, Australia

5. The Chair Dr. Watanabe invited Vice-Chair Dr. Vijay Labhsetwar, Chair of the Task Team (TT) to brief the members on the collaboration with IACID. Dr. Vijay, in turn, invited Mr. David Cameron, CEO of IAL to present

the status of happenings for the ARC9. Dr. David Cameron informed that the conference theme would be *'Irrigation's role in delivering economically viable food security and sustainable urban green spaces in an increasingly unpredictable climate'*. Upon asking, he briefly explained the urban green spaces – water reuse (recycled water) in golf courses is strongly reflected in Australia. It just refers to irrigated places in cities – typically parks and gardens, sporting fields. It is an important component of the Irrigation Australia membership.

6. Mr. David Cameron further informed that the conference program is being finalized and may be shared shortly. He further presented detailed information related to issues about 'Call-for-Papers' and the exhibition area, where the facility to make short presentations (5 minutes or so) could be made available. He stated that the processes of the ARC9 are being carried out in close cooperation with ASRWG. The subthemes would be:

1. Governance-identifying and addressing structural and policy impediments to the adaptation in better practices.
2. Investment fit-for-purpose and cost-effective technologies that support and users to implement sustainable irrigation practices (Environmental, Social, Governance).
3. Capacity development ensuring that users can access and adapt knowledge and systems to support sustainable irrigation practices.

7. Dr. Vijay expressed his appreciation for the ARC9 processes, including the 'Call-for-Papers' and mentioned that minimal modifications would be required. The Vice-Chair informed the members that the abstracts/papers review process would be voluntary and shared his expectations from the WG members.

8. During the meeting, Dr. Watanabe, the chair, mentioned that the theme/Sub-themes of ARC9 are very clear and a brief description would be included in the 'Call-for-Papers'.

ASRWG Minutes Item 4.1: Progress on the technical report - Country/Committee Case Studies of the group

9. During the presentation, Dr. Vijay, the TT leader, provided a brief update on the progress of the technical reports. He shared that a case study in the form of a 'Report from Sri Lanka', had been received for now. He congratulated Eng Ms. Janaki Meegastenna for being first in sharing the Technical Report in the given format. He stated that reports from other countries are expected in due course of time. He informed that the Chinese Taipei Committee is keen to make a presentation during the Internal Workshop at Vizag (2023). He happily informed that he has received consent for contributions to the Technical Report from FAO and IWMI, and a response from World Bank is awaited.

ASRWG Minutes Item 4.2: Organization of Internal/International Workshops

10. The Vice-Chair announced that an internal workshop on 'Irrigation and Drainage for Asian Food Security in Asia' will take place during the Vizag Meeting in November 2023. Members are expected to make their PPT presentations during this workshop. Additionally, it was suggested during the first virtual meeting to organize an International Workshop on 'Agricultural Water Management for Food Security: More than Modernization.' This workshop falls under the scope of the 9th Asian Regional Conference (ARC9) and will be organized by IACID in cooperation with ASRWG. Mr. David Cameron provided detailed information on the purpose, scope, themes, and sub-themes of the international workshop. Mr. Michel Scooby of IACID is also looking into the YP Training Program. The IACID will announce further details in consultation with their organizing committee in due course of time.

ASRWG Minutes Item 5: Strengthening linkages among NCs

11. During a recent meeting, the Chair Dr. Watanabe acknowledged that our working group is communicating closely with NCs. However, there is still a lack of mutual linkage between the national committees (NCs). It is anticipated that efforts will be made to strengthen the connections between NCs.

ASRWG Minutes Item 6: Collaboration with the International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering (PAWEES) and the International Network of Water Environment and Paddy Fields (INWEPF)

12. Dr. K.S. Choi (S. Korea) made a brief explanation about the International Conference of PAWEES 2023, which will be held from 23rd to 25th October at Haeundae Hanhwa Resort in Busan, Korea followed by Technical Tours.

13. Chair Dr. Watanabe informed the members that the 18th Steering Meeting of INWEPF would be held in Cairo, Egypt in August of 2023. Additionally, Mr. Kenji Washino from the Secretariat of INWEPF and JNC-ICID provided a brief overview of the meeting.

ASRWG Minutes Item 7: Interim online meeting of the working group

14. The next online meeting may take place just before the Vizag meeting, possibly in October 2023. This meeting will focus on resolving any outstanding issues and preparing for the 30th Meeting of ASRWG in Vizag, India.

ASRWG Minutes Item 8: Any other business

15. Eng. Sharif Mahmudov from Tajikistan announced that the International Drainage Workshop would be held during 30-31 May 2024 at Dushanbe in Tajikistan followed by Technical Tours.

16. The Chair Dr. Watanabe closed the meeting with thanks to the members and by stating that new nominees are expected to participate in the working group activities.



MEMBERSHIP OF ASRWG (AS OF 10 JULY 2023)

Sr. No.	Title	Name	Country	Email	Presence at	
					First Virtual Mtg. on April 12, 2023	73rd IEC at Adelaide On Oct. 7, 2022
1	VP Dr.	Tsugihiko Watanabe, Chair	Japan	watanabe.tsugihiko.4v@kyoto-u.jp,	on	on
2	Dr.	Vijay K Labhsetwar, Vice Chair	India	vijaylabh@gmail.com,	on	on
3	Dr.	Aynur Fayrap , Secretary	Turkey	aynurf@dsi.gov.tr,	on	on
4		Representative	Afghanistan	naseer.fayez@mail.gov.af,		
5	Mr.	Momir Vranes	Australia	momir.vranes@irrigation.org.au;	on rep. by Mr. D. Cameron	on
6	Mr.	<i>Bryan Ward¹</i>	Australia	bryan.ward@irrigation.org.au;		
7	Dr.	Robin Kumar Biswas	Bangladesh	biswasrobin@gmail.com, robin350in@yahoo.co.in,		
8	Dr.	Nazmun Nahar Karim	Bangladesh	nazmun.karim@barc.gov.bd,	on	
9	Mr.	Dang Ping	China	dangping@mwr.gov.cn,		on
10	Ms.	Li Ruoxi - Young Professional	China	liruoxi@iwhr.com, liruoxi@mwr.gov.cn,	on	on
11	Dr.	Ray-Shyan, Wu	Chinese Taipei Committee	raywu@ncu.edu.tw,	on	on
12	Mr.	Tony Chih-Sheng Chen	Chinese Taipei Committee	tonyc@triwra.org.tw,	on	on
13	Dr.	Gwo-Hsing Yu	Chinese Taipei Committee	e133@mail.tku.edu.tw,		
14		Representative	Fiji	svakaloloma@agriculture.gov.fj.,		
15	Mr.	Rajni Kant Agrawal, Direct Member, WAPCOS Limited	India	rkl@wapcos.co.in, mail@wapcos.co.in, cpd@wapcos.co.in,	On rep. by Mr. C.P. Arora	on rep. by Mr. Amit Gupta
16	VP Dr.	Mochammad Amron	Indonesia	mochammad.amron@gmail.com,		on

¹ Replaced by Mr. David Cameron

Sr. No.	Title	Name	Country	Email	Presence at	
					First Virtual Mtg. on April 12, 2023	73rd IEC at Adelaide On Oct. 7, 2022
17	VPH Dr.	Karim Shiati	Iran	karim.shiati@yekom.com, k_shiati@yahoo.com;		on rep. by Dr. Narges Zohrabi
18	Eng.	(Ms.) Shaimaa Shihab Ahmed	Iraq	engshaimaa2019@yahoo.com,		on rep. by Eng. Nisreen Sami
19	Eng.	(Ms.) Zainab Saleem	Iraq	zainab_zz51@yahoo.com,		on rep. VP Rafat Nael
20	Mr.	Toru Okuda	Japan	okuda06@n-renmei.jp,	on	on
21		Representative	Kazakhstan	consultants_astana@nursat.kz, ggme_shm2006@mail.ru,		
22	Ir.	Syed Abdul Hamid bin Syed Shuib	Malaysia	hamid@moa-gov.my,		on rep. by VP Nor Hisham Ghazali
23	Mr.	Mohamad Radzi Bin Abdul Talib	Malaysia	radzi@water.gov.my,		on
24	Dr.	(Ms.) Mu Mu Than	Myanmar	mt8190@gmail.com;		
25	Mr.	Bashu Dev Lohanee	Nepal	nencid@wlink.com.np, lohanibas@yahoo.com,		
26	Mr.	Ahmed Kamal	Pakistan	pakfloodcommission@hotmail.com, ifmengineer@gmail.com, federalfloodcommission@gmail.com,	on rep. by Mr. A. Hameed	on rep. by VPH Waseem Nazir
27		Representative	Philippines	pncicid@gmail.com,		
28		Representative	Saudi Arabia	baha@mewa.gov.sa, frel@mewa.gov.sa,		
29	Ms.	Jeong Min, Ryu - Young Professional	South Korea	agentryu3@ekr.or.kr;		
30	Prof. (Ms.)	Kyung Sook Choi	South Korea	ks.choi@knu.ac.kr, kcidkr@gmail.com,		
31	Eng.	W.B. Palugaswewa	Sri Lanka	wpalugaswewa@yahoo.com;		on rep. by Mr. Janaka

Sr. No.	Title	Name	Country	Email	Presence at	
					First Virtual Mtg. on April 12, 2023	73rd IEC at Adelaide On Oct. 7, 2022
						Priyantha
32	Eng. (Ms.)	Janaki Meegastenna	Sri Lanka	janakimeega@hotmail.com,		on rep. by Mr. Janaka Priyantha
33		Representative	Tajikistan	gbahrom_75@mail.ru,		
34	Mr.	Arthon Suttigarn	Thailand	asut1030@gmail.com; asut999@gmail.com,		on
35	Mr.	Ilkhom Juraev	Uzbekistan	i.u.jurayev@gmail.com,	on	
36	Dr.	Dao Trong Tu	Vietnam	tu.daotrong2013@gmail.com;		
NEW NOMINATIONS						
	Mr.	David Cameron	Australia	dave.cameron@irrigation.org.au	on	
	Dr. (Mr.)	Arvind Kumar, Direct Member, IWF	India	drarvind@indiawaterfoundation.org	rep. by Ms. Shweta Tyagi	
	Mr. ?	Gürsoy Egemen	Turkey	egemen@dsi.gov.tr		
?	Dr.	Bahrom Gaforzoda	Tajikistan		on	

ROAD MAP TO ICID VISION 2030 – ACTIVITIES OF WORK BODIES

Goals/ Strategies	Activities	Outcomes/ Outputs	Milestone for Year 2021	Milestone for Year 2022	Milestone for Year 2023	Milestone for Year 2024	Responsibility
C3. Strategy: Promoting Regional Cooperation	3.5 Enhance Linkages between National Committees for International Cooperation	Technical Report	Enhancement of Linkages between NCs for International Cooperation through Knowledge Sharing and Event organization	Enhancement of Linkages between NCs for International Cooperation through Knowledge Sharing and Event organization	Enhancement of Linkages between NCs for International Cooperation through Knowledge Sharing and Event organization	Enhancement of Linkages between NCs for International Cooperation through Knowledge Sharing and Event organization	
	3.6 Broaden relationship and mutual understanding and cooperation between NCs from developing countries and developed countries	Collaboration/ MoU	Exchange visits/ training between NCs	Exchange visits/ training between NCs	Exchange visits/ training between NCs	Exchange visits/ training between NCs	
			MoU between NCs	MoU between NCs	MoU between NCs	MoU between NCs	
	3.7 International conference/ workshop/ seminar	Compilation of proceedings	Review of the Process, Organization, and Outcomes of the 8th Asian Regional Conference, May 2018, Nepal	MoU between NCs	Collaborated Preparatory Works for the 9th Asian Regional Conference with IACID	Workshop and/or Session in 9th Asian Regional Conference, Sep. 2024, Australia.	
				Participation in 9th World Water Forum (WWF9), March 2022, Senegal			
				Participation in 4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit (APWS4), April 2022, Japan			
C4. Strategy: Compile, Collate and Share Knowledge and Experiences	4.4 Special joint Publication on Agricultural Water Management for Sustainable Rural Development	Side Event with AARDO (African-Asian Rural Development Organization) (held in 2018)					
			WG Workshops on Impacts of COVID-19 on Agricultural Water Management in Asia				
	4.21 Report on "Contribution of Agricultural Water to the Rural Development in Asia"	Technical Report ("Contribution of Agricultural Water to the Rural Development in Asia" was published in 2018)		Workshop on Irrigation and Drainage for Asian Food Security in Asia, in 73rd IEC, Oct. 2022, Australia	Workshops on Irrigation and Drainage for Asian Food Security in Asia, in 74th IEC, Apr. 2023, China, and 74th IEC, Nov. 2023, India	The formal release of the Report at 9th ARC, Sep. 2025, Australia	
D3. Strategy: Facilitate Development of Inter-sectoral Platforms Involving NCs	3.1 Developing inter-sectoral engagement		Collaboration with PAWEES and INWEPF	Collaboration with PAWEES and INWEPF	Collaboration with PAWEES and INWEPF	Collaboration with PAWEES and INWEPF	
			Organizing multi-sectoral events /workshops	Organizing multi-sectoral events /workshops	Organizing multi-sectoral events /workshops	Organizing multi-sectoral events /workshops	