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|  ICID-CIID | MINUTES OF 10TH MEETING OF THE ICID WORKING GROUP ON CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING AND EDUCATION (ICID WG-CDTE) 11 September 2025, 14:00-15:30 Hours (Session-I) 11 September 2025, 16:00-17:30 Hours (Session-II) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia |
| | Strategy Theme: Sustainable Development PRESENTED BY THE CHAIRMAN |

Year of Establishment: 2015

Extended completion of the Mandate: 2027

Mandate: (i) Coordinate and guide the knowledge management activities of the Commission and the capacity development activities by various WGs: (a) *Compile the status of training and educational programmes offered in different regions;* & (b) *Compile the Educational Programs being offered in irrigation and drainage in different regions;* (ii) Identify the training and education requirements, and identify gaps in available training programs, explore the feasibility of developing e-learning program and prepare guidelines for their development to support education and training programmes; (iii) Explore the scope of use of IT in capacity development including distant learning, and implement where feasible; (iv) Make available various tools required for sustainable development; (v) Oversee the establishment and functioning of a Technical Support Unit for supporting NCs; and (vi) Facilitate the process of balancing education and training requirements, and provision of training services.

Members Present: (1) VPH Dr. Mohamed Wahba (Egypt), Chairman; (2) Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar (India), Vice-Chairman; (3) Dr. Shinji Fukuda (Japan); (4) Dato' Ir. Haji Hanapi Bin Mohamad Noor (Malaysia); (5) Mr. Gaforzoda Bakhrom (Tajikistan); (6) Ms. Li Ruoxi (China), Young Professional; (7) Dr. Narges Zohrabi (Iran); and (8) Engr. Behzad Navidi-Nassag represented by Dr. Narges Zohrabi.

Observers: (i) Mr. J. Mohan, DHAN Foundation, India; (ii) Ir. Sharif Mahmudov (Tajikistan); (iii) Ir. Masid Hamudov (Tajikistan); and (iv) Ir. Shima Kabiri (Iran).

Webpage: <https://icid-ciid.org/wbody/WG-CDTE>

Minutes Item 1: Action Taken Report by Chair

1. The Chair presented a report on the follow-up actions regarding the decisions and proposals made by the working group at its last meeting in 2024 in Sydney, Australia. Key highlights included one online meeting held in 2025 and the successful selection of 28 Young Professionals from our networks, who were awarded full scholarships to pursue master's or doctoral programs at Yangzhou University, China

Minutes Item 2: Review of the membership of the WG

2. The nomination of Dr. Sanidda Tiewtoy, received from the Thai National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (THAICID), was accepted for membership in the WG-CDTE during the Sydney meeting in 2024. Since he was not present at the meeting, his membership will be provisional.

3. The new nominations of Mr. A. Gurunakhan and Mrs. K. Ilavarasi, received from DHAN Foundation (India) for membership in the WG, were noted. However, as both nominees were not present at the WG meeting, they were formally accepted as provisional members of the group.

4. The Chair nominated Ms. Li Ruoxi as Secretary of the Working Group, and the WG subsequently elected her to the position. This decision was made in full recognition of the contributions and dedicated service of the outgoing Secretary, Dr. Rajendra S. Poddar. Membership status is given in **Annex 3, page 21**.

Minutes Item 3: Brief of the 1st Virtual meeting organized on 24 February 2025

5. A virtual meeting of the WG-CDTE was organized on 24 February 2025 wherein nine members participated. During the meeting, the Chair discussed various activities being undertaken by the group as part of Road Map to ICID Vision 2030, such as, new membership, YP training & educational programmes; workshops, webinars, and e-discussions etc. The minutes of the virtual meeting have been shared at https://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/152

Minutes Item 4: Discussions towards activation of WG mandate

8. During the virtual meeting, Chair Dr. Wahba touched upon the mandate of the group with the members. Dr. Wahba shared some ideas for activation of the WG mandate such as:

- (a) Utilizing the WG – Website as a platform or data base for exchanging of thesis and papers among professionals
- (b) Utilizing existing Pilot Projects for advanced technologies for Capacity Building
- (c) On-site training for Young professional and technical staff
- (d) Attracting private sectors in a win-win cooperation for technology promotion
- (e) Organizing special training Workshops
- (f) Preparing to invite some sponsors for some WG events and activities
- (g) Cooperation with partners for M.Sc. and PhD scholarships
- (h) Call for sponsors to support African NC's membership in ICID
- (i) Research needs and private sectors cooperation - Research development and Utilizing YP's in technology promotion – as Part time contributions
- (j) Organizing First Young Professional conference on “Irrigation & drainage for sustainable agricultural”
- (k) Organizing exhibitions to promote advanced technologies in irrigation and drainage.

Minutes Item 5: Status of signing MoU's and what is next?

9. During the virtual meeting, Chair Dr. Wahba emphasized the question, “What comes next?” following the signing of MoUs. He encouraged members to explore opportunities to support Young Professionals (YPs), citing the example of securing 28 scholarships for Master's and PhD students through a new MoU with Yangzhou University, China. Chair Dr. Wahba also provided an update on additional MoUs currently in the pipeline.

- (i) National Institute of field crops – Tunisia
- (ii) Two institutes and Research centres in Uzbekistan
- (iii) Institute of water problems in Tajikistan
- (iv) Yangzhou University- China

10. According to ICID regulations, Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) may only be signed by the ICID President, upon notification of the concerned National Committees. The Chair expressed concern that this requirement may constraint the Working Group's development, impede operation efficiency, and hinder broader global participation.

Minutes Item 6: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030: Status of Activities

11. The Working Group reviewed the status of activities under the Action Plan (Road Map to ICID Vision 2030), aimed at helping National Committees (NCs) enhance their capabilities and address knowledge or skill gaps. These activities include Young Professional training and educational programs, workshops, seminars, conferences, e-discussions, information sharing (webinars/web-based activities), knowledge dissemination, and e-learning materials. Accordingly, the WG will update the activities identified in the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030.

Minutes Item 7: Promoting Capacity Development, Training and Education

Minutes Item 7.1: Training Programs for YPs in September 2025 during Malaysia meeting

12. The Training Program for Young Professionals was held on 11 September 2025 in conjunction with the World Irrigation Forum (WIF4) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The theme of the program was “**NextGen Water Leaders: Innovating for Sustainable Irrigation Futures.**” The training was organized into three sessions featuring nine speakers, with a total of 20 participants in attendance. The themes of the sessions are as follows :

- (a) Visioning the Future of Irrigation
- (b) Smart Technologies and Innovation in Irrigation
- (c) Community-Driven Irrigation and Nature-based Solution

Minutes Item 7.2: 7th African Young Water Professional's Forum & Cairo Water Week (CWW) 2024 from 13 October to 17 October 2024

13. Chair Dr. Wahba informed the members that, due to the lack of financial support from partners during 2024–2025, no activities for the African Young Water Professionals Forum could be organized under the Cairo Water Week platform.

Minutes Item 7.3: 6th African Regional Conference, 14-18 April 2025 in Abuja, Nigeria

14. The Chair Dr. Wahba gave a brief about the 6th African Regional Conference on Irrigation and Drainage (ARCID) of ICID was held from 14th to 18th April 2025 at the Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Centre, Abuja, Nigeria, and West Africa. The Conference was organized by the Nigerian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (NINCID), under the auspices of the Federal Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation (FMWRS), in collaboration with the African Regional Working Group (AfRWG) of ICID. The theme of the Conference was 'Tackling Irrigation Development and Water Management Crisis in Africa'. The conference focused on key issues such as: (i) Adaptive strategies for climate resilient irrigation systems; (ii) Sharing successful irrigation projects, schemes, and policies; (iii) Promoting regional and international cooperation; (iv) Identifying capacity-building needs for professionals; (v) Exploring financing mechanisms and investment models for sustainable irrigation infrastructure. In addition, the two day training workshop for Yung Professionals (YPs) was also held on 11th & 12th April 2025 during the Conference.

Minutes Item 8: TF on Women's Empowerment in Water Resources Management – Updates

15. Dr. Narges Zohrabi proposed that the WG-CDTE actively assist in identifying potential donors and funding sources to support capacity development projects, such as workshops and seminars, particularly those targeting women, in collaboration with the TF-WEWM. She suggested starting with web-based seminars (webinars) and indicated that she would follow up with a detailed proposal. Members were also encouraged to share any other relevant proposals.

16. Chair Dr. Wahba emphasized that the WG would provide full support to the task force and requested Dr. Narges to initiate the proposals, after which the WG would make every effort to secure financial support for the activities.

Minutes Item 9: Dissemination of Knowledge – Website

17. The chair informed the group that all the documents, recorded videos and materials of the activities have been shared through the website of ICID.

18. The Chair encouraged the members to continue and share their activities through the website.

Minutes Item 10: E-learning programmes as a capacity development tool

19. ICID e-Learning platform is one of the initiatives to strengthen the capacity building activities. In order to achieve the objectives, ICID always encourages/ supports professionals from member NCs to join the e-learning programs organized by various partners and associates. Chair has been sharing the invitations to such e-learning programs via various WatApp groups.

Minutes Item 11: Webinar/Web-based seminar

20. It was noted that the Working Group organized webinars to promote the sharing of the vast experience available within the ICID fraternity. The ICID Central Office will again request members to provide their suggestions on potential webinar topics, in line with the mandate of the WG, along with the names of relevant experts who could be contacted to develop these webinars.

Minutes Item 12: Any other business

12.1 Presentation on Malaysian WUAs: Dr. Hanapi Mohamad, the representative from Malaysia, delivered a presentation on Water User Associations in Malaysia, providing a comprehensive overview of their mission, mandate, organizational structure, operational mechanisms, and major activities.

12.2 ICID Members' Profile Section: Members were requested to update their information in the ICID Members' Profile Section.

12.3 Register on World Irrigation and Drainage Schemes (WI&DS): Members were requested to share this information with their National Committees to enrich the WI&DS.

