

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL 5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE  
WORKING GROUP ON CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT,  
TRAINING AND EDUCATION (WG-CDTE)**

27 October 2020, 13:30 hours

**Strategy Theme: Knowledge**

**Presented by the Chairman**

**Year of Establishment: 2015**

**Completion of the Mandate: 2021**

**Mandate:** (i) Coordinate and guide the knowledge management activities of the Commission and the capacity development activities by various WGs; (ii) Compile the status of training and educational programmes offered in different regions; (iii) Compile the Educational Programs being offered in irrigation and drainage in different regions; (iv) 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; (v) Explore the scope of use of IT in capacity development including distant learning, and implement where feasible; (vi) Make available various tools required for sustainable development; (vii) Oversee the establishment and functioning of a Technical Support Unit for supporting NCs; and (viii) Facilitate the process of balancing education and training requirements, and provision of training services.

**Members Present:** (1) VPH Dr. Mohamed Wahba (Egypt); (2) Dr. Shinji Fukuda (Japan); (3) Dr. Wen-Pin Shu (Chinese Taipei Committee); (4) Eng. Abu Obieda Babiker Ahmed Hassan (Sudan); (5) Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar (India); and (6) Er. Ashwin B. Pandya, Secretary General, ICID.

**Observers:** (i) Er. Harish K. Varma, Executive Director, ICID; (ii) Mr. Gaforzoda Bahkrom (Tajikistan); (iii) Er. Ashok Kumar Kharya (India); (iv) Dr. Rajendra S. Poddar (India); and (v) Mr. Dilshod KIMSANOV (Tajikistan).

**Website:** [http://icid-ciid.org/inner\\_page/129](http://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/129)

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 1: Action Taken Report by Chair**

1. In absence of Chairperson / Vice Chair / Secretary of the WG, Er. Ashwin B. Pandya, Secretary General, ICID acted as Interim Chair and conducted the virtual meeting. At the onset, Er Pandya welcomed the members and briefly described the context of the on-line meetings of ICID due to COVID-19 pandemic situation.
2. The members of the WG noted the highlights of the report presented by the Interim Chair Ashwin B. Pandya, Secretary General and Er. H.K. Varma, Executive Director, ICID Central Office.
3. During the year, ICID Central Office had approached the members of the WG to provide their views for revival of the group as per direction of PCTA during its 39<sup>th</sup> meeting held at Bali in 2019 as well as also invited fresh membership from the National committees to strengthen the membership. In response, the following members were nominated by the NCs:
  - (i). Dr. Rajendra S. Poddar (India) - He was present and recommended for membership.
  - (ii). Er. Ashok Kumar Kharya (India) - He was present and recommended for membership.
  - (iii). Mr. Gaforzoda Bahkrom (Tajikistan) – He was present and recommended for membership.
4. Dr. Akie Mukai from Japan was, however, not available and therefore admitted as 'Provisional Member' for one year.
5. The following provisional members were not present: Mr. Mirza Asif Baig (Pakistan), Dr. Nader Heydari (Iran), Mr. Hasan Basri Yuksel (Turkey), Ms. Dahile Abdulquader Abdulhammed (YP) [Iraq] & Mr. Raad F. Amein Taha (Iraq) and therefore the WG recommended to discontinue their membership and request their NCs to send fresh nominations for the membership of the WG.

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 1.1: Selection of new Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary of the WG**

6. VPH Dr. Abdelhafid Debbarh (Morocco), Chairman of the WG and Dr. Young D. Kim (Korea) Secretary of the group were not present and stepped down from their positions. In order to revitalize the activities of the WG, the Interim Chair invited willingness from the members present for new Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary of the WG.

7. VPH Dr. Mohamed Wahba (Egypt), Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar (India) and Dr. Rajendra S. Poddar (India) volunteered to be the new Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary of the WG, respectively and WG accepted their nomination as the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary of the WG. Membership status is given in **Annex 3 (page 43)**.

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 2: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Status of Activities on capacity development, training and education**

8. The WG revisited the Action Plan ‘Road Map to ICID Vision 2030’ (Annex 2 of the Agenda) and observed that not much has been done so far due to past inertia of the WG. However, the new Chair will now populate the plan in due course of time up to 2022.

9. After deliberations, it was agreed that WG should immediately take actions in order to complete mandate of the WG, especially actions in respect of mandate (b) compile the status of training and educational programmes offered in different regions; and (c) Compile the Educational programs being offered in irrigation and drainage in different regions. Accordingly, WG Chair requested the members of the WG to provide these information in respect of their country.

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 3: Promoting capacity development, training and education**

10. The WG noted that the planned training program for young professionals (YPs) during the 5th African Regional Conference, 16-19 March 2020 at Marrakech, Morocco now stands postponed due to COVID-19. This training program will be held together with the 5th African Regional Conference in September 2021 (tentative) at Marrakesh, Morocco.

11. However, the 2<sup>nd</sup> African Young Water Professionals Forum (Af-YWP-Forum) was successfully organized from 21-23 October 2019 at Cairo, Egypt. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Af-YWPF was organized virtually due to COVID-19 during 18-22 October 2020 as part of Cairo Water Week. VPH Dr. Wahba (Egypt) and Chairman of the AFRWG together with Egyptian National Committee were appreciated for their efforts by the members of the WG.

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 4: E-learning programmes as a capacity development tool**

12. ICID e-Learning platform is one of the initiatives to strengthen the capacity building activities. In order to achieve the objectives, ICID has launched the following two on-line programs:

(a) **Online Certificate Course on Dam and Network Safety Assurance:**

The course is meant for the professionals directly engaged in the works of maintaining and managing the irrigation and multipurpose projects having headworks in form of storage structures of various sizes and associated water distribution networks for providing water to the beneficiaries.

(b) **Online Certificate Course on Micro-Irrigation Systems (MIS):**

This has been developed by ICID in collaboration with the National Water Academy of India and Indian National Committee of ICID (NWA / INCID) and two industry leaders – Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd and Netafim Irrigation Private Limited. Er. Ashok Kumar Kharya (India), member of the WG, highlighted that the MOODLE platform can be used for specific training purpose of ICID members and modalities in this connection need to be worked out. The course is based on the global water scarcity and increased demand for food are two main drivers for the urgent efforts to improve food productivity in agriculture, the sector that consumes 70-80% of annual freshwater availability. Er. Felix B. Reinders (South Africa), President of ICID inaugurated the Online Micro-Irrigation System (MIS) Course through a Webinar on ‘*Rationale for Water Saving in Agriculture and An Overview of the Micro Irrigation Systems Course*’ on 07 October 2020 as keynote.

13. The members appreciated and noted the progress of the courses as above.

**WG-CDTE Minutes Item 5: Any other business**

14. The existing tenure of the WG end in 2021 and much mandate is yet to be covered due to past inactivity of the WG. With new Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary, the WG expects to cover the mandate of the WG in the next 6 years. It is, therefore, recommended to extend the tenure of the WG up to 2027 as not much is likely to happen in the remaining 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19.

15. The meeting ended with thanks to the Interim Chair and members of the WG.

