New Mandate of C-CONGR:

(a) Representatives from previous events are required to present a summary report to the first meeting of C-CONGR following their event that includes attendance, financial performance, and recommendations for future events. This requirement should be a condition of the LoA.

(b) National Committees wishing to hold a future Congress/WIF/Regional Conference must make a report to C-CONGR outlining their plans including location, dates, expected attendance, financial budget, registration fees etc. C-CONGR will consider these reports and make a recommendation to PCSO whether to grant the event to the NC.

New membership composition of C-CONGR:

(a) A Chair who is a representative from the Organising Committee (OC) of the next Congress.

(b) Two further members from the National Committee for the next Congress and a YP representative if available.

(c) A representative from each of the confirmed future ICID events (Congress/WIF/Regional Conferences).

(d) A representative from the previous Congress.

(e) A representative from ICID CO who will also provide secretarial services.

Members Present: (1) Mr. Kushvinder Vohra (INCID, India), Acting Chair; (2) Mr. Rishi Srivastava (India); (3) Mr. R. Giridhar (India); (4) VPH Dr Ding Kunlun (China); (5) Dr. El Houssine Bartali (Morocco); (6) Prof. Fethi Lebdi (Saudi Arabia); (7) Dr. Bahrom Gaforzoda (Tajikistan); (8) Mr. Mohammad Radzi Bin Abdul Talib & Mr. Ahmad Bin Dakur (Malaysia); (9) VPH Dr. Hafied A. Gany (Indonesia); (11) Dr. Bahaa K. Helmy (Saudi Arabia) and (11) Er B.A. Chivate, Director (Technical), ICID Central Office.

Observers: (i) Dr. Ragab Ragab, President, ICID; (ii) Vice President Bruno Grawitz (France); (iii) VPH Ian Makin (UK); (iv) Dr. David Cameron (Australia); (v) Ms. Li Ruoxi (China); (vi) Engr Mohd Adnan Ahmad Fauzi (Malaysia); (vii) VPH Dr. Marco Arcieri (Italy); (viii) Prof Sylvester Mpandeli (South Africa); (ix) Dr. Vijay K. Labhsetwar (India); (x) VPH Dr. William Vlotman (Australia); (xi) Engr. Anthea Ochedikwu (Nigeria); (xii) Dr. Bahrom Gaforzoda (Tajikistan); (xiii) Engr. Bakhriniso Narzullaeva (Tajikistan); (xiv) Mr. Rauf Yuldashev (Tajikistan); (xv) VPH Dr. Mohamed Wahba (Egypt); (xvi) Ir. Hakibu Tanko (Canada); and (xvii) Ir. Siboniso Mkhaliphi (South Africa).

Website: http://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/107

C-CONGR Minutes Item 1: Action taken report by Chairman

1. Mr. Kushvinder Vohra (India), Member, Central Water Commission and Ex-officio Additional Secretary to Govt of India welcomed the participants in the 33rd meeting of C-CONGR and informed that Mr. Bryan Ward, Chairman of the C-CONGR could not attend the meeting due to some unavoidable circumstances. So, report of the C-CONGR could not be presented during the meeting.

2. The Chairman reported that COVID-19 continues to make event planning difficult and congratulated the Moroccan National Committee (ANAFIDE) on managing to navigate the difficulties of the pandemic to deliver a successful event. The Chairman thanked Pr. El Houssine Baratali for his assistance to visiting delegates and his general organization of the event.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 1.1: A brief report of the first virtual meeting of C-CONGR on 03 March 2022

3. The minutes of the first virtual meeting of C-CONGR (https://icid-ciid.org/icid_data_web/min_congr_webmeeting2022.pdf) held on 03 July 2021 were noted and accepted. The minutes of the online meetings of the Workbodies can also be accessed at https://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/152
C-CONGR Minutes Item 2: Revised mandate and new Membership Composition of the Committee

4. The new composition and mandate of C-CONGR was discussed and noted, as above. The next Chairman of C-CONGR will be Mr. Kushvinder Vohra (India), Member, Central Water Commission and Ex-officio Additional Secretary to Govt. of India, New Delhi.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 3: Overview of 24th ICID Congress & 73rd IEC, 3-10 October 2022 at Adelaide, Australia - Updates

5. The Committee could not be apprised due to non-availability of Mr. Bryan Ward, Chair of C-CONGR.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 4: Feedback from the organizer of the past events

C-CONGR Minutes Item 4.1: Feedback from 72nd IEC and 5th AfRC, Marrakesh, Morocco

6. The feedback was provided by Dr. El Houssine Bartali (Morocco). He intimated that there was a training session organised for Young Professionals. Due to Covid-19, IEC could not be held in physical mode as scheduled but was successfully held partially online. However, he mentioned that Hybrid arrangements get costlier and face to face meeting seems better.

7. He apprised the Committee that the report of the C-CONGR has been submitted to PCSO/IEC. He also informed that ‘share of registration fee’ of this event to be given to ICID and requested for expediting of the same.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 5: Preparations for the future events for the next 3 years

C-CONGR Minutes Item 5.1: 10th International Micro Irrigation Conference, 25-27 January 2023 at Dakhla, Morocco

8. Dr. El Houssine Bartali (Morocco) informed the Committee about the importance of non-conventional water (desalinization) for irrigation. The topic / theme would be “Micro irrigation in the era of technology innovation and digital transformation”. There would be six sub-themes. The request for submission of abstracts / papers has been made. The abstract / papers can be submitted through online system. The delegates are expected from about 20-30 countries.

9. Dr Ragab Ragab (United Kingdom), President ICID advised to avoid giving deadlines especially in summer, owing to the vacation time (July-August in particular). He also suggested that side events highlighting the local issues could result in increased participation. VPH Ian Makin (UK) opined that holding of too many side-events at the same time with main event may result in lesser participation for the main event. President Dr Ragab clarified that he did not mean side-event. He had only suggested side-events or sub-themes that are closer to the regional configuration. Dr. Bartali also mentioned that 5th African Regional Conference (5th AfRC) was successful due to side-events.

10. Dr Bartali was requested to submit the detailed note on the 10th IMIC preparation and proposed activities.

C-CONGR Minutes Items 5.2: 74th IEC Meeting and 4th WIF, 16-22 April 2023 at Beijing, China

11. A presentation was made by Chinese delegation regarding preparedness for the 74th IEC to be held in Beijing in April 2023 and was informed about 1000 delegates are likely to participate. Dr Ragab Ragab, President ICID suggested that the year 2023 is already heavily loaded with events and suggested to subsume 74th IEC into 75th IEC. The Chinese delegates informed that preparations are well underway, but they were open to suggestion of Dr Ragab Ragab and will be in touch with central office of ICID in this regard.

12. President Dr Ragab and VPH Eng. I. K. Musa (Nigeria) also suggested exploring the option of:

   (a) The events may be held in hybrid mode and the registration fee for the participants opting to participate online, should be reduced which may result into increased participation. This will help in participation of professionals having any health issues or having some other constraints.

   (b) Moreover, the general expenditure / price levels differ from country to country, so the registration fee should be in accordance to price levels of the country where the event is being held.

   (c) Further, President Dr Ragab informed that FAO wants a side-event on their own. VPH Dr Ding Kulun (China) informed that they are looking into it.

13. VPH Musa expressed concerns about the ‘Early Bird’ registrations and delays in getting clearances / VISA that leads to increased costs for staying, and difficulty in getting finances due to recession resulting from Covid-19 etc.

14. Mr David Cameron (Australia) suggested that the registration fee should be such that the delegates do not feel the pinch and simultaneously the organising company / event-managers should also find the event interesting from the point of view of ROI, else they might lose interest in holding such events.
15. Mr Bruno Grawitz, representative from France, suggested having a statistic from past events to delve deeper to arrive at the strategy regarding registration fee etc. He also suggested that statistics of finances alone may not give a clear picture. In addition, some sort of survey / questionnaire also needs to be given to participants after the event so that they can express their feedback. This would lead to better planning of future events.

16. Mr. Kushvinder Vohra (India) expressed the view that having different registration fee for events held in different countries may pose different kind of issues, such as participants may not register for the events that are held in costlier countries and may wait for the event to happen in relatively cheaper locations.

17. Chairman also expressed that decreased Registration Fee may not necessarily lead to increased participation, as mostly the participants are sponsored by some organisation or the other. The number of participants bearing the expenses on their own may be very less as compared to the sponsored participants. So, it needs to be studied / deliberated in totality and it was agreed upon that a detailed analysis needs to be undertaken from the statistics available from past events in order to take an informed view on this. Chairman mentioned that all the views of the participants have been noted and would be placed for consideration of ICID.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 5.3: 14th International Drainage Workshop, September 2023, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

18. The delegates from Tajikistan made the presentation about the same. President Dr. Ragab suggested that 2023 is heavily loaded and suggested them to consider it for 2024, to which Tajikistan side had no major issues with the suggestion. Mr. Kushvinder Vohra suggested that Tajikistan side may reschedule the same in consultation with ICID central office. Tajikistan side mentioned that they will re-plan it during April 2024.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 5.4: 75th IEC Meeting and 25th Congress, 1-7 November 2023 at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India

19. Mr. Rishi Srivastava (India), Chief Engineer, CWC made a presentation about the preparedness for the event. The technical tours and other details were also highlighted in the presentation. It was also informed that the exhibition space has been planned for about 60 stalls. Chair informed that the Congress would be a memorable event with so many field trips / tourist places to visit.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 5.5: 76th IEC Meeting and 9th AsRC, 1-7 September 2024 at Sydney, Australia

20. There was no PowerPoint presentation from Australia. It was informed to the Committee that event is tentatively scheduled for 1-7 September 2024 and necessary planning processes are going on, as scheduled.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 5.5: 77th IEC Meeting and 5th World Irrigation Forum, September 2025 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

21. The representative from Malaysia made the presentation before the Committee about the venue and facilities available for holding the event(s). President Dr Ragab suggested to plan it in 2026 as some events have been planned by France. The representative from Malaysia informed that they would discuss with counterparts from France and inform.

22. VPH Musa mentioned that we should take benefit from knowledge gathered from past events. President ICID Dr Ragab Ragab mentioned that we may think of possibility of omitting early bird incentive and keep flat rate for participants in general category.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 6: Website of the C-CONGR

23. It was informed by President Dr Ragab that the website for C-CONGR is in place, including websites for all other working groups.

C-CONGR Minutes Item 7: Any other business

(a) ICID Members’ Profile Section: President Dr. Ragab informed the participants to enter the requisite details, upload paper / abstracts etc. on the ICID webpage.

(b) Register on World Irrigation and Drainage Schemes (Wi&DS): Chair informed the participants about the ICID initiative towards preparing a World Irrigation and Drainage Schemes (Wi&DS). He mentioned that data of about 2000 projects would come from India. He further mentioned that CWC, Govt of India, shall prepare this register for India and link would be provided to ICID for fetching information for world register. He expressed that representatives of other national committees may also enter data pertaining to projects in their country, so that comprehensive world register of irrigation projects can be prepared by ICID.
(c) The representative from Nigeria expressed their intent to conduct 6th AfRC at Abuja, Nigeria during 14-18 April 2025, as Sudan have expressed their inability to conduct the same. They also made the PowerPoint presentation about their proposal. The representative of African Regional Working Group expressed agreement and requested IEC to take the request under consideration.

(d) It was also suggested that there should be a questionnaire at the end of each event for knowing satisfaction level of participants.

The 33rd meeting of C-CONGR ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

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