MINUTES OF THE 7TH MEETING OF THE
WORKING GROUP ON MANAGING WATER SCARCITY UNDER
CONFLICT DEMANDS (WG-MWSCD)
6 November 2023, 09:30-11:00 hours (Session-I)
6 November 2023, 11:30-13:30 hours (Session-II)
Vizag., Andhra Pradesh, India

Strategy Theme: Basin
Presented by the Chairman

Year of Establishment: 2016

Mandate: Collect information, knowledge and, where available, case histories on actions taken to manage water systems to accommodate a change in priority of water use or due to conflicting demands: (a) information will be collected on three levels of water management; (i) National, (ii) area or basin; and (iii) local; (b) review and analyze information to determine any commonality; (c) prepare and present reports and/or case studies on recent development in the countries that are represented in the WG; (d) organise international workshop on the topic; and (e) prepare an overview paper on the topic for publication.

Members Present: (1) Mr. V.C. Ballard (Australia), Vice-Chairman; (2) Dr. Mikiko Sugiura (Japan), Secretary; (3) Dr. Shivaji T. Sangle (India); and (4) Dr. Watchara Sujadee (Thailand).

Observers: (i) Dr. Ya-Wen Chueh (Chinese Taipei Committee); and (ii) Dr. Ming-Che Hu (Chinese Taipei Committee); (iii) Mr. Katsuhiko Yamauchi (Japan); (iv) Engr. Carlos Beniter (Spain); and (v) Engr. Ann Ballard (Australia).

Website: http://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/110

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 1: Action Take Report by Chair

1. In the absence of WG Chair VPH Franklin E. Dimick (USA), Vice-Chair V. C. Ballard (Australia) welcomed all members and presented a report on the actions taken on the decisions taken on the two virtual meetings held in February and October 2023.

2. WG reviewed the membership nominations received from Chinese Taipei Committee (CTC) and Turkish National Committee of ICID (TUCID). Dr. Ya-Wen Chueh and Dr. Ming-Che Hu from Chinese Taipei were present with self-introduction and agreed as WG members. However, Engr. Ozden Erturk Gazel (Turkey) and Engr. Gulsah Cakir Heikal (Turkey) were not present, so their membership was accepted as provisional members. Membership status is given in Annex 3, page 31.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 2: Brief of the virtual meeting organized in February and October 2023

3. WG organized two virtual meetings in 2023. The first virtual meeting was held on 24 February 2023 wherein 15 members participated. During the virtual meeting, Chair discussed various activities like Road Map to ICID Vision 2030, updating MTD, publication/document, webinar/web-based seminars etc. The online minutes of the WG-MWSCD (https://icid-ciid.org/icid_data_web/min_mwscd_webmeeting24022023.pdf) have been circulated to the members of the WG for information. The minutes of the virtual meeting of all technical working groups have been uploaded on a dedicated webpage (ICID Workbodes Virtual Meeting) at https://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/152.

4. The second virtual meeting held on 6 October 2023 and examined the items discussed in the first virtual meeting, and confirmed the decision that WG would finish within 2023, while succeeding publishing work by the middle of 2024.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 3: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030: Status of activities on Managing Water Scarcity under Conflict Demands

5. At Adelaide meeting (2022), the group discussed the Action Plan (revised Road Map to ICID Vision 2030) based on the mandate of the WG. During the 1st virtual meeting of the WG held in February 2023, Chair has proposed that the deadline for completion of the water scarcity indices, the guidelines and the draft final report be the end of 2023 so that it can be submitted early in 2024, which were confirmed in the 2nd virtual meeting in October. Chair also indicated that WG-MWSCD will not be continued in 2024, except for the work of publishing these reports, which were also confirmed among members in the 2nd virtual meeting. The WG will complete its mandate and final report within say 6 months.
WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 4: Updating Multilingual Technical Dictionary (MTD)

6. During the first and second virtual meetings, Mr. V.C. Ballard, Vice-Chair, presented further progress on the MTD update in the absence of Dr. Takanori Nagano (Japan), in-charge of MTD.

7. Additionally, after the significance of the MTD was reaffirmed, it was noted that different terms reflecting regional characteristics and non-textual explanations such as videos and diagrams would also be welcome. In the absence of both Chair and Dr. Takanori Nagano, Vice Chair Mr. V.C. Ballard provided further progress on updating MTD at the meeting.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 5: Status of draft indices and guidelines

8. During the first and second virtual meetings, it was noted that final draft indices prepared by Mr. Amali Abraham Amali (Nigeria) have been circulated to the WG members for comments/suggestions, if any. Vice Chair informed again that the sufficient feedback has not been received from WG members so far and requested the WG members' further contribution even after the last meeting in person.

9. As for the draft guidelines prepared by Mr. Zafar Iqbal (Pakistan), in the first and 2nd virtual meeting, the Chair has circulated the draft guidelines, as modified by earlier comments, to the WG members and requested them to share their further comments and/or suggestions by 31st March 2023. It was confirmed in the meeting again that further contribution was required, and the comments received should be included in the final draft guidelines.

10. In the first and second virtual meetings, it was also discussed that it is necessary to re-examine the difference between the concept of “drought” dealt with by the predecessor WG and the concept of “water scarcity” dealt with by this WG (the result of water allocation in society) in terms of the indices and guidelines. In the meeting in person this time, in the absence of the Chair, Mr. Amali Abraham Amali (Nigeria), and Mr. Zafar Iqbal (Pakistan), Vice Chair Mr. V.C. Ballard (Australia) provided further updates during the meeting.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 6: Draft final report

11. It was confirmed the items proposed by Mr. V.C. Ballard (Australia) in the first virtual meeting and discussed in the 2nd virtual meeting. Vice Chair Mr. Ballard again explained the proposed structure of the WG final paper as circulated to all members of the group in 22 February 2023. The paper is proposed to be divided into three categories (national, state/regional, and local). The paper will include the achievement of the international workshop held in October 2022 and also useful details and information extracted from the papers presented at the ICID Congress in India (Visakhapatnam).

12. The status of the draft final report and actions needed to finalize the report were discussed.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 7: Exchange of Information, Knowledge & Networking

13. The WG discussed about the updating website of the group and Chair has requested the members to contribute interesting articles etc. for uploading on the WG website.

14. As agreed in the Adelaide meeting (2022), the WG organized two Webinars in a year to keep the activities of the group.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 8: Any other business

14. The group noted that as a new initiative, ICID had launched a new website (https://icid-ciid.org) as part of ICID’s 70th Anniversary Celebration to meet the new web technologies. Members are requested to review and update their information using their credentials and help us to maintain accurate information.

15. Vice Chair V.C. Ballard gave a brief about ICID’s initiative to document the development of irrigation and drainage schemes in the world by establishing an online Register on “World Irrigation and Drainage Schemes (WI&DS).” The details are outlined on the portal at: <https://wip.icidevents.org/>.
WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 8.3: Restructuring of the Working Group

16. Vice-Chair Mr. V.C. Ballard confirmed that it was decided by the IEC to look into the possibility of integrating WGs of similar/close mandate, with consultation of PCTA, PCSO, Secretary General of ICID and the ICID Central Office for the development of a tentative new structure. Among the existing 18 groups, nine of them will complete their mandate in November 2023. The remaining working groups were proposed to structure into 11 new working groups under four themes: (1) Irrigation and Drainage Water Management (Long-term activities); (2) Natural Resources Management (Medium-term activities); (3) Water Management under Climate Change & Impacts (Medium to long-term activities); (4). Sustainable Development and Management: Capacity Building, History, Institutional and Socio-Economical Aspects of Irrigation and Drainage Schemes. (Long-term activities).

17. The Vice-Chair of the group informed the members that the proposed restructuring and new structure of the WGs will be deliberated during PCTA and IEC meetings of the 74th IEC meetings. Under these four themes, the mandate of WG-MWSCD (Managing Water Scarcity Under Conflict Demands) has been included in themes 1, 2 & 3 (Irrigation and Drainage Water Management, Natural Resources Management, and Water Management under Climate Change & Water Scarcity) will be integrated with three working groups namely: (i) Working Group on Environment (WG-ENV), (ii) Working Group on Use of Non-Conventional Water Resources for Irrigation (WG-NCWRI), and (iii) Working Group on Global Climate Change & Agricultural Water Management (WG-CLIMATE). A report on the restructuring of the working groups is given in IEC Annex 4, Page 44.