

Minutes of the WG-MWSCD

FIRST VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON MANAGING WATER SCARCITY UNDER CONFLICT DEMANDS (WG-MWSCD)

Date: 24 February 2023; Time: 16:30 Hours (Indian Standard Time)

Members Present: (1) VPH Franklin E. Dimick (USA), Chairman; (2) Mr. V.C. Ballard (Australia), Vice-Chairman; (3) Dr. Mikkiko Sugiura, Secretary; (4) Mr. Amali Abraham Amali (Nigeria); (5) Dr. Takanori Nagano (Japan); (6) Dr. Hesham Mostafa Mohammed Ali (Egypt); (7) Dr. Shivaji T. Sangle (India); (8) Ms. Leila Eamen (Canada); (9) Mr. Ali Hassan Hommedi Altai (Iraq); (10) Mr. Zafar Iqbal (Pakistan); (11) Mr. Thayalam Sekaran (Malaysia); (12) Dr. Ya-Wen Chueh (Chinese Taipei Committee); (13) Dr. Ming-Che Hu (Chinese Taipei Committee); (14) Engr. Ozden Erturk Gazel (Turkey); (15) Engr. Gulsah Carik Heikal (Turkey); and (16) Er. Harish Kumar Varma, Executive Director, ICID Central Office.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 1: Introduction by the Chair

The Chair gave a brief report on the actions taken on the decisions and proposals of the previous working group meeting held in Adelaide in October 2022. The primary outcomes were the implementation of the international workshop and the outset of preparing for publishing the guidelines, the indicators for measuring water scarcity, and the final report of WG-MWSCD.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 2: Introduction of new members for the WG

The WG considered the nomination of Engr. Gulsah Cakir Heikal (Turkey) and Dr. Ya-Wen Chueh (Chinese Taipei Committee), whom their respective National Committees recommended as members of the WG in June 2022. After the Chair introduced them, they were welcomed as members of the working group. The updated membership of the WG was also confirmed. Since Thayalam Sedaran (Malaysia) was present at this meeting, his membership status should be changed from Provisional to Member.

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

The future course of action was discussed based on the latest WG's Action Plan submitted to the ICID Central Secretariat (revised roadmap to ICID Vision 2030). The progress was reported, including the outcome of the WG's international workshop held in October 2022, which was successfully held despite the delay due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Chair 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 they could be submitted early in 2024. The chair also indicated that this WG will not be continued until 2024, except for the work of publishing these reports. This idea was shared with the members.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 4: Updating Multilingual Technical Dictionary (MTD)

At the meeting, the WG Chair presented further progress on the MTD update (in charge of Dr. Takanori Nagano, Japan). Currently, 24 terms have been submitted by three WG members. It is expected that more MTDs will be prepared and provided for finalizing this WG in early 2024. After the meeting, Dr. Nagano shared the updated Excel file via email and requested all members to add new terms and comment on the words already listed in the Excel file, such as water scarcity, which is essential for the WG mandate.

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 be also welcome.

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

Regarding indicators for water scarcity measurement, the Chair confirmed that WG member Mr. Amali Abraham Amali (Nigeria) shared the first draft with the Chair in December 2021, which was emailed to all members on January 12, 2022. As of February 2023, sufficient feedback has not been received, and further positive input from WG members is expected. The Chair will circulate the draft indices one last time to WG members and ask for their comments by March 31, 2023.

As for the guidelines, Mr. Zafar Iqbal (Pakistan) submitted a draft at the end of December 2022; as of February 2023, comments by Dr. Ragab Rgab (UK), trimming by Dr. Leila Eamen (Canada), and additions of the Japanese case were made by Dr. Tomonori Nagano (Japan) and Dr. Mikiko Sugiura (Japan). Mr. Zafar Iqbal pointed out the importance of the gap between water demand and supply caused by climate change, urbanization, and population growth, and requested WG members from more than ten countries to contribute to their country's case as well. The Chair will circulate the draft guidelines, as modified, one last time to WG members and ask for comments by March 31, 2023.

Furthermore, it was pointed out that it is necessary to reexamine 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.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 6: Draft final report

Mr. V.C. Ballard (Australia), Vice-Chairman, explained the proposed structure of the WG Final Paper (which proposal he circulated to all WG members on February 22, 2023). He proposes to divide the papers published by the WG so far into three categories (national, state/regional, and local), including the achievement of the international workshop held in October 2022. In addition, as water scarcity is the theme of the call for papers for the upcoming ICID Conference in India (Visakhapatnam) in November 2023, it was suggested that the WG contribute to the final report by extracting from those papers shared at the conference any information that can be utilized in the final report.

Mr. Harish Kumar Varma (India), Executive Director of ICID, shared that the deadline for papers for the November 2023 meeting is February 28, but it will be extended by about 15 days.

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

The WG-MWSCD website (http://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/110) has been updated with the membership list, agenda, minutes, paper presentations, publications, etc. The WG members were requested to provide interesting article (s), papers, presentations, and documents related to the mandate of the WG for uploading on the ICID website for broader dissemination.

The WG Chair, Mr. Franklin E. Dimick, also encouraged the WG members to share their activities by uploading articles and other materials on the website.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 7.1: Webinar/Web-based Seminar

Chair reported the progress of the organizing Webinars at the meeting; one webinar will be scheduled by one of the presenters at the last international workshop.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 7.2: Any other business

The next online meeting will take place in 3-4 months. Reporting progress and exchanging ideas on the various drafts will be the agenda.

