



**Mandate:** The Permanent Committee on Strategy and Organization (PCSO) shall be concerned with increasing the number of member countries and assisting the National Committees to become more active in their own countries to achieve the goals set for them from time to time by the Council. The Committee will also coordinate the activities of Vice Presidents (Resolution IEC-3/66)

**Members:** (1) Vice President Dr. Vadim Sokolov, Chairman (Uzbekistan, 2023); (2) Vice President Hon. Prof. Dr. Tsugihiko Watanabe (Japan, 2021); (3) Vice President Prof. Fuqiang Tian (China, 2023); (4) Vice President Dr. Watchara Suiadee (Thailand, 2023); (5) Vice President Dato' Ir Mohd Azmi Bin Ismail (Malaysia, 2024); and (6) Dr. R.K. Gupta, Secretary General, ICID.

**Observers:** (i) Mr. Toshik Fujimoto (Japan); (ii) Ms. Chitchaya Tissuro (Thailand); (iii) Pemanee Chansorklin (Thailand); (iv) Shin Takano (Japan); and Dr. Khosro Morosati (China).

### **Minutes Item 1. ATR on the Minutes of the 35<sup>th</sup> Meeting of PCSO**

1. Committee noted the Action Taken Report (ATR) and approved the same.

### **Minutes Item 2. Membership of PCSO and its Work bodies**

2. Based on the recommendations made by the various work bodies associated with it, PCSO reviewed the membership and recommended for acceptance by the council. An updated consolidated membership of all work bodies, including those of PCSO and its work bodies, as put up to IEC is given in **Annex – 1 (PCSO)**.

3. The Committee expressed its gratitude and appreciation to VPH Prof. Dr. Tsugihiko Watanabe (Japan, 2021, VPH Er. Aziz Fertahi (Morocco, 2021); and VPH Er. Ali Reza Salamat (Iran, 2021) for contributions made during their term of office as the member of PCSO.

### **Minutes Item 3. Membership of ICID**

#### **Minutes Item 3.1: Status of ICID Memberships and Reactivation of Associate Members**

4. Committee noted the present status of the Membership and appreciated the intensive membership drive being undertaken by the Central Office under the guidance of President Dr. Marco Arcieri and with the support of VPs, by approaching associate member countries as well as non-member countries to become active members of ICID through the concerned ministries and diplomatic consulates and embassies located in New Delhi and technocrat community approach.

5. The Committee was informed that the letters for reactivation of membership of Associate Members as well as new members have been sent regularly to the Ministry of Water Resources/ Agriculture as well as Embassies/ High Commissions located in Delhi.

6. Committee noted that after paying the dues on 22 May 2024, Malawi is already an active member. Committee recommended that United States shall be declared as an Associate Member from 1 January 2025 as per the By-law 13.2. Further, In view of special circumstances, the applicability of By-law 13.2 may be deferred for one more year until December 2025 for the National Committees of Sudan and Ukraine. The application of By-law 13.1 was recommended for the National Committees of Burkina Faso, Egypt, and Zambia, if their membership dues are not cleared by the 31 December 2025 deadline. The Netherlands was recommended to be declared an Associate Member following confirmation that 2021 was its final year of subscription, and its unpaid dues for 2022 to 2024 were approved to be written off. Additionally, the British National Committee was declared to have formally withdrawn from ICID with effect from 1 January 2025.

7. Committee was informed that NC of Jamaica has arrear of two years excluding current year dues. Several requests have been made to the NC to clear the dues.

8. Committee was informed that as part of efforts to revive inactive National Committees in Europe, the ICID Central Office has contacted Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Lithuania, Macedonia, Poland, Serbia, Slovak Republic to encourage reactivation of their membership.

9. Further to expand ICID's reach in the European region, additional outreach has been made to Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Denmark, Iceland, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, San Marino and requested their Ministry of Water Resources / Agriculture to join the membership of ICID.

10. The ICID Central Office received a letter dated 3 April 2025 from Prof. Tamás Freund, President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, regarding the termination of the membership of the Hungarian National Committee (HUCID) in 2025. In June 2025, President Dr. Marco Arcieri discussed and requested Prof. Tamás Freund to reconsider the decision to terminate Hungary's membership in ICID. A response from HUCID is awaited. Committee suggested that fresh effort in this regard be made.

11. The Committee was informed that efforts to re-engage Associate Members in the Americas have been undertaken. Contact has been made with the National Committees of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guyana, Honduras, Panama, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela. In addition, outreach letters were sent to several new countries in the region — including Anguilla, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Belize, Bolivia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Haiti, Paraguay, Puerto Rico, Trinidad & Tobago, Martinique, Montserrat, Nicaragua, Suriname, and Saint Lucia — inviting their respective Ministries of Water Resources / Agriculture, as well as their embassies, to consider joining ICID. The Committee noted that responses to these communications are currently awaited.

12. The Committee was informed that, as part of ICID's broader strategy to expand its global reach, the Central Office has initiated efforts to invite additional countries in Africa and Asia to join the Commission. In Africa, invitation letters have been sent to Algeria, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Senegal, Togo, Tanzania, Tunisia, and Turkmenistan. In Asia, outreach has been directed toward Kyrgyzstan, Oman, and Turkmenistan. The Committee noted the ongoing efforts and appreciated the initiative taken by the Central Office to enhance ICID's international membership base.

13. The Committee was informed that the ICID Central Office had sent invitation letters to Oman inviting their participation in ICID; however, a response from the concerned authorities is still awaited. Vice President Dr. Fuqiang Tian reported that in May 2025, he had contacted representatives from Mongolia regarding potential ICID membership. He noted that Mongolia currently lacks a specialized national-level agricultural or irrigation department, and its agricultural sector remains relatively underdeveloped, presenting structural challenges for immediate formal collaboration. Dr. Fuqiang also informed the Committee that he is maintaining contact with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) to explore possibilities for their future membership in ICID.

14. The committee after deliberations recommended that the effort shall be continued to approach more countries to join the ICID.

**Minutes item 3.2: Vice Presidents' reports: Strengthening regional cooperation and activities of National Committees**

15. The Committee was informed that, following the election of three new Vice Presidents at the 75th IEC Meeting held during 1–7 September 2024 in Sydney, Australia, the redistribution of Regions and National Committees among the newly elected and existing Vice Presidents for 2024–25 was completed. National Committees (NCs) were encouraged to hold web conferences with the ICID Central Office or their respective Vice President-in-Charge to discuss or clarify any issues. The Central Office continues to facilitate such interactions. It was also noted that since 2021, new countries approached under the membership drive have been assigned to individual Vice Presidents for follow-up at the regional level. Vice Presidents were invited to report on their respective contributions in this regard.

16. The Committee noted that, under ICID's capacity development initiatives, the Working Group supported the 7th African Young Water Professionals Forum (Af-YWPF), organized during Cairo Water Week (13–17 October 2024) on the theme "*Water and Climate: Building Resilient Communities*." Further, the 6th African Regional Conference on Irrigation and Drainage was held from 14–18 April 2025 in Abuja, Nigeria, hosted by the Nigerian National Committee. The event, themed "*Tackling Irrigation Development and Water Management Crisis in Africa*," included a briefing on Water Witness International and explored collaboration opportunities in water foot printing, accountability, and governance. The Conference was preceded by a Young Professionals Training Workshop (11–12 April 2025) and followed by a field visit to NFGCS Farm Estate in Nasarawa State, Nigeria.

17. The Committee was apprised of IYPeF's continuing efforts to engage and train Young Professionals through e-discussions and webinars. A webinar titled "*Accelerating Pipelining of Last Mile Canal Irrigation in Punjab: Identifying Constraints and Exploring Policy Options*" was organized on 24 March 2025, featuring a presentation by

Mr. Paavan Kumar Reddy Gollapalli (India), Secretary, WG-SCER. The session attended over 65 participants and provided valuable policy insights into canal irrigation challenges and potential solutions.

18. The Committee noted the successful organization of the EAT Euro-Mediterranean Conference on *“The Reuse of Water as a Solution for Drought”* in 2024. Vice President Mr. Bruno Grawitz and participants from France, Monaco, Spain, Morocco, Tunisia, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Congo, the United States, Senegal, and Oman attended the event. The conference exceeded expectations, and its proceedings are being finalized. It was agreed to establish an informal regional research group on water reuse in agriculture and to propose including this topic in the upcoming ICID Congress in Marseille.

19. The Committee noted that in 2024, SANCID, as the IRPID node, hosted the Regional WEF Nexus Summit in Pretoria under the theme *“Accelerating Progress Towards Achieving the SDGs through Broadening the WEF+ Nexus.”* The event brought together SADC member countries and included the WEF Nexus Masterclass and Winter School. The online Masterclass (11–13 June 2024) attracted 157–178 participants per day.

20. It was reported that planning for the above events began in January 2024 through fortnightly virtual meetings involving UNESCO-IHE, WRC, UKZN, WaterNet, OnePlanet, LSHTM, and GWP-SA. The Masterclass was led by Prof. Graham Jewitt (UNESCO-IHE) and Vice President Prof. Dr. Sylvester Mpandeli (WRC), with Prof. Kujinga (WaterNet) reaffirming WaterNet’s long-term commitment.

21. The Committee was informed that the Southern Africa region includes 15 SARIA member countries, with South Africa, Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Madagascar as active ICID members. Vice President Prof. Dr. Sylvester Mpandeli continues to engage several SADC nations—including Zambia, Botswana, Tanzania, and Lesotho—to encourage ICID membership. In collaboration with regional ministries, SANCID is organizing a SARIA meeting in 2025 to plan for the forthcoming SARIA Symposium.

22. The Committee noted that the 33rd SANCID Symposium was held from 6–8 May 2025 in Bloemfontein on the theme *“Sustainable Irrigation Towards Food and Water Security in an Era of Increasing Climate Change Threat.”* The event was attended by 92 participants from government, academia, and industry. Four professionals received recognition for contributions to water and agriculture, including Prof. Mpandeli, recipient of the SANCID Leadership Award.

23. It was reported that on 30 May 2025, Prof. Mpandeli served as guest speaker at the Taung Agricultural College Graduation Ceremony, celebrating 33 students who received National Diplomas in Irrigation Management — the only such program in South Africa — supported by SANCID, WRC, and ARC.

24. The Committee noted that SANCID partnered with NINCID to co-host the 5th African Regional Conference on Irrigation and Drainage, held in Abuja, Nigeria, from 14–15 April 2025. The event, themed *“Tackling Irrigation Development and Water Management Crisis in Africa,”* included preparatory discussions on logistics and sub-themes.

25. Vice President Dr. Fuqiang Tian reported ongoing engagement with member countries in the East Asia & Australia Region — including Australia, China, and South Korea — as well as associate member Fiji. Outreach has been initiated to Mongolia, North Korea, Hong Kong, Macau, and others. While structural challenges exist in Mongolia, Dr. Tian has invited officials from North Korea’s Agricultural Department to visit China in July 2025 to explore collaboration opportunities. These efforts aim to expand ICID membership and enhance regional cooperation.

26. Vice President Mr. Mohamed Bouaam highlighted efforts to strengthen ICID collaboration with African stakeholders, particularly in Francophone countries. In partnership with national and international bodies, he promoted South–South cooperation for water security and food resilience. Key initiatives include organizing the 7th Pan-African Conference on Agricultural Engineering (22–24 October 2025, Fez, Morocco) and proposing an ICID members’ meeting during the event. At the 6th African Regional Conference (Abuja, April 2025), he also supported Nigeria’s reintegration into ICID and endorsed Niger as a potential host for the 2027 Conference.

27. The Committee noted that Vice President Dr. Vadim Sokolov, with support from Hon. Vice President Dr. Mohamed Wahba, has facilitated collaboration between UzNCID (Uzbekistan) and CNCID (China), focusing on applying advanced irrigation and drainage technologies in Uzbekistan. Results of this cooperation will be presented at the 5th World Irrigation Forum (WIF5) in Beijing, China, in September 2027.

28. The above information was submitted to the Permanent Committee on Strategy and Organization (PCSO) for its consideration and record.

**Minutes Item 3.3 Recommendations of the Direct Membership Administering (DMA) – Sub Committee**

29. Committee informed that the ICID Central Office received eleven applications for Direct Membership during the year. All applications were reviewed and found to be complete in all respects. The Direct Membership Administering (DMA) sub-Committee evaluated the submissions and granted provisional Direct Membership to the following eleven applicants:

Sl. No.	Name of Applicant	Country	Type of Membership Applied for
1.	Dr. Mohammed Hussain	India	Individuals (Retiree) (2025)
2	Dr. Jeffrey Fredericks	USA	Individuals (Retiree) (2025)
3	Mr. A. Rangawamy	India	Individuals (2025-2027)
4	Mr. Luke Lambert	U.K.	Individuals (2025)
5	Dr. Omotayo Adebayo	Nigeria	Individuals (2025)
6	Prof. Bruce Lanford	U.K.	Individuals (2025)
7	Rebwar Abdely-Iraq	IRAQ	Institution (B) (2025)
8	DHAN Foundation-India	INDIA	Institution (B) (2025)
9	Dr. Susilawati C. Laurentia	Indonesia	Individuals (Retiree) 2025-2027)
10	Prof. Madan Kumar Jha	India	Individuals (2025-2027)
11	Dr. Enyetu Joshua	Uganda	Individuals (YP) (2025-2027)

30. The Committee acknowledged the thoroughness of the application process and endorsed the DMA Sub-Committee's decision.

31. The Committee noted status of the renewal of memberships for the following individual and institutional members who have paid their respective renewal fees during the reporting period:

- (a). **Dr. Sajid Ali Bhutto** (Individual Member, Pakistan) - Membership renewed for a period of **three years (2025–2027)**.
- (b). **Dr. C.P. Priju** (Individual Member, India) - Membership renewed for a period of **one year (2025)**.
- (c). **Dr. Srinivasa Verma Kothapalli** (Individual Member, India) - Membership renewed for a period of **one year (2025)**.
- (d). **Ir. Mukhlis Zainol Abidin** (Individual Member, Malaysia)-Membership renewed for a period of **one year (2025)**.

32. **Indian Water Foundation** (Institutions (A) - Member, India)-Membership renewed for a period of **one year (2025)**.

33. Committee further informed that the 19 individuals have applied for Direct Membership and Proforma subscription notifications have been sent to them to remit the membership subscription.

34. So far there are 33 Direct Member active in ICID activities.

**Minutes Item 4. Road Map to ICID Vision 2030: Review of the Action Plan**

35. The Committee reviewed the activities identified by the Regional Working Groups (RWGs) and Working Groups (WGs) reporting to PCSO, as outlined in the Action Plan appended to the *Road Map to ICID Vision 2030* (available at [http://www.icid.org/icid\\_vision2030.pdf](http://www.icid.org/icid_vision2030.pdf)). It was noted that these activities are to be implemented over a five-year period. The Committee appreciated the efforts made by various work bodies towards aligning their activities with the Vision 2030 objectives.

36. The Committee noted with satisfaction that capacity development continues to be one of the most actively progressing components of the Action Plan. Several webinars, training programmes, and online courses have been successfully organized under this initiative, generating an encouraging response and enhancing outreach among professionals in irrigation, drainage, and flood management sectors.

37. The Committee was apprised that ICID's Working Groups extended support to the 7th African Young Water Professionals Forum (Af-YWPF) held under the umbrella of *Cairo Water Week (CWW) 2024* from 13–17 October 2024. The Forum, themed “*Water and Climate: Building Resilient Communities*”, provided a platform for young professionals to share knowledge, exchange experiences, and foster collaboration on water and climate resilience issues. The Committee commended this initiative as a valuable contribution to capacity building and youth engagement.

38. The Committee reaffirmed that the *Action Plan* is a dynamic and evolving framework designed to translate ICID Vision 2030 into actionable outcomes. It was reiterated that the Action Plan should be monitored annually and reviewed on a triennial basis, as envisaged in the *Road Map to ICID Vision 2030*.

39. The Committee agreed that progress on activities identified under the Action Plan should continue to be monitored through the established mechanism. RWGs and other workbodies will report their achievements to the Committee on an annual basis. The Committee will, in turn, review progress and recommend suitable measures to facilitate the realization of the planned objectives.

#### **Minutes Item 5. Knowledge Management Strategy (KMS)**

40. The Committee noted that the Knowledge Management Division (KMD) at ICID Central Office was established in 2017, following the recommendations of various Working Groups focused on knowledge management and the feedback received from ICID's partner organizations. The Division serves as the focal point for managing, coordinating, and strengthening knowledge processes across the ICID network. The Committee appreciated the efforts of KMD in developing an efficient knowledge distribution system and enhancing accessibility to ICID's publications and resources related to agricultural water management. The Committee also noted with satisfaction the progress made towards the development of an **interactive Knowledge Portal**, which aims to facilitate seamless information exchange both within the ICID community and with external partners.

41. The Committee further commended KMD's in-house development of online platforms for the effective management and dissemination of technical content from ICID's flagship events, acknowledging that these digital initiatives have significantly improved outreach and organizational efficiency.

42. The Committee was informed that the Secretary General of ICID had contributed a series of technical papers to the Wiley Irrigation and Drainage (IRD) Journal during 2024–2025. The Committee took note of the following publications:

- (a). “Building Capacities for Managing Agricultural Water Under Climate” (Vol. 73, Issue 2, April 2024)
- (b). “Transboundary Aspects of Agricultural Water Management” (Vol. 73, Issue 3, July 2024)
- (c). “Assessing Impact of Irrigation Projects” (Vol. 73, Issue 4, October 2024)
- (d). “Leveraging Improved Efficiencies for Extending Availability of Agricultural Water” (Vol. 73, Issue 5, November 2024)
- (e). “Agricultural Water Management for Rural Development” (Vol. 74, Issue 1, February 2025)
- (f). “Gender–Responsive Climate–Resilient Strategies” (Vol. 74, Issue 2, April 2025)

43. The Committee appreciated the scholarly contributions of the Secretary General and acknowledged that these publications have strengthened ICID's technical leadership and visibility in global water management discourse.

44. The Committee noted the information presented under this item with appreciation.

#### **Minutes Item 6. Collaboration and Cooperation between ICID and other International Organizations**

45. The Committee noted that since its inception, ICID has placed strong emphasis on collaboration with international and regional organizations active in water and related sectors, with the objective of addressing shared challenges in **Agricultural Water Management (AWM)**. These partnerships are formalized through **Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs)**, **Letters of Agreement (LoAs)**, and similar cooperative frameworks.

The Committee appreciated ICID's ongoing engagement with a wide network of global partners, including the **African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO)**, **Arab Water Council (AWC)**, **Asian Development Bank (ADB)**, **Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute (DWFI)**, **Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO)**, **International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA)**, **International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)**, **International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)**, **International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD)**, **International Water Management Institute (IWMI)**, **International Water Resources Association (IWRA)**, **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** (under the *Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture – WASAG*), **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)**, **World Water Council (WWC)**, and the **World Bank**, among others. The Committee

commended ICID's continued commitment to strengthening such collaborations to promote innovation and sustainable development in irrigation, drainage, and flood management.

46. The Committee noted that **Vice President Dr. Vadim Sokolov** would communicate with the **Asia Water Council (AWC)** regarding the possibility of signing a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** between AWC and ICID to enhance mutual cooperation in areas of common interest.

47. The Committee was informed that **Vice President Dr. Bakhrom Gaforzoda** had proposed signing of a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** between ICID and the **Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (EC IFAS)**. The proposed MoU aims to strengthen collaboration, facilitate the exchange of knowledge, programs, and projects, and expand cooperation in the fields of irrigation and drainage. It also intends to contribute to reducing risks associated with water-related natural disasters in the Central Asian region. The Committee was informed that the MoU has been signed on 9 September 2025 during the **WIF4**.

48. The Committee noted the proposal submitted by the **Chair of WG-CDTE** for signing an **MoU** between the **Working Group on Capacity Development, Training and Education (WG-CDTE)** and the **Institute of Water Problems, Hydropower and Ecology, National Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan (IWPHE-NAST)**. The Committee appreciated the initiative aimed at promoting technical cooperation and capacity building in the field of water resources management.

49. The Committee was apprised that the **Management Board (MB\_2\_2025)** had approved a standardized procedure requiring that all **current and future MoUs** be processed through the **ICID Central Office** and signed only by the **ICID President** or the **Secretary General** with the President's approval. The Management Board further recommended that any previously signed MoUs which did not follow this process should be **re-executed** in accordance with the proper procedure to ensure uniformity and compliance. Committee recommended the above decision for approval of IEC.

50. The Committee noted the information presented under this item. It was agreed that the details of the MoUs and the related proposals would be placed before the **International Executive Council (IEC)** for consideration and approval.

#### **Minutes Item 7. Review of reports of Regional Working Groups (RWGs)**

##### **Minutes Item 7.1: African Regional Working Group (AFRWG)**

51. Dr. Mohamed Wahba Chair of AFRWG, presented the report of the meeting of the RWG. Chair, AFRWG recommended Eng. Thubelihle A. Thebe (Zimbabwe) as Secretary of the working group. Prof. Dr. Sylvester Mpandeli will stay as Vice Chair until the next meeting in Marseille in 2026. The 7<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Pan African Society for Agricultural Engineering will be held from 22-24 October 2025 in Morocco. The Chair invited proposals from all African National Committees to host the 7<sup>th</sup> African Regional Conference.

##### **Minutes Item 7.2: American Regional Working Group (AMRWG)**

52. No meeting of AMRWG could take place.

##### **Minutes Item 7.3: Asian Regional Working Group (ASRWG)**

53. VPH Dr. Tsugihiko Watanabe (Japan), Chair of ASRWG, presented the report of the meeting of ASRWG. Chair of ASRWG reported the organization of the Special Session on '*Optimizing Water Use in Paddy Irrigation with Advanced Sensing Technologies*' on 10 September during WIF4 in Malaysia. The group organized the Internal Workshop on 11 September 2025. The Chair informed that the next INWEPF meeting will be held from 12-14 November 2025 at Otsu City in Japan. The PAWEES International Conference 2025 will be held in Morioka, Japan, on 27 and 28 October 2025, with the main theme "Challenges and Innovations for Sustainable Paddy Agriculture with Climate Resilience and/or Ecosystem Services."

54. He further recommended that the membership of VPH Dr. Karim Shiati (Iran), Dr. (Ms.) Mu Mu Than (Myanmar), and Engr. W.B. Palugaswewa (Sri Lanka) may be discontinued. PCSO accepted the above recommendation.

55. On 11 September 2025, Malaysian National Committee re-nominated Dato' Ir Muhammad Radzi bin Abdul Talib and proposed Ir. Yuslina binti Hj Mohd Sani, and Mr. Dhamson Polus Masundang, Chairman (Young Professional) as new members of ASRWG. In this regards, ICID Central Office has already requested MANCID to send a brief CV to the Chair of ASRWG to take further action.

**Minutes Item 7.4: European Regional Working Group (ERWG)**

56. The Committee noted that the ERWG meeting was held on 11 September 2025. The PCSO further noted that the 7th Eurasian Conference on “*Risk-oriented Design and Operation of Infrastructure Systems: Sustainability Paradigm*” will be organized jointly by AMIR Technical Services Company, Azerbaijan State Oil and Industry University, the International Group on Reliability “Gnedenko Forum” (USA), the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), and Politecnico di Milano (Italy) from 21–23 October 2025 in Baku, Azerbaijan. VPH Dr. Irena Bondarik will attend the Conference.

57. The Committee was informed that VPH Dr. Irena Bondarik proposed organizing the 12<sup>th</sup> International Micro-Irrigation Conference (12<sup>th</sup> IMIC) of ICID, titled “*New Technology and Irrigation Industry Development*”, to be held in July 2027 at Kazan, Republic of Tatarstan, Russian Federation. The Committee recommended this proposal for IEC meeting.

58. The Committee noted that the ERWG discussed the need to strengthen linkages among relevant organizations within each member country and across the European region. The Committee further noted that the ERWG has decided to organize a virtual workshop on “*Groundwater Management and Seawater Intrusion into Aquifers*” as a European Regional Workshop. In the previous meeting of the ERWG, Chair Dr. Marco had agreed to take the lead in organizing the workshop along with VPH Laszlo Hayde.

**Minutes Item 8. Review of reports of Working Groups/Committees****Minutes Item 8.1 ICID Young Professional’s e-Forum (IYPeF)**

59. The Committee noted that the IYPeF meeting was held on 11 September 2025, along with the Young Professionals Training. The Committee recommended the future activity plan of IYPeF for the years 2025 and 2026, as detailed below:

- (a). Discussion on potential webinar topics to be organized between October 2025 and September 2026.
- (b). Finalization of broad themes for e-discussions to be conducted through the IYPeF LinkedIn platform.
- (c). Formulation of a strategy for strengthening Young Professional (YP) Forums and ensuring their representation at the National Committee level, and subsequently at the IYPeF global level.
- (d). Development of a collaboration matrix with ICID Regional Working Groups to facilitate the establishment and support of Regional IYPeF Chapters.

**Minutes Item 9. Organizational issues related to IEC, Congresses, Forums and Conferences****Minutes Item 9.1 Report of the Committee on Events (C-EVENTS)**

60. Chair of the Committee could not present the report of the meeting of the Committee. Later on, he informed that Management Board (MB\_2\_2025) discussed and approved the revised theme along with updated congress questions no. 66, 67 and 68 submitted by Eau Agriculture et Territoires (E.A.T.), the French National Committee. Each question has two sub-questions. Details are given below:

<b>Theme:</b>	<b>Water and Agricultural Resilience in the Face of Climate Change</b>
<b>Question 66:</b>	In the face of climate change, how can irrigation and drainage contribute to agro-ecological transition?
	<b>Sub-question 1:</b> At the plot, landscape, and watershed scales, what processes are involved in the interaction between irrigation/drainage and agroecology, and how might we model them?
	<b>Sub-question 2:</b> At the farm, territorial, sectoral, and food system levels, what are the characteristics of irrigated/drained agroecological systems and the methods for supporting the agroecological transition of irrigated/drained systems?
<b>Question 67:</b>	Innovative technology and practices for increasing water use efficiency. Irrigation management and services, remote sensing, irrigation equipment, where do we stand?
	<b>Sub-question 1:</b> At the plot scale and the farm scale, the implementation, monitoring and improvement of irrigation practices and technologies reflect individual objectives, decisions, positions and philosophies. How to evaluate them and feed them with data collection and modelling approaches so as to better cope with increasing external, contextual constraints that mostly emanate from larger scales?

**Sub-question 2:** At the territorial scale of hydrological resources, hydraulic infrastructures and composite agricultural landscapes, water management for irrigation is jointly framed by public policies, use conflicts, economic drivers, the overall impact of local uptakes, and a certain idea of the common good. How could all components of the decision-making process be better documented, questioned and improved?

**Question 68:** Non-conventional water (REUSE, desalination): can we really loosen the grip on the resource and for what uses?

**Sub-question 1:** In the context of water use (REUSE), how can integrated, interdisciplinary, and territorial approaches contribute to overcoming sociological, economic, and regulatory obstacles?

**Sub-question 2:** How can a desalination strategy be designed and developed to specifically meet agricultural needs, both in quantitative and qualitative terms?

PCSO recommended the above Questions and sub questions for approval of the IEC.

61. Vice President Mr. Vadim Sokolov briefed the Committee about the First World Water-Saving Forum, which is scheduled to be held in March 2026 in Uzbekistan. The event is being organized at the initiative of the Government of Uzbekistan and the Uzbekistan National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (UzNCID). He informed that the Forum aims to promote global dialogue and cooperation on water-saving technologies and efficient water management practices, **bringing together** policy-makers, researchers, practitioners, and international organizations. The Committee **appreciated the initiative** and expressed its support for this important event, recognizing its relevance to ICID's objectives on sustainable irrigation and water management.

#### **Minutes Item 10. Status of the revamped Work Groups' themes and new subjects**

62. The Committee noted that during the 73rd International Executive Council (IEC) meeting held in Adelaide, it had been decided to explore the integration of Working Groups (WGs) with similar or closely aligned mandates. It was further informed that nine Working Groups concluded their mandate at the 74th IEC, and the remaining WGs under the Strategy Themes were restructured into eleven new Working Groups during the 74th IEC held in Visakhapatnam, India. These have been reorganized under four themes as follows:

- (a). Irrigation and Drainage (Long-term activities): WG-IWM&D, WG-NWREP, and LDRG
- (b). Natural Resources (Medium-term activities): RWH, WG-SCER, WFE-N, and IDSST
- (c). Climate Change & Impacts (Medium to long-term activities): CLIMATE
- (d). Sustainable Development (Long-term activities): WG-I&O, MVE, HIST, and CDTE

The Committee appreciated the restructuring process aimed at ensuring better coordination, synergy, and focus across ICID's strategic areas of work.

63. The Committee considered the proposal to establish a Middle East Regional Working Group (MERWG) under ICID. The formation of the MERWG is expected to strengthen ICID's engagement in the Middle East region through a more focused, coordinated, and targeted approach to address the unique water-related challenges faced by member countries. The Committee noted that the region faces acute water scarcity, arid climatic conditions, and food security challenges, further compounded by environmental and geopolitical pressures. The MERWG will serve as a platform for regional collaboration, knowledge exchange, and the development of tailored, region-specific solutions to promote sustainable water and land management.

The Committee recommended that the proposal for establishing the Middle East Regional Working Group (MERWG) be submitted to the 76th IEC for its consideration and approval.

64. The Committee noted that new and emerging areas of work in irrigation and drainage continue to evolve rapidly. To maintain ICID's leadership in the sector and provide clear pathways for members, concept notes on potential new areas are invited from National Committees and Working Groups. These submissions will be reviewed and discussed during the forthcoming year to identify opportunities for innovation and collaboration within ICID's strategic framework.

#### **Minutes Item 11. Any other business**

##### **Minutes Item 11.1 ICID Members' Profile Section**

65. As part of ICID's 70th Anniversary Celebrations, the Central Office launched a new and upgraded website (<https://icid-ciid.org>) in 2021 to align with modern web technologies and improve user accessibility. The website features enhanced functionalities, including a dedicated member profile section for Working Group (WG) members.

Through their individual accounts, members can update their personal profiles, including photographs, contact information, professional background, publications, and areas of specialization. The Central Office has communicated detailed instructions to all members on how to access their accounts and change their passwords via the link <https://icid.bmeurl.co/C7D4D2E> to ensure secure and accurate maintenance of information.

66. The Committee noted the update and requested all members to review and update their respective profiles using their login credentials. Members were urged to keep their information updated and complete to facilitate better communication and networking within ICID's professional community.

#### **Minutes Item 11.2 Register on World Irrigation and Drainage Schemes (WI&DS)**

67. The Committee was informed that ICID has initiated the development of an online Register on "World Irrigation and Drainage Schemes (WI&DS)" to systematically document irrigation project developments worldwide. This initiative aims to create a comprehensive global repository of information related to irrigation and agricultural water management systems. Projects with a Gross Command Area (GCA) of 5,000 hectares or more are eligible for inclusion in the Register. Projects approved by the respective National Committee or ICID Central Office will be granted Certification of Inclusion. Members were encouraged to motivate irrigation project owners, managers, and researchers, particularly in member countries, to contribute relevant data. The facility is also open to non-member countries, provided submissions come from authorized agencies. Details regarding submission procedures and review processes are available on the WI&DS portal (<https://wip.icidevents.org/>).

68. The Committee noted that 177 structures from various member countries have already been included in the WI&DS Register. Members were urged to further promote this initiative within their respective countries and encourage the listing of additional irrigation projects to enhance the Register's comprehensiveness and global representation.

69. In continuation of the above, the Committee emphasized the importance of populating the WI&DS Register with available data from both member and non-member countries. Members were encouraged to take proactive steps in gathering and submitting information to build a robust and reliable global database that will serve as a valuable reference for irrigation and drainage development worldwide.

#### **Minutes Item 11.3 WWF 11 Activities**

70. The Committee noted that during the 75th International Executive Council (IEC) meeting held in Sydney, Australia, the tenure of the Task Force for World Water Forum 10 (TF-WWF10) concluded upon completion of its mandate. Subsequently, the Task Force for World Water Forum 11 (TF-WWF11) was established to coordinate ICID's engagement and activities in connection with the 11th World Water Forum, scheduled to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in 2027.

71. The Committee noted that a virtual meeting with broad participation was organized to initiate ICID's involvement in WWF-11. The official kick-off meeting of WWF-11 took place in Riyadh in April 2025. Although ICID did not represent in person, thematic contributions were developed in consultation with ICID leadership and submitted to the World Water Council (WWC) Secretariat for consideration in the Forum's agenda.

72. The Committee noted that the overall theme of WWF-11 will be "Action for a Better Future", and that the Forum will be structured around six sub-themes, namely:

- (a). Water Security
- (b). Water Finance
- (c). Water Diplomacy
- (d). Water for Humans and Nature
- (e). Value of Water
- (f). Innovation for Water

73. The Committee noted that, based on the recommendation of the Task Force, ICID has communicated to the WWC its willingness to take a lead role in the following thematic areas:

- (a). Water Diplomacy: Transboundary Water Resources Sharing
- (b). Value of Water: Stakeholders Council for Water Management and Water and National Development
- (c). Innovation for Water: Green Water Management
- (d). Water for Humans and Nature: Water and Rural Transformation

74. The Committee encouraged members to identify and share key issues requiring attention from an organizational perspective for WWF-11, to ensure ICID's effective representation and contribution to the Forum's deliberations.

75. Committee also recommended that VPH Alireza Salamat may be officially designated as ICID representative to be the Coordinator of Sub Theme 1: "Water Security".

#### **Minutes Item 11.4 Tenure of Chairperson; Vice Chair and Secretary of ICID Work bodies and Committees**

76. The Committee noted that the Management Board (MB\_2\_2025) had approved the proposal to establish a fixed term of three years for the positions of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary, particularly for Working Groups of a long-term or permanent nature. The decision aims to ensure regular rotation of leadership and provide opportunities for wider participation among members.

77. The Committee further noted that this decision will apply to the following Working Groups under PCTA and PCSO:

- (a) African Regional Working Group (AFRWG)
- (b) American Regional Working Group (AMRWG)
- (c) Asian Regional Working Group (ASRWG)
- (d) European Regional Working Group (ERWG)
- (e) ICID Young Professionals e-Forum (IYPeF)
- (f) Working Group on Capacity Development, Training and Education (WG-CDTE)

78. The Committee noted the above information and agreed that the proposal, as approved by the Management Board, be placed before the International Executive Council (IEC) for its endorsement.

#### **Minutes Item 11.5 The tenure of Chair; Vice-Chair and Secretary of C-EVENTS**

79. The Committee noted that the Management Board (MB\_2\_2025) discussed and endorsed the recommendation that appointments to the positions of Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee on Events (C-EVENTS) be made from the National Committees of countries hosting upcoming ICID Congresses and World Irrigation Forums (WIFs). This approach aims to foster a dynamic, event-driven leadership structure, encourage ownership and active engagement by host countries, enhance coordination, and ensure that the committee's activities remain forward-looking and aligned with ICID's strategic objectives. The Committee also noted that, in line with this approach, the position of Secretary of C-EVENTS may be appointed from the National Committees of countries hosting upcoming regional, micro-irrigation, or drainage conferences.

80. The Committee noted that the Management Board (MB\_2\_2025) discussed and approved that:

- (a). All communications, events, and materials issued by ICID Working Groups, Task Forces, Regional Groups, and other affiliated entities must prominently feature the ICID logo.
- (b). Any reference to such bodies must clearly include the ICID prefix (e.g., ICID Working Group on..., ICID Task Force on...) to reinforce their institutional affiliation.
- (c). The use of separate or independent logos is to be discontinued, and any existing instances must be phased out in consultation with the ICID Central Office.

81. The Committee noted the above information and agreed that the proposal, as endorsed by the Management Board, be placed before the International Executive Council (IEC) for its approval.

