MINUTES OF THE 43RD MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE FOR TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES (PCTA)

07 November 2023, 09.30-17.30 hours
Visakhapatnam (Vizag), Andhra Pradesh State, India

**Mandate:** The Permanent Committee for Technical Activities (PCTA) shall be concerned with all the technical activities of the Commission including all publications of ICID. It will be responsible for activities of the technical work bodies, for selection of Questions/Themes for Congresses, Conferences, Special Sessions, Symposia, etc., for settlement of the technical conclusions thereof and for making appropriate recommendations for action thereon.

**Members Present:** (1) Vice President Prof. Dr. Tsugihiro Watanabe, Chairman (Japan, 2018); (2) Mr. Satit Maneepai (Thailand, 2020); (3) Er. Mohamed Bouaam (Morocco, 2021); (4) Ms. Li Ruoxi (China, 2021) and (5) Er. Ashwin B. Pandya, Secretary General, ICID

**Permanent Observer:** Dr. Alok Sikka IWI Representative

**Ex-Officio Members:** (i) VP Dr. Jin-Yong, Choi (Korea), Co-Theme Leader, Strategy Theme – Basin; (ii) VP Dr. Mohammad Amron (Indonesia), Co-Theme Leader, Strategy Theme – Knowledge; (iii) VP Eng. Rafat Nael Abdul Ghani Al_Intaki (Iraq), Co-Theme Leader, Strategy Theme – On-Farm; (vi) Dr. Ruey-Chy Kao (Chinese Taipei Committee), Chair, WG-SDTA; (v) Prof. Jiusheng Li (China), Chair, EB-JOUR; (vi) PH Dr. Saeed Nairizi (Iran), (vii) VPH Dr. Mohamed Wahba (Egypt), Chair, WG-CDTE; (vii) Dr. Wenyong Wu (China), Chair, WG-NCWRI; (vix) VPH Dr. Hafied A. Gany (Indonesia), Chair, WG-IOA.

**Observers Present:** (i) President Prof. Dr. Ragab Ragab (UK); (ii) VPH Dr. Marco Arclieri (Italy); (iii) PH Mr. Peter S. Lee (UK); (vi) PH Prof. Bart Schultz (Netherlands); (vii) VPH Mr. Mohammad Amron (Indonesia); (viii) VPH Mr. Nor Hisham Bin Mohd Ghazali (Malaysia); (ix) SGH Mr. M. Gopalakrishna (India); (x) Mr. Clarke Victor Ballard (Australia); (xi) Prof. Moono Shin (South Korea); (xii) Prof. Ray Shyan Wu (Chinese Taipei); (xiii) Dr. K.Y. Reddy (India); (xiv) Prof. Ashwani Randev (India); (xv) Mr. Hari Prasad (India); (xvi) Mr. Kenji Washino (Japan); (xvii) Dr. Elijah Oluwaseun Adepoju Adenribgbe (Nigeria); (xviii) Dr. Watchara Suiadee (Thailand); (xix) Mr. Lihui Gao (China); (xx) Mr. Mohamed Bouaam (Morocco); (xxi) Mr. Dave Cameron (Australia); (xxii) Mr. Momir Vranes (Australia); (xxv) Prof. Ashwani Randev (India); (xxvi) Mr. Kenji Washino (Japan); (xxvii) Prof. Ruey Chy KAO (Chinese Taipei); (xxviii) Mr. Paavan Kumar Reddy Gollapalli (India); (xxix) Mr. L B Roy (India); (xxx) Dr. Mona Liza F. Delos Reyes (Philippines); (x) Prof. Henry Ibgar (Nigeria); (xxxii) Mr. Katsuhiro Yamauchi (Japan); (xxxiii) Eng. Vijay Kumar (India).

**PCTA Minutes Item 1. Presentation/Lecture**

1. Ms. Laura Sustersic, Project Manager, India-EU Water Partnership (IEWP)/ GIZ Project Management Unit, was scheduled to deliver a brief presentation, which could not take place. A presentation was made by Ms. Narges Zohrabi IRNCD on the women empowerment in water management and urging bigger role of ICID in the area by establishment of a task force.

**PCTA Minutes Item 2. ATR on the minutes of the 42nd Meeting of PCTA**

2. The Committee noted with satisfaction the ATR on the minutes of the 41st meeting of PCTA and expressed its satisfaction.

**PCTA Minutes Item 3. Membership of the PCTA and Workbodies**

3. As per ICID By-laws 3.9.4 (b), PCTA will be composed of the Secretary-General, who will act as the Secretary of the Committee, a minimum of nine and a maximum of fifteen elected members, as well as ex-officio members. The Committee recommended that additional nominations may be invited for the membership of the PCTA, as its current membership stood at 9 elected members, excluding Secretary-General.

4. PCTA considered the proposals for the membership of various workbodies associated with it and recommended their approval by IEC as given in Annex 3, page 31 of the 74th IEC minutes.

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

5. The Committee examined the activities identified in the Action Plan, appended to the ‘Road Map to ICID Vision 2030’ (http://www.icid.org/icid_vision2030.pdf) which are committed to being achieved over a period of five years. These activities identified by the various RWGs, WGs, NCs and Central Office under various strategies of ICID’s
six organizational goals so as to put the Vision to Action over a five-year period, need to be reviewed and monitored annually during the Council meetings, the Committee reiterated.

6. The Committee recognized the pivotal role played by the Working Groups in converting the vision into action, by focusing their activities towards measurable outputs, which could form part of the products that could be disseminated to the NCs and might be useful to the NCs in achieving the goals set as part of their national mandates. The Committee noted that the existing mechanism is adequate to monitor the activities identified under Action Plan 2019-23 by various workbodies under PCTA.

7. The Committee reviewed the Action Plan 2019-2023 based on the progress achieved by WGs reporting to the Committee, with due consideration to the work bodies closed/reconstituted/established, and suggested that shorter WG and Regional Working Group meetings can be considered, with joint workshops be encouraged, WGs have to engage more on virtual platforms for transacting the maximum amount of internal works. As per the latest restructuring exercise the number of working groups are getting consolidated permitting larger number of participants and examination of cross cutting topics.

PCTA Minutes Item 5. International Research Program for Irrigation and Drainage (IRPID) Scheme

8. The Committee noted the activities that are being carried out by the existing Regional Nodes of IRPID in Beijing (China) and Ahwaz (Iran). Based on the positive achievements of the RNs in Beijing and Ahwaz, the Committee suggested that it is essential to continue to support and further revitalize their activities by way of increasing the number of member countries and cooperation with international organizations, and evolving strategies to obtain the funds for activities. To this end, it is necessary to clarify the organization and structure of the RN's operation

9. The Committee reviewed the progress of the establishment of additional Regional Nodes within the framework of the Revised IRPID Scheme (https://www.icid.org/irpid_scheme.pdf). The Committee was apprised that South Africa Regional Node has been established with 10-year program.

PCTA Minutes Item 6. Review of reports of the activities of Workbodies under the Strategy Theme – Basin (ST.B)

PCTA Minutes Item 6.1: Working Group on Environment (WG-ENV)

10. The Committee was informed that the Paper on ‘Sustainable intensification of irrigated and controlled drainage agriculture: A contemporary global perspective’ would be submitted to the journal Irrigation and Drainage before the end of 2023.

PCTA Minutes Item 6.2: Working Group on Sustainable Development of Tidal Areas (WG-SDTA)

11. Dr. Ruey-Chy Kao, Chair presented the report. The WG organized its international workshop on 03 November 2023 on the topic ‘Global Challenges of Land Subsidence in Tidal Areas and the Integrated Solutions’ at Vizag., Andhra Pradesh, India. The workshop focused on coastal threats, including flooding and tsunamis. Presentations covered the historical management of polders and strategies to control subsidence. Emphasis was placed on the importance of real-time monitoring and information systems in combating rising sea levels and the escalating risk of inundation.

12. The Committee was informed that the New Working Group on Sustainable Coastal Environment Regeneration (WG-SCER) will replace SDTA as per the restructuring proposal of the WGs.

PCTA Minutes Item 6.3: Working Group on Managing Water Scarcity under Conflicting Demands (WG-MWSCD)

13. Mr. V C Ballard (Australia), Vice-Chairman and acting Chair of the WG provided updated status of the proposed structure of the WG final paper. The Committee proposed to complete the report within 6 months via one and possibly two virtual meeting to review the draft.

PCTA Minutes Item 6.4: Working Group on Climate Change and Agricultural Water Management (WG-CLIMATE)

14. Prof. Dr. Ray Shyan Wu, the Chair of the WG presented the report of the meeting of the WG-CLIMATE. The Committee was informed that WG-CLIMATE is finalising its publication “Guide to Innovation Irrigation and Drainage Management under Changing Climate”. The Committee was informed that the International Workshop on Innovated Agricultural Water Management under Climate Change was successfully organized by the group on 2 November
2023 in Vizag, India. The Chair informed that the current WG will be closed this year and all the members are welcome to join the new WG starting next year.

PCTA Minutes Item 6.5:  Working Group on Adaptive Flood Management (WG-AFM)

15. Engr. Mohd Azmi Ismail from Malaysia acted as Chairman for this meeting in the absence of VPH Dr. Kamran Emami (Iran), Chairman and Ms. Sahar Norouzi (Iran) Secretary of the Working on Adaptive Flood Management (WG-AFM). The Committee was informed that as for Strategy F3 on Technical Training of YPF, Chinese Taipei Committee will organise webinar workshops for YPF in March 2024. The WG decided to publish a document titled ‘Adaptive Flood Risk Management’ (covering both structural and non-structural aspects of flood management) based on the workshop papers and country presentations on floods. The Committee proposed that the mandate on Adaptation Flood Management shall be part of the restructured WGs.

PCTA Minutes Item 6.6:  Working Group on Irrigation and Drainage in the States under Socio-Economic Transformation (WG-IDSST)

16. VPH Dr. Wahba Chaired the WG-IDSST meeting in the absence of VPH Prof. Peter Kovalenko, Chairman. The Committee was informed that Vice Chairman Dr. Momir will prepare a draft of the work plan based on new mandate, in consultation with the group members. VPH Dr. Wahba informed that during the virtual meeting held in May 2022, the participants agreed to post the data regarding experiences and practices as well as assessments of the current irrigation and drainage situation in the countries on the CAWATER-Info website for public access.

PCTA Minutes Item 6.7:  Working Group on Water Food Energy Nexus (WG-WFE-N)

17. President Dr. Ragab Ragab, Chair, WG-WFE-N informed that the WG has organized one virtual meeting on 26 April 2023 successfully and taken up initiatives for preparing a detailed road map towards achieving the objectives of WG. WG has organized the International Workshop on the theme ‘The Water-Energy-Food-Nexus: Implementation and Examples of Applications’ on 03 November 2023 during the 25th ICID Congress. The Chair outlined a three-year rolling plan based on the scoping document for a new Nexus Working Group which was circulated among the members for their involvement and active contribution to achieve the objectives of the WG. A brief overview of the WG’s activities was presented by the chair, along with details regarding the preparation of a three-year rolling plan for 2021-2023. WG-WFE-Nexus: Report on ‘Multi-functionality of water use in paddy (Rice) cultivation’ has been finalised and WG is planning to have a workshop during Sydney event in 2024.

PCTA Minutes Item 6.8:  Task Team on Transboundary Water Management and Effect on Agriculture Water Management (TT-TWM-AWM)

18. Dr. Ragab Ragab, the Chair provided brief remarks on the Task Team to the Committee and informed that the reconstituted TT-TWM’s first meeting was held virtually on the 6th December 2022. The Chair shared that the Aral Sea Task Force will be revisited, and the efforts will be renewed to engage with the regional interests. The Committee was informed about the ICID’s MoU with the Arab Water Forum. The TT will make efforts to explore opportunities to work with the Forum. The Committee was reported that the national committees were concerned about sharing information on international transboundary issues. Hence the decision has been taken to refocus on subnational transboundary governance experiences.

PCTA Minutes Item 6.9:  Synthesis Report by Co-Theme Leaders of ST Basin

19. The Co-theme Leader VP Dr. Jin-Yong, Choi (Korea) presented the report, while taking stock of the progress of WGs in achieving the activities identified under the Action Plan of the WBs under ST Basin. The Committee was informed that it was decided to organize next international workshop in 2024 as part of the Asian Regional Conference to be held in Sydney, Australia. WGs in BASIN Theme discussed actively for preparing the scoping paper related with the restructuring and merging the WGs. The Committee was informed that after finalizing the scoping document, more active activities of new WGs are expected based on the expanded tasks.

PCTA Minutes Item 7:  Review of reports of the activities of Workbodies under the Strategy Theme – Knowledge (ST.K)

PCTA Minutes Item 7.1:  ICID Journal Editorial Board (EB-JOUR)

20. Prof. Jiusheng Li, Chair of the EB presented the report of the meeting of the Editorial Board. The Committee was informed that in 2022, five regular issues and one sponsored Special Issue were published, resulting in a total of 113 papers. The Sponsored Special Issue was published as 71(S1). It was prepared by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) under the title Achieving climate resilience through improved irrigation water management from farm to basin scale. The guest editors are Mr. Mohsin Hafeez, Mr. Stefan Uhlenbrook and Mr.
Petra Schmitter. Prof. Jiusheng Li conveyed thanks to IWMl for this interesting Special Issue. There is a 33.4% increase in the impact factor which currently stands at 1.9.

21. The ‘Best Paper Award 2023’ was selected by the Chairman in cooperation with the Joint Editor, Associate Editors, and Editor Emeritus of the journal. The winners of the ‘Best Paper Award 2023’ were announced during the 2023 IEC Plenary Meeting on 4 November 2023. The winner paper titled ‘The development of a hybrid model to forecast paddy water temperature as an alert system for high-temperature damage (published in Volume 71, Issue S1 https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ird.2692) by Wenpeng Xie, Masaomi Kimura, Yohei Asada, Toshiaki lida, Naritaka Kudo from Japan.

PCTA Minutes Item 7.2: Working Group on History of Irrigation, Drainage and Flood Control (WG-HIST)

22. In the absence of Chair of the WG, Mr. Gao Lihiui presented the report of the WG-HIST. The Committee was informed that the publication on ‘Historic Water Sustainability’ was finalized and released during 25th Congress. The Committee was informed that ICID should establish an Association of WHIS, and let the owners, managers and researchers be involved, which will not only be a promotion for protection and development of WHIS, but also an opportunity to publicize ICID.

PCTA Minutes Item 7.3: Task Force to Guide ICID Inputs to World Water Forum 10 (TF-WWF10)

23. PH Dr. Saeed Nairizi, Chair of the TF presented the report of the meeting of the TF-WWF10. Chair informed that two virtual meetings during 2023 for preparing and finalizing the concept notes for three sessions on Smart Water Management; Water, Food and Energy Nexus; and Promoting Women’s role in Water management planned to be submitted during the 10th World Water Forum, Bali-Indonesia, 18-24 May 2024. The Committee recommended ICID to strengthen its network to become a member of the World Water Council Governing Board. Two sessions have been approved to be coordinated by ICID and third session is under process.

PCTA Minutes Item 7.4: Working Group on Value Engineering (WG-VE)

24. This meeting of the WG-VE was chaired by VP Nor Hisham Ghazali, Secretary WG-VE, in the absence of the WG-VE Chairman. The Chair informed that the milestones of the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 for WG-VE are yet to be completed although there has been an agreement that WG-VE will continue with webinars to introduce VE. After discussion, the Chair informed that all outputs from previous activities of WG-VE have been uploaded in the working group website. These include the technical paper and eBook on application of Value Engineering. NCs are advised to explore these documents and consider adapting VE in their project planning.

25. The Working Group discussed the organization of web-based seminars/e-discussions for 2024. It was agreed that the subject of Value Engineering is relatively new to many NCs thus, trainings at the introductory level should be the focus of future webinars. VP Nor Hisham Ghazali proposed that a webinar be planned for June 2024. A virtual meeting will be organised to discuss the webinar theme, title and content. WG-VE need to sensitize and organise training programmes for YPs and other working professionals.

PCTA Minutes Item 7.5: Task Force for Updating and Maintenance of Multilingual Technical Dictionary (TF-MTD)

26. VP Dr. Tsugihiro WATANABE, Chair, TF-MTD presented the report of the meeting of the TF-MTD. The Committee was informed that TF recognized the necessity of updating the current English edition by checking the chapters and terms to see if any chapter/ terms need to be modified, new terms to be added, any term to be deleted as well as the inclusion of any photos, diagrams, link, etc. A priority list of MTD topics has been confirmed and discussed. TF reminded that 855 terms/ words in total have been selected to be modified, including 120 words from WG-CLIMATE, 477 words from WG-M&R, 100 words from WG-IDM, and 165 words from WG-SON-FARM. It was also shared that based on keyword analysis of ICID reports and publications of the last decade, about 223 keywords using their relative frequency of occurrence had been selected and provided by ICID Central Office and this list has been expanded since then. Chair informed that MTD has been maintained in a database managed by the Central Office and is also available on the ICID website and individual requests from the users are also processed regularly.

PCTA Minutes Item 7.6: Working Group on Capacity Development, Training and Education (WG-CDTE)

27. VPH Dr. Mohamed Wahba (Egypt), Chairman of the WG presented the report of the WG-CDTE. The Chair informed that the INCID, GIZ and ICID successfully organized one day workshop on 5 November for young professional in hybrid mode. Dr. Narges Zohrabii, Head of Iran-IRPID Node gave a presentation about the proposal for establishing the task force. Dr. Ashok Kharya gave a presentation about Synergizing water education in India with special reference to WALMIs/IMTIs, and some recommendation was given for the creation of web-based infrastructures and databases.
28. One MoU was signed with the Russian NC, 3 MoU in progress with the Chinese Academy of Science, HRC and Tsinghua University in Beijing and in contact with institutions in Tunis, Turkey, and UAE for MoU’s; organized AfYP training program under Cairo Water Week 2023 during 30 October-1 November 2023 – 123 African Young Professionals from 35 countries (31 African, 3 Arab and 1 Europe) participated in AfYP training program.

PCTA Minutes Item 7.7: Synthesis report of Co-Theme Leaders of ST Knowledge

29. VP Dato' Nor Hisham bin Mohd Ghazali (Malaysia) the Co-theme Leaders presented the synthesis report on ST Knowledge, analyzing the key issues and outcomes of the activities of the WBs under ST Knowledge.

PCTA Minutes Item 8.

PCTA Minutes Item 8.1: Working Group on Sustainable On-Farm Irrigation System Development (WG-SON-FARM)

30. Dr. A.K. Randev, Chair of the WG presented the report of the meeting of the WG-SON-FARM. The Committee was informed that two long pending publications will be dropped due to non-response from the authors and one pending publication in process will be monitored. Another continuing paper entitled “Sustainable Irrigation and Agriculture Water Use in Japan” was presented and will be finalized after incorporating responses of the WG members. Thus, total 4 published papers and 2 papers are in process. An internal WG workshop was conducted on “Micro Irrigation system impacting agricultural growth and farm incomes” covering simultaneously the barriers faced by implementers of the irrigation technologies and users of that i.e. the farmers as suggested during Adelaide meeting.

PCTA Minutes Item 8.2: Working Group on Use of Non-Conventional Water Resources for Irrigation (WG-NCWRI)

31. Chair Dr. Wenyong Wu presented the report of the WG-NCWRI. Chair Dr. Wu informed that the draft of the document on reclaimed water irrigation guideline has been finished and shared the draft with the members. This guideline would have more progress in risk evaluation, risk prevention, and water quality. Chair Dr. Wu requested all members to review the document and give their suggestions for improvement of the draft guidelines. A training course on “Digital application in the use of non-conventional water resources” with be held preferred in the end of March 2024.

PCTA Minutes Item 8.3: Synthesis report of Co-Theme Leaders of ST On-Farm

32. The Co-theme Leader VP Engr. Rafat Nael Abdulghani Al-Intaki presented synthesis report taking stock of the progress of WGs in achieving the activities identified under the Action Plan of the WBs under ST On-Farm. The Committee was informed that the WG-SON-FARM is preparing position, overview, and technical documents from multi-disciplinary experts as per mandate of the WG. The WG-SON-FARM is updating global database on irrigated areas and area under pressurized irrigation. The WG-NCWRI successfully organized the International Workshop on Smart Use of Non-Conventional Waters for Global Food Security under Changing Climates on 3 November 2023 at Vizag, India.

PCTA Minutes Item 9.

PCTA Minutes Item 9.1: Working Group on Institutional Aspects of Irrigation / Drainage System (WG-IOA)

33. VPH Dr. Hafied A. Gany, Chair of the WG presented the report of the meeting of the WG-IOA. VPH Hafied Gany is stepping down due to his age and Dr Taku Mori has been elected as new Chair of the WG. The present status of the draft report of the publication of WG-IOA based upon WG mandate with the topic as “Institutional and Organizational Reform in Irrigation and Drainage Sector for Sustainable Agriculture Water Management” have been 70% completed while other chapters are still waiting for the responses of the assigned members of the WG-IOA.

PCTA Minutes Item 9.2: Working Group on Modernization and Revitalization of Irrigation Schemes (WG-M&R)

34. VPH Ian Makin, Chair of the WG presented the report of the meeting of the WG-M&R. VPH Ian Makin mentioned that although the formal mandate of the WG-M&R will end in 2023, however, the work of the WG_M&R on modernization is strongly recommended to continue under one of the new WG’s. Guidelines on Modernization (1st edition) will be finalized during 2024 with present authors, Data on norms of O&M of irrigation systems are being analysed to bring out a publication. Present members of the WG are suggested to be included in new proposed WG
if they are interested, to ensure that work on Modernization remains a central topic of the ICID program to ensure food security.

**PCTA Minutes Item 9.3: Working Group on Irrigation Development and Management (WG-IDM)**

35. In the absence of Chair and Vice Chair of the WG, Dr. Shimizu JNCID, Secretary presented the report of the meeting of the WG-IDM. Ms. Mary.Jean retired as the Chair of the WG. The Committee was informed that Mr. Ahmet Seren (Turkey) has been elected as the new Chair and Dr. Sheng-Wei Wang (Chinese Taipei) elected as New Vice Chair.

**PCTA Minutes Item 9.4: Working Group on Water Saving in Irrigated Areas (WG-WATS)**

36. Vice President Engr. Rafat Nael Abdulghani Al-Intaki presented the report on the actions taken on the decisions and proposals of the working group. The Chair informed that he delivered a presentation on the results of the survey on Water Charging Policies and received filled-in survey from the National Committees of China, France, Somalia, the United States, and Iraq.

**PCTA Minutes Item 9.5: Working Group on Rain Water Harvesting (WG-RWH)**

37. In the absence of Chair Dr. Geoff Harvey, Vice President Hon. Dr. Ding Kunlun (China) conducted the meeting of the WG-RWH. Due to few members present during the last two years and Chair Geoff Harvey resigned from the group, it was proposed that the WG be combined with other work bodies.

**PCTA Minutes Item 9.6: Working Group on Land Drainage (WG-LDRG)**

38. In the absence of Chair of the WG, President Hon. Prf. Bart Schulz conducted the meeting of the WG-LDRG as Chair. WG Members discussed to have more webinars about the drainage issues. Members also showed interest about bankless channel in Australia and requested more information.

**PCTA Minutes Item 9.7: Synthesis Report by Co-Theme Leaders on ST Schemes**

39. VP Prof. Dr. Tsugihiro Watanabe (Japan) the Co-theme Leader presented the report on ST Schemes. The synthesis report concluded that the WGs under the restructuring process will be merged and with the new structure expected to achieve significant results and bring the WGs to a successful conclusion.

**PCTA Minutes Item 10. Newly Proposed Workbodies**

40. The Committee noted that a mechanism has been put in place with a view to streamlining the process of establishment of a new workbody or extension of an existing workbody on completion of its tenure. The mechanism in the form of developing Scoping Document was approved by 63rd IEC for the improvement in the functioning of ICID workbodies (Annex R2.2 of Resolution IEC-2/63). The Committee noted that the Scoping Document gives the objectives, state of knowledge on the topic, work plan, etc. of the newly proposed workbodies.

41. During the discussion in 36th PCTA meeting in Chiang Mai, Thailand in 2016, the issue of lack of interest in certain WGs was expressed. It was therefore recommended that unless interest is expressed by at least 10 NCs in supporting the WG, it could at best be established as a Task Team for keeping the interest in the topic live. These TTs should essentially work towards a well-defined objective and predominantly through Web based tools. As the implementation of the Road Map needs partnership, it is important that the WG should actively seek potential collaboration with international partners and take those activities in account while drawing up their plan.

42. The 68th Council meeting held at Mexico City, Mexico in 2017 endorsed the recommendations of PCTA that the WG (new or extension) should be approved only, if at least 10 NCs support its activities by way of sponsoring its experts to participate in the WG’s activities. For that, the SDs of the proposed new WGs are required to be circulated among all NCs for gauging their interest and support.

43. The Committee was informed that the exercise of restructuring of working groups and the themes as well as the classification or the subjects of the working groups have been completed. This has also reduced the number of working groups to 11 under four new themes. It needs to be discussed whether new working groups for addressing upcoming areas which are not covered adequately by the consolidated working groups are to be set up or the continuing working groups may take them up by expanding their mandates.

44. The Committee recommended the establishment of a Task Force on Long Term Financial & Technical Sustainability of ICID to look into the membership status of ICID, current financial status, examine long term technical needs and financial sustainability of ICID and develop a set of alternative strategies. The Committee further recommended the establishment of a Task Force on Women Empowerment in Water Management (TF – WEWM).
to empower women in sustainable water resource management and agriculture water management in ICID member countries.


45. INCID presented the report on the outcome of the 25th Congress at the meeting.

PCTA Minutes Item 12. Report of the Sub-Committee on Themes, Topics and Work Plans of future ICID Events (SC-E-THEMES)

46. VPH Dr. Wahba presented the report of the meeting of the SC-E-THEMES in the absence of the Chair. The Committee recommended to merge SC-E-THEMES and C-CONG and both to collectively operate as a single Committee on Events (C-EVENTS).

PCTA Minutes Item 13. ICID Members’ Profile Section

47. The Committee noted that as part of ICID’s 70th Anniversary Celebrations, a new website (https://icid-ciid.org) was launched in 2021 to meet the new web technologies currently available. One of the newly added web features provides to WG members to access their profile sections using their dedicated account in order to update their profiles, with an option to upload the photograph, contact information, brief profile, publications to their credit, specialization, etc. This has been communicated to all members on how to access their account through the link <https://icid.bmeurl.co/C7D4D2E> and change their password to maintain accuracy.

48. The Committee reviewed ICID Members’ Profile Section and requested the members to review and update their information using their credentials and help ICID to maintain accurate information.

PCTA Minutes Item 14. Register on World Irrigation and Drainage Schemes (WI&DS)

49. The Committee reviewed the WI&DS and urged the member countries and non-member countries to enlist the irrigation projects in their countries in the WI&DS Register

50. ICID has taken an initiative to document the development of irrigation projects in the world by establishing an online Register on “World Irrigation and Drainage Schemes (WI&DS)”. WI&DS will fulfill the need for a much-awaited global repository of information in systematic irrigation and agricultural water management. Irrigation projects having 5000 Hectares and above of Gross Command Area can submit their information for inclusion in the register. The irrigation projects approved by National Committee/ ICID Central Office for inclusion are entitled to Certification. Members are also requested to encourage all irrigation project owners, managers, and researchers across the world and especially in our member countries for contributing to the register. This facility is also extended to non-member countries if the information is received from an authorized agency. The review process and other details are outlined on the portal <https://wip.icidevents.org/> in detail.

51. The Committee reviewed the objectives of the WI&DS Register and appreciated the efforts made by the Secretary General for initiating such a novel idea. The Committee also urged the member countries and non-member countries to enlist the irrigation projects in their countries in the WI&DS Register, which was already having the submissions from 12 member countries at that time.

PCTA Minutes Item 15. Restructuring of the Working Groups

52. The Committee was informed that during the 73rd International Executive Council (IEC) meeting in Adelaide, it was decided to look into the possibility of integrating WGs of similar/ close mandate. President ICID and Chair PCTA in consultation with the Chairs of Working groups made commendable efforts to find possible pathways for restructuring of WGs. Themes have been restructured as Irrigation and Drainage, Natural Resources, Climate Change and Water Scarcity, and Sustainable Development

53. The Committee recommended that (1) provisionally restructuring of WGs into 11 new WGs under four new themes as presented and given as (i) Irrigation and Drainage (Long-term activities)- WG-IWM&D, WG-NWREP, WG-LDRG; (ii) Natural Resources (Medium-term activities) – WG-RWH, WG-SCER, WG-WFE-N, WG-IDSST; (iii) Climate Change & Impacts (Medium to long-term activities) – WG-CLIMATE; & (iv) Sustainable Development (Long-term activities) WG-I&O MVE, WG-HIST, WG-CADTE; (2) Members may still suggest a new WG with new topic and mandate; (3) All RWGs and Committees under PCSO along with EB-JOUR, TF-TWM will continue as they are. The graph showing the new structure of the WGs is given at IEC Annex 4, page 44.

PCTA Minutes Item 16. Any other business

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