

Minutes of the Fourteenth Meeting of the
**WORKING GROUP ON HISTORY OF IRRIGATION, DRAINAGE AND
 FLOOD CONTROL (WG-HIST)**
 Tehran, Iran
 16 October 2011: 09.00-12.30 hours
Strategy Theme: Knowledge

Year of Establishment: 1998

Completion of the Mandate: 2014

Mandate: To motivate ICID National Committees in various countries to set up their National Working Groups and provide them guidance to compile, publish, update and/or translate documents on history of irrigation, drainage, flood management, and river engineering, incorporating relevant agricultural, political, socio-economic, climatological and geographical aspects for proper understanding of the technological developments in the subject, if possible chronologically. Furthermore, to organize seminars at ICID Congresses, in order to show the importance of historical studies and as to how they help when planning for the new projects.

The WG will also focus on governance, institutions and management issues of irrigation and drainage systems, sustainable development and integrated water management in rural areas.

Members: (1) Dr. Kamran Emami, Chairman (Iran, 2009); (2) Dr. Kazumi Yamaoka represented Prof. N. Hatcho (Japan, 1998); (3) VPH Dr. Ricardo S. Graino (Spain, 1998); (4) Mrs. Xuming Tan (China, 1998); (5) VP Dr. Laszlo Hayde (Hungary, 2001); (6) Dr. Arthon Suttigarn represented Mr. Satit Maneepai (Thailand, 2002); (7) VPH Dr. Hafied A. Gany (Indonesia, 2005); (8) PH Peter Lee represented Mr. Charles L. Abernethy (UK, 2005); (9) Dr. Ing. Klaus Roettcher (Germany, 2006); (10) Pei-Chun Ni represented Prof. Wen-Pin Shu (Chinese Taipei, 2006).

Member Honoraire Present: (1) Dr. Jose A. Ortiz, Vice President Hon., ICID (Spain); (2) Dr. Chaiwat Prechawit, Vice President, ICID (Thailand).

Observers: (1) Maurice Roos (USA); (2) Shahram Khorasanizadeh (UNESCO); (3) Xuming Tan (China); (4) Khishigsuren (Mongolia); (5) Baranchuluum (Mongolia); (6) Mohamed Rafeel; (7) Seyyed Ahmad Heydarian; (8) Mohsen Masoudian; (9) Tris Radityan (Indonesia); (10) Iwan Nursyirwan; (11) Tonih Urmana; (12) Eddy P (Indonesia); (13) Dwi Cahyo Handono; (14) Ankur K. Desai (India); (15) R.S. Jha (India); (16) Md. Ahasan Ullah (Bangladesh); (17) Ferdinand Pakpahan (Indonesia); (18) Fauri Idris (Indonesia); (19) Lolly Martina (Indonesia); (20) Kiwook Park (Korea); (21) Iwamoto Akira (Japan); (22) Sahar Malekzadeh (Iran); (23) Alireza Salamat (Iran); (24) Gao Lihui (China); (25) Dr. N. Asokaraja (India); (26) Rasoul Azimi; (27) Muojabi; (28) Budianto (Indonesia); (29) Igustingurahwisak (Indonesia); (30) Bistok Siyan Junak (Indonesia); (31) Mudjadi (Indonesia); (32) Imam (Indonesia); (33) Baria Satyagraha (Indonesia); (34) John Pantoun (Indonesia); (35) Basuki Mochamad (Indonesia).

Website: <<http://www.wg-hist.icidonline.org>>

Item 1 : Confirmation of minutes of the 13th meeting of WG-HIST

The minutes of the 13th meeting of the Working Group held at Yogyakarta in October 2010 were confirmed.

Item 2 : Review of membership of the Working Group

The Italian National Committee (ITAL-ICID) nominated Ing. Antonio Linoli in place of Mrs. F. Sinatti. However, neither his CV was available nor he was present himself. Hence his membership was deferred.

2.1 Past nominations

At the Yogyakarta meeting, the following nominations were deferred due to non-attendance/ participation:

- Mr. Zazar Aslam in place of VPH Dr. I. B. Shaikh (Pakistan)
- Dr. Thierry Ruf in place of Mr. Jean Verdier (France)

Since both the candidates were not available, their memberships were deferred. The Central Office may invite fresh nominations from these National Committees.

The group noted that the members from Italy and Pakistan have not been contributing during the last two meetings.

CONTINUING ITEMS

Item 3 : Report by the Chairman on progress made by the National Working Groups (NAG) on their assignments

The WG noted the progress made by the NWGs as mentioned in the agenda. The Chairman thanked INCID for providing a copy of the publication titled 'History of Irrigation Development in Orissa – India' to Central Office Library. Members may write to INCID for copies for their use.

Item 4 : Progress on publishing '*Monsoon Asia History*'

Prof. Hatcho informed the group via e-mail about the involvement of the missing countries and provided a format and some ideas for their articles. Prof. Hatcho did not attend the Tehran meeting (due to conflicting schedule) but Mr. Emami discussed this topic with him during the Tehran Congress. Prof. Hatcho will speak with the representatives of the missing countries and would provide a feedback and a solution for the progress after the congress.

Item 5 : Progress on publishing History of Irrigation, Drainage and Flood Control in Southern Europe and the Mediterranean

Prof. Segura will check the comments provided by Mr. Abernethy on the report and would implement them, if possible. The group noted the difficulties in getting articles from France and Italy. The group decided that first the book could be published in Spanish version (in electronic format) and the missing countries may be asked to contribute to the printed book (in part). Publication of the book will be discussed with Central Office.

Item 6 : Cooperation with International Water Organizations

Dr. Semsar informed the members that the International Conference on "*Traditional Knowledge for Water Resources Management (TKWRM)*" will be held on 21-23 February 2012 in Yazd, Iran and the short course to be held just after the conference in February 2012 (see Item 10).

Item 7 : Website of WG-HIST

At Tehran, the group noted that the website of the Working Group <<http://www.wg-hist.icidonline.org/>> is fully functional and has been updated regularly. The Chair motivated the members to send information and content for the website to central office. The Chair also posted a "message from the Chair" on the website and the members fully agreed with the contents.

Item 8 : Work Plan

History seminar at Tehran, Iran in October 2011

The History Seminar '*Possibilities of Using traditional Methods in Modern water Management Systems*' was held during the WG meeting in Tehran, but only with two presentations. For future seminars, the Chair will discuss with the organizers and format of the seminar. These seminars will be an excellent option to learn more about the member countries and also about the activities of the WG members.

Item 9 : Discussion on Sustainability through History

At Yogyakarta meeting (2010) Chair proposed to organize a conference in Europe preferably at Paris and the WG will try to get support from UNESCO. VP Dr. Hayde reported that it will need more time and activities to get UNESCO involved and to get a financial support.

The Chairman prepared a proposal on writing a book on "Water Sustainability through History" by the working group. The book can be presented after the proposed conference based on its results or the WG-HIST can embark on the task in parallel. The chairman circulated the proposal during the Tehran meeting.

As a result of the discussion, it was clear that it will not be easy to get financial support for such a conference and therefore, the issue of organizing a conference remains open. In the discussion, it was proposed to start with the book as a first step. With this book (digital version) it could be easier to find sponsors and to show the relevance of this topic. After the conference, the book could be enlarged by including presentations and recommendations of the conference. Members from Indonesia and Iran (Dr. Emami, Dr. Semsar and Eng. Farhangi) offered to prepare case studies on water sustainability from their countries. Hungary, the Netherlands, Japan, Chinese Taipei may provide case studies as well. All other members and countries of ICID are invited to provide case studies. The Chair proposed that the WG would organize a Workshop under the title of "Historical Water Sustainability" in the meeting at Adelaide, Australia in 2012. Some ideas on the format of presenting the case studies in the book are given in the **Annex**. Members have been requested to send their comments/suggestions to the Chairman with copy to the Central Office.

Item 10 : Any other business

- **TKWRM 2012, February 2012, Iran**

The International Conference on "*Traditional Knowledge for Water Resources Management (TKWRM)*" will be held on 21-23 February 2012 in Yazd, Iran. As proposed by Chairman Dr. Kamran Emami, the ICID Central Office agreed to be a Co-organizer of the conference. Dr. Kamran Emami is a Member of Scientific Committee of the TKWRM. For more information, contact Dr. Emami at <kkemami@gmail.com> or visit the website <<http://tkwrn.icqhs.org>>. Dr. Semsar, the Director of the International Center for Qanats and historical hydraulic structures introduced the center and organization of the International Conference on "*Traditional Knowledge for Water Resources Management (TKWRM)*". The Chair encouraged all the members to present their papers in the conference.

- **Water history documentary films**

During the WG meeting this topic was discussed again and Chair informed that IRNCID collected several documentaries on Water and Water history in Iran and they will be delivered to the Central office and encouraged the other national committees to follow suit. VP Dr. Hayde will send a link to water related films available with UNESCO.

**WORKING GROUP ON HISTORY OF IRRIGATION,
DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL (WG-HIST)**

**Ideas on the format of case studies for the WG book
titled "Historical Water Sustainability"**

Each case study / example should be no longer than 5 pages of text. Graphs, pictures and maps will be additional to this text. The editors will review and choose the case studies as appropriate. In the best case studies could be on schemes which have been in action for more than 100 years. If space runs shorter, please discuss this with the editors.

Every case study should have:

- **Introduction** (1/2 page text)

The introduction should focus on the region, climate, topography, water (rainfall, evaporation.g.as a graph over the years), soil (if it is important) etc. This is often necessary for understanding the historic structures and the solutions, especially when the readers are not familiar with the region.

- **Description of the Scheme (structure)** (4 pages text)

General overview and important details of the structure should be presented. The main and secondary objectives, construction, operation and management should be discussed:

- Are there major changes / adoptions during the lifetime?
 - How long was the structure in function?
 - Is it a typical structure among others?
 - If the structure is not in operation now, please explain the reasons (failure, mismanagement, social or climate changes).
 - What is the situation now, what are the existing gaps of knowledge?
 - Why this structure was(is) an example for sustainability? (1/2 page text)
 - Why is the structure considered to be sustainable / or more sustainable?
 - What can we learn from this structure?
-