

News Update

Managing water for sustainable agriculture

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May 2011



INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE (ICID)

Dear Friends,

I had the privilege to represent ICID for an invitation extended to us to join the International Conference organised by the Government of Uzbekistan in Tashkent on 12 and 13 May 2011 aimed at considering an appropriate regional agenda for the 6th World Water Forum in Match 2012 in Marseille, France. "Cooperative Actions for Water Security" was the theme of the event. The participation was rich and included several global organisations including UN and UN Water members and partners. The thematic scope of the 6th World Water Forum guided the issues discussed. The inaugural and the plenary sessions in the beginning brought out the larger issues in securing water in the region and the necessity for cooperative actions. The subsequent round tables took up some overarching WWF 6 themes in parallel which covered a gamut of issues like "(i) Guaranteed access to water services for all / Right to Water (ii) Contribute to cooperation and peace (iii) Balancing multiple uses through IWRM (iv) Ensuring food security by adopting innovation in agriculture (v) Improving the quality of water resources and ecosystems and (vi) Responing to climate and global changes in an urbanizing world".

Vice President Hons. Victor Dukhovny, Peter Kovalenko and Secretary General were office bearers of ICID who joined the inaugural and plenary / round tables and spoke. All of them contributed to the theme on "Adoption of Innovations in Agriculture in order to achieve Food Security", a topic close to ICID objectives. The key contributions to the conference concept Note was from VPH Dukhovny who highlighted the regional situation and desirable "solutions" to achieve targets indicated in the main theme document of WWF6 in circulation. The changing dynamics of irrigated agriculture in Central Asia and East Europe in respect of management of land for irrigated (and drained) agriculture,



emerging issues and challenges were the focus of the presentation by VPH Peter Kovalenko. I explained in detail ICID efforts for generating meaningful inputs to the theme by consultations with global organisations together with FAO; this apart, the presentation covered ICID efforts to advocate "Innovative Irrigation Technologies to enhance

global food production" and some of our specific actions like "WatSave" awards to bring home top technologies for upscaling globally. The resolution on the theme called upon "ensuring food security of the region through actions to sustain irrigated farming by timely availability of water during growing seasons adopting water saving technologies". The website for more details is www.cawater-info.net/6wwf/conference_tashkent2011/index_e.htm

In our last News Update (April 2011), we brought out in full the invitation letter to all of you from distinguished Deputy Minister of Energy for Water and Wastewater Affairs and Chairman of IRNCID, Hon'ble M.R. Attarzadeh. The message was explicit in assuring all of us an excellent congress in waiting besides details of the ongoing preparations; a dedicated organising committee is strongly committed to demonstrate an enviable event, as we glean from his message. I am sure that you have commenced with the preliminaries to joining the 21st Congress and 62nd IEC related events, in full. Elsewhere in this News Update (page 4), IRNCID has elaborated the visa guidelines. Should you have some particular concern, please do not hesitate to write to IRNCID for clarifications or other support.

Best Regards,

M. Gopalakrishnan
Secretary General

News from ICID National Committees

IAL (Australia)

Mr. Trevor LeBreton, Business Manager of Irrigation Australia Ltd. (IAL) has taken over as Acting Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of IAL (Incorporating ICID-NCA, ICID National Committee of Australia) in place of Dr. Chris Bennett. The contact coordinates of Mr. Trevor LeBreton are:

Mr. Trevor LeBreton, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Irrigation Australia Limited (IAL), (Incorporating ANCID, the Australian National Committee on Irrigation & Drainage), P.O. Box 1804, Hornsby, NSW 1635 Australia, Tel : +61 2 9476 0142; Fax : +61 2 9476 0792; E-mail : trevor.lebreton@irrigation.org.au

ICID fraternity extends its warm welcome to Mr. Trevor LeBreton and expresses thanks to Dr. Chris Bennett, former Chief Executive Officer of IAL for his excellent contributions to ICID. Initiatives in recent times. [Source: IAL]

CYCID (Cyprus)

New postal address of Cyprus National Committee of ICID (CYCID):

Cyprus National Committee, ICID (CYCID), Head of Maintenance and Operations Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment, Water Development Department, MANRE, Kenedy Avenue 100 – 110, Palouriodissa 1047, Nicosia, Cyprus [Source: CYCID]

CZNC-ICID (Czech Republic)

RNDr. Ing. Jaroslav Roznovsky, CSc. has assumed the role of the new Chief Executive of the Czech Committee of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (CZNC-ICID). His contact coordinates are:

RNDr. Ing. Jaroslav Roznovsky, CSc., Chairman, Czech Committee of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (CZNC-ICID), *Czech Hydrometeorological Institute, Kroftova 43, 616 67 Brno, Czech Republic*. Tel : +420 541 421 020; E-mail : roznovsky@chmi.cz

ICID fraternity wishes well to RNDr. Ing. Jaroslav Roznovsky in his new capacity. [Source: CZNC-ICID]

HUCID (Hungary)

New postal address of the Hungarian National Committee of ICID (HUCID):

Hungarian National Committee of ICID (HUCID), Szent Istvan University Pater K. u. 1., Godollo 2103, Hungary [Source: HUCID]

INACID (Indonesia)

INACID held Indonesian National Congress, in parallel with the Annual National Seminar on 8-9 April 2011. The venue for both the events, Lombok Island, has some intensive irrigation facilities at the semi-arid zone to demonstrate the most recent application of irrigation with inter-basin transfer. Nearly 300 INACID members gathered during the Congress and Annual Seminar from all provinces of Indonesia.

In tune with the natural condition of the Lombok semi-arid zone, the theme of the National Seminar was "Micro Irrigation Development of upland Areas in

Indonesia". There were 28 oral presentations, mostly from young professionals and universities. A field trip was conducted to a privately owned micro irrigation system.

The highlight of the event was the successful election of Mr. Mohammad Hasan, former Secretary General of INACID, and currently Director General of R&D, Ministry of Public Works as the new President of INACID for the period of 2011 – 2016 succeeding Dr. Roestam Sjarief. The constitutions and establishments of 14 Working Groups, especially on Modern Irrigation, Impacts of Climate Change, and Micro Irrigation, Lowland Development and Tidal Areas were reviewed and a five-year program was also formulated.

ICID fraternity welcomes Mr. M. Hasan's new role as President INACID and thank profusely Dr. Roestam Sjarief for his recent valuable contributions to ICID including the hosting of 2010 annual meetings in Yogyakarta. [Source: INACID]

IRQCID (Iraq)

The Ministry of Water Resources, Federal Govt. of Iraq has recently reorganized the Iraqi National Committee of ICID (IRQCID). In the new set up, His Excellency Engr. Mohanad Salman Al-Sadi, Minister of Water Resources has assumed the role of Chairman of IRQCID while Dr. Hussein Ilaibi Zamil, is the Secretary of IRQCID. The contact coordinates of Secretary, IRQCID are:

Dr. Hussein Ilaibi Zamil, Secretary, Iraqi National Committee of Irrigation and Drainage (IRQCID), Head of Environmental Policies Center, Planning and Follow-up Department, Ministry of Water Resources, Palestine Street, Baghdad, Iraq, E-mail : dr.hussein1974@yahoo.com; Cell phone : +9647902500897

ICID fraternity extends a warm welcome to His Excellency Engr. Mohanad Salman Al-Sadi and Dr. Hussein Ilaibi Zamil as the new Office Bearers of IRQCID and expresses its thanks to Mr. Ahmed M. Aziz, former Secretary of IRQCID for his contributions to ICID. [Source: IRQCID]

World Water Day Celebrations

CYCID (Cyprus)

Water Development Department of CYCID organized a series of events from



19th to 23rd March to celebrate the World Water Day 2011. These were:

- On 19th of March, an event titled "Water ... drops of life" for the younger generation in cooperation with the Directorate of Primary Education of the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Pancyprian Parents Association was conducted. There were games and experiments related to water, songs, art work, puppets and lots more for children aged between 2 to 15. The objective of the event was to enhance their awareness on water saving and to build on a water consciousness culture amongst youth.
- On 21st of March, an evening cocktail event was organized in cooperation with the United Nation Association of Cyprus which was attended by the Diplomatic Missions in Cyprus, in order to present the water related issues in an island suffering from water stress, like Cyprus before the international community.
- On 22nd March, a Water Saving Campaign through printed material was carried out nationally and distributed to all the primary schools (more than 50.000 students) to enhance water awareness amongst children.
- On 23rd March, a joint press conference with Directors of City Water Boards and the Director of the Water Development, was held to elaborate on water policy issues.



PANCID (Pakistan)

Pakistan Engineering Congress (PEC), an active member of Pakistan National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (PANCID) held a seminar on 16th April 2011 to observe the World Water Day. The main Theme of the Seminar was “Water for Cities – Urban Challenges”.



Inaugural address was presented by Engr. Husnain Ahmad, President Pakistan Engineering Congress and Vice President of ICID. In all 10 papers were presented by eminent Water Resources Experts / Environmentalists during the Seminar.

Afterwards, a panel discussion was held to formulate recommendations for improving quantitative / qualitative supply of water to the citizens. Upon the conclusion of the seminar, Shields / Certificates were presented to the Speakers. [Source: PANCID]

THAICID (Thailand)

On the occasion of World Water Day on 22nd March 2011, THAICID was invited by the Department of Water Resources of Thailand, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to join in exhibiting activities related to water resources management and irrigation under “Do Good For Dad” Project for celebrating His Majesty the King’s 84th birthday anniversary. The main exhibition theme was “Path of Water, Path of People” and



it was held at the Grand Diamond Ballroom, Convention Center, Impact Muang Thong Thani, Nonthaburi Province on 23 March 2011.

THAICID Secretariat Office, on the advice of Mr. Chaiwat Prechawit, Vice President of ICID, disseminated information concerning ICID and THAICID through an exhibition booth in which posters and video presentation of the following three main topics were displayed: (1) What are ICID and THAICID? Their objectives and past, present and future national and international activities (2) Top 10 Irrigation Technologies (3) Interesting On-farm Irrigation Types

For more information on THAICID activities, please visit THAICID Website at <http://www.rid.go.th/thaicid/>. [Source: THAICID]

[More news on WWD in next issue.]

WatSave Awards 2011 – Sponsorship

ICID family appreciates the decision of Iranian National Committee of ICID (IRNCID) to sponsor the WatSave Awards for 2011 in all four categories under which these Awards will be presented. IRNCID’s kind gesture to fall in line with the practice as established (host Committees of annual IECs supporting WatSave Awards) shall further consolidate this feature in future.

We thank IRNCID for their kind gesture.

National Committees’ Display at Tehran Congress

Since 2002 Montreal events, ICID has been providing a unique opportunity to its National Committees/Committee to display their activities and achievements, including salient features of their country’s water and land resources, etc. through posters, photographs, publications and CD-ROMs during its annual events. A space (2 m width by 2.5 m height with basic support facilities including a chair and electric connections) will be allocated free-of-charge on ‘first come

first serve basis’. The display/exhibition is visited by a large number of participating delegates and found to be helpful in dissemination and sharing of valuable information about National Committees/Countries’ landmarks and latest achievements in the fields of water resources development, irrigation, drainage and flood management.

To participate in the display/exhibition and for more details, please contact : Congress organizers - Mr. Ali Tolooei, Congress Secretariat (62nd IECM and 21st Congress), Iran at e-mail: <icid.congress@gmail.com>

Election of President and Vice Presidents

Nominations for President and three vacancies for the post of Vice Presidents for the term 2011-2014 have been invited for consideration at the 62nd meeting of IEC to be held in Tehran on 22 October 2011.

In accordance with the ICID By-law 2.3, a member National Committee, if it so desires, may submit a nomination (in the prescribed manner) to be received at the Central Office at least 4 (four) months in advance of the Council meeting, accompanied by the required documents, keeping in view Article 6.2.2 of the Constitution and 2.6 of the By-law.

Nominations from National Committees must be received before the due date of 22 June 2011. Nomination not in accordance with the relevant Articles of the Constitution and By-laws, or received after the due date are liable to be ignored.

24th European Regional Conference, Orleans, France – A Summary

The 24th European Regional Conference of ICID on the theme “Groundwater Resource: An Essential Resource to be Saved and Managed” was successfully held on 14-16 March 2011 in Orléans, France. The Conference was attended



by 300 participants from 20 countries and more than 100 papers were presented and deliberated in two plenary sessions – Key Notes presentations and Beauce session — and under six parallel topics.

The Keynote Session was inaugurated by President Prof. Dr. Chandra Madramootoo who spoke of global trends in the usage of the groundwater reserves and resulting pressures from overexploitation. Dr. Margat, a world-renowned Hydro-geologist then presented key data on the usage of the groundwater for irrigation, noting its rapid development over the past 50 years and the difficulties of managing a collective resource for which thousands of individuals have liberal access. Pr. Ghislain de Marsily, an eminent Hydrologist and Member of the French Academy of Science, presented a case study on aquifer management in the French region of Marais-Poitevin which calls into question the necessity for extensive knowledge of water resources for its management. On behalf of Dr. T. Shah, Senior Fellow at International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Dr. Marcel Kuper described how communities in the India have responded to aquifer development and overexploitation, noting two distinct responses based on the abundance and accessibility of water resources. Pr. B. Barraqué, Political Scientist and Economist with the French Centre International de Recherches sur l'Environnement et le Développement,

described the evolution of water management in Europe, as the status of groundwater resources move from a thing that is privately owned to a common resource under Public Trust.

The plenary Beauce session looked exclusively into the development of irrigation in the French region of Beauce, an important region for grain production in France, and the system progressively put in place to manage volumetric demands on the aquifer. Five presentations provided different points of view on a shared challenge. The other key issues of groundwater management were addressed through paper presentations made under six topics.

The Proceedings and the presentations of the conference are available on the Conference website: http://www.groundwater-2011.net/program_and_proceedings.

Tehran Congress – Updates

Iranian National Committee of ICID (IRNCID) is eagerly looking forward to receive delegates from all over the world for the Tehran events of ICID – 62nd IEC Meeting and 22nd ICID Congress which are just a few months away.

Visa Procedures

The Organizing Committee has uploaded the visa application forms on the Congress website: <http://www.icid2011.org> which may be downloaded, duly filled in and then send complete in all respects to the Congress Secretariat for further follow up.

After receiving your personal data by completing the above-mentioned 'Visa Request Form', Congress Secretariat shall apply to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). Your visa shall then be authorized by the MFA and shall be faxed to the Iranian Consulate near you.

Congress Secretariat gives you a visa authorization number with which you can refer to the consulate to get your visa. The visa authorization number, however, is valid only in the consulate you have asked your visa to be issued in. The number they give you is just an "authorization". This reference number means that your visa has been authorized and approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs but it is not the visa itself.

After the Congress Secretariat informs you of the visa authorization number, you should first get a visa application form from the I.R. Iran consulate and follow the requirements of the application form (you may either personally go to the consulate to get the application forms or - if the service available - download it from the web site of the Iranian embassy in your country). Then you should refer to the consulate to lodge your passports and application forms with the visa number that Congress Secretariat gave you (it can be either done in person or by post). Then it might take a few days for the I.R. Iran consulate to issue your visa. Please access <http://www.icid2011.org/PagesDet.aspx?CatId=41&ID=53> for more information of Visa/Registration.

Note: A visa cannot be issued for passports which have a validity of less than 6 months. Exit permits are required by all (often included with visa).

Registration

'Early Bird' registration deadline : 1st June 2011

Tehran Congress Programme

The time schedule of various events during Tehran Congress is available at the Congress website <http://www.icid2011.org>

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

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