



News Update

ICID•CIID

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

Established 1950

June 2008

From Secretary General's Desk...

Dear Friends,

The soaring food prices triggered due to shortage of major food commodities for human consumption have brought to the fore once again the importance of our mission. The High-Level Conference on World Food Security convened by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization concluded on the 5th June with a forceful declaration on World Food Security. The Declaration, inter-alia, deals with 'medium and long-term measures' and spells out (to quote) -

- *"We urge the international community, including the private sector, to decisively step up investment in science and technology for food and agriculture. Increased efforts in international cooperation should be directed to researching, developing, applying, transferring and disseminating improved technologies and policy approaches. We urge member states, to establish in accordance with the Monterrey Consensus, governance and policy environments which will facilitate investment in improved agricultural technologies."*

Our role in the above context has been both in-house and collaborative with others. It is gratifying to note that IPTRID Strategic Framework is being critically reviewed and the process of expert consultations will precede its forthcoming 2nd Steering Committee (SC) meeting on 3 July. A new set of Terms of Reference circulated by IPTRID was shared with all ICID



National Committees and workbodies, particularly WG-TRUE. Our initial suggestions were to tune the programme to be user-sensitive with a particular focus on Africa and Asia. We can collectively examine as to how ICID network could enhance the 'appropriate' technologies and research synergizing the strength scattered around in different National Committees and our Workbodies.

Some members of ICID fraternity would be assembling during the Water Week in Stockholm where an opportunity will be available for us to come together. VPH Alain has plans for an interim meeting of TF-POVERTY and has been corresponding with his Group members to firm it up. An opportunity to interact with Consortia Partners of World Water Forum themes would also be available. If your programmes are communicated to Central Office, the scope for side meetings to discuss the topic papers will be explored. As many of you are aware of, our key contribution will be on Topic 2.3. However, interest has been expressed to contribute in respect of several other topics by some of our members. The opportunity to meet other consortia partners and taking the lead in pursuing the themes/topics may be possible for them.

We are just in time to plan the itinerary for the forthcoming IEC meetings in Lahore. In case you encounter any difficulty, this can be resolved by Central Office, liaising with our colleagues in the Pakistan National Committee of Irrigation and Drainage (PANCID).

Best regards,

M. Gopalakrishnan
Secretary General

News from National Committees

Chile (CHICID)

Mr. Juan Antonio Arrese has taken over as the President of Chilean National Committee of ICID (CHICID).

The ICID fraternity extends its warm welcome to Mr. Juan Antonio Arrese and expresses its thanks to former Secretary Mr. Jorge Galvez Blanco for his contributions to ICID. Mr. Juan Antonio Arrese may be contacted at <juan.arrese@mop.gov.cl> [Source: CHICID]

Ireland (IRCID)

The new contact co-ordinates for Irish National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IRCID) are:

Dr. Olivier Nicholson, Chairman, Irish National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (IRCID), Hydrology & Flood Response Section, Office of Public Works, 17-19 Lower Hatch St. Dublin 2, Ireland, Tel: +353-1-647-6737, Fax: +353-1-676-1714, E-mail: <oliver.nicholson@opw.ie>, Website: <http://www.opw.ie/hydrology> [Source: Mr. John Martin, IRCID]

Thailand (THAICID)

Mr. Theera Wongsamut, Director General and Mr. Vira Vongsangnak, Deputy Director General of Royal Irrigation Department have assumed the charge of Chairman and Secretary General, respectively, of the Thai National Committee (THAICID). Mr. Theera Wongsamut may be contacted at E-mail: <theeraw@mail.rid.go.th>, Tel: (662) 241-0065, while Mr. Vira Vongsangnak may be contacted at E-mail: <veerav@mail.rid.go.th>, Tel: (662) 669-4247.

We congratulate Mr. Theera Wongsamut and Mr. Vira Vongsangnak on their

assuming the office of Chairman and Secretary General of THAICID and look forward to their active participation in ICID activities. [Source: THAICID]

ICID Foundation Day

International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) will be celebrating its 59th Foundation Day on 24 June 2008. Given the fact that the World Day to Combat Desertification (WDCD) falls on 17 June and the UNCCD's call to sister organizations for celebrations around the world, ICID Central Office has invited Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Deputy Inspector General, National Afforestation & Eco-development Board, Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India, to deliver a talk on "**Combating Land Degradation for Sustainable Agriculture**" on the **ICID Foundation Day**. The Indian Water Resources Society (IWRS) and the New Delhi Centre of World Water Council (NDC-WWC) will also join the ICID Foundation Day celebrations.

National Committees are encouraged to celebrate the ICID Foundation Day by organizing events of their choice and send the feedback along with photos for coverage in the forthcoming ICID News Update.

Initiatives on Agricultural Water in Africa

- President Lee represented ICID at the launch of the partnership for Agricultural Water in Africa during the 1st African Water Week in Tunis. The meeting held on 29 March 2008 was co-chaired by the African Development Bank (Aly Abou Sabaa), the World Bank (Salah Darghouth) and NEPAD (Amadou Allahoury Diallo).
- President Lee declared a "*Preference for Africa*" in ICID activities. He highlighted that Regional Irrigation Associations (ARID and SARIA) have now a place on ICID council. ICID also held its 2nd African Regional Conference (ARC) in November 2007 to look into issues of concern in the region. ICID can make a real contribution to the initiative (multi-agency task force) by mobilizing peer-

support for more investment in agricultural water in Africa, indicated President Lee in the closing session in Johannesburg, South Africa.

3rd African Regional Conference (AFRC) and 60th IEC

The Nigerian National Committee of ICID (NINICID) will be hosting **3rd African Regional Conference (AFRC)** during 11-17 October 2009 at Abuja, Nigeria in parallel with 60th IEC meeting. The theme of the Conference is "**The Role of Irrigation and Drainage in Food Security: Towards attaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) in Africa**". The sub-topics include: (i) Food production and income generation through irrigated agriculture, (ii) The role of private public partnership in irrigated agriculture in poverty reduction, (iii) Performance appraisal of different irrigation systems towards achieving MDGs and the way forward, (iv) Irrigated agriculture as a strategy for poverty reduction in developing countries, (v) Environmental sustainability and pursuit of the millennium development goals.

The new Conference website is: <<http://www.icid2009.org>>. Abstracts are to be submitted by **30 June 2008** to Engr. D.B. Madu, Secretary General, Nigerian National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (NINICID), Federal Ministry of Water Resources, Area 1, Old Secretariat, PMB 159, Garki, Abuja, Nigeria. Tel: +234 9 234 2910; Fax: +234 9 234 3035; E-mail: <nincid@icid2009.org>; <nincid@yahoo.co.uk>; or <dbmadu@icid.org>.

AMRWG meeting during XVIII CONIRD in Brazil

The Brazilian National Committee of ICID (ABID) is hosting the XVIII National Congress on Irrigation and Drainage (CONIRD) from 27 July to 1 August 2008 in São Mateus, Espírito Santo State, Brazil. A side meeting of American Regional Working Group (AMRWG) is also scheduled on 30 July 2008.

The XVIII National Congress on Irrigation and Drainage (CONIRD) provides a good opportunity to countries in Americas

to come together. President Lee intends to participate in the Congress and deliver a speech during the Opening Ceremony.

Potential delegates may confirm to Ing. Helvecio Mattana Saturnino, President of ABID (E-mail: <abid@pib.com.br>, <helvecio@gcsnet.com.br>) on their participation. CONIRD website <<http://www.abid.agr.br>> has more details.

ICID WatSave Awards 2008: last chance to nominate

Nominations are invited for the 'WatSave Awards 2008' from individuals/ team through National Committees/ Committee. Awards are given in three categories viz. (i) Technology, (ii) Innovative Water Management, and (iii) Young Professionals. Each award carries prize money of US\$ 2000 and a Citation. The

New Additions to ICID's TDS Database (May 2008)

The additions during the month to the TDS Database are:

Article Section – 44 additions (Articles / Papers)

(i) Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers – Civil Engineering, 2007, Vol. 160, Special Issue No. 1 (2 nos.); and 2007, Vol. 160, No. CE2 (2 nos.); (ii) Development: Water for People, March 2008, Vol. 51, No. 1 (25 nos.); (iii) Indian Journal of Power and River Valley Development, January-February 2008, Vol. 58, Nos. 1 & 2 (1 no.); (iv) International Water Power & Dam Construction, April 2008, Vol. 60, No. 4 (1 no.); (v) Lakes & Reservoirs: Research and Management, June 2008, Vol. 13, No. 2 (5 nos.); (vi) Canadian Journal of Plant Science, March 2008, Vol. 88, No. 2 (4 nos.); (vii) Rural 21 – The International Journal for Rural Development, 2008, Vol. 42, No. 2 (4 nos.).

Book Section – 14 additions; till date 31045 additions have been made to TDS database. The Text Delivery Service (TDS) has received one request during the period from Japan.

The Text Delivery Service (TDS) database can be accessed by visiting ICID website: www.icid.org.

ICID WatSave Awards for the year 2008 are sponsored by Pakistan National Committee (PANCID) and will be presented at the 59th meeting of the IEC. The deadline for receipt of the entries from the National Committees to the Central Office ICID, New Delhi is

30 June 2008. The entries should be submitted electronically to respective National Committees well in advance of the deadline. The nominations sent directly to the Central Office, ICID will not be entertained. Please visit <www.icid.org/awards.html> for further details.

As the 16th and 17th sessions of the third implementation cycle of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) will focus on the issues of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land Drought, Desertification, the UNCCD Secretariat had proposed that this year's celebration on 17 June 2008 be focused around the themes of Combating Land Degradation for Sustainable Agriculture.

ICID Side Event in UN CSD-16 meetings in May 2008

The Review Session of the third implementation cycle CSD-16 focused in its last meeting held in New York on '**Agriculture, Rural Development, Land, Drought, Desertification and Africa**'. Several side events were also encouraged during this occasion mainly by UN-Water members. However, ICID was one of the NGOs privileged to be invited to lead and organize a side event

While FAO touched upon '*Old and New Challenges for irrigated agriculture*', IFAD focused on '*Water and Rural Livelihoods: overcoming poverty through targeted interventions*'. WWC highlighted the '*multiple dimensions of poverty linking them water and food issues*' while Winrock threw light on '*multiple use of water services*'. Israeli National Committee of ICID demonstrated some good examples and '*the use of treated waste water for irrigated agriculture in arid regions*'.

The Central Office will be celebrating its ICID Foundation Day (24 June) by holding a talk on "**Combating Land Degradation for Sustainable Agriculture**" at New Delhi.

Please access UNCCD website: <<http://www.unccd.int/>> for more information.

International McGill Conference on Global Food Security

An International McGill Conference on Global Food Security is to be held in Montreal, 24-26 September 2008.

This Conference will bring together senior policy and decision makers in international institutions and government, international scholars, representatives of the private sector, NGOs working in agriculture and food in the developing countries, to discuss possible strategies and interventions which could be implemented to curb the current global food crisis.

While ICID will be represented through CANSID, other participant organizations are FAO, IIRRI, the World Bank, IFPRI, WFP, IICA, OECD, CIDA, IDRC. High ranking officials from various developing countries will be attending to give the views of some of the key affected countries. This will facilitate the ongoing dialogue process addressing World Food Security.

Please contact: Conference Co-Chairs, Right Hon'ble Joe Clark or Mr. Richard W. Pound, Chancellor, McGill University or VPH Prof. Dr. Chandra Madramootoo, Dean McGill University. E-mail: chandra.madramootoo@mcgill.ca E-mail: foodsecurity@mcgill.ca, Website: <www.mcgill.ca/macdonald/events>.

New Journals

Flood Risk Management

The first issue of Journal of Flood Risk Management has just been published



A view of the CSD-16 meeting

on "**Advancing Human Development and the MDGs - 'Role of Water and Agriculture**", jointly with IFAD, FAO, WWC, Winrock International and Israeli National Committee of ICID (ISCID).

President Lee who moderated the Plenary Session touched upon the '*Challenges of Poverty Alleviation and Food Security*' in his opening address.

Third World Water Development Report

The second preparatory meeting, or "Integration Meetings" for the Third World Water Development Report (WWDR-3) took place in April 2008 at the Villa La Colombella in Perugia, Italy, the new headquarters of the WWAP Secretariat. During the meeting contributors, writers, members of the Technical Advisory Committee, co-chairs of Expert Groups, members of UN-Water and other participants involved in the development of the report discussed draft chapters and their integration. Conclusions and recommendations of the WWDR-3 were also addressed. Er. M. Gopalakrishnan,

Secretary General, ICID participated in the event as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee constituted to guide the WWDR-3. (Source: <<http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap/>>)

World Day to Combat Desertification

In 1994, the United Nations General Assembly declared **17 June** as the "**World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought**" to promote public awareness and the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa.

20th ICID Congress – Updates

The 20th ICID Congress at Lahore, Pakistan is approaching fast. The 'Early Bird' registration will close on **1st July 2008**. Pakistan National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (PANCID) is enabling electronic payment and the Swift Code for on-line payment is UNILPKKA028. One could pay the registration and tour fee by bank draft also (payable to PANCID Bank Account # 0103451-9, UBL, WAPDA House branch, Lahore, Pakistan).

Please feel free to consult Dr. I.B. Shaikh, Chairman, PANCID at e-mail <pancid@icid2008.org> and/or Mr. Syed Raghob Abbas Shah, Secretary General, Organizing Committee at e-mail: <gmcwater@wapda.gov.pk>; <icid@icid2008.org> for making your final plans and for more information on Congress.

- **VISA:** Special link has been provided to 'PAKISTAN Official Website' for visas. Please let the organizers know if you need an invitation letter for your visa. Please intimate PANCID if the local Pakistani Embassy / High Commission requires some additional documentation.
- **National Committee Displays:** PANCID is providing free space to National Committees for their displays. Space would be allotted on first-cum-first-serve basis.
- **Exhibition:** A space of 3m x 3m will be provided on payment basis. Please check out the website for more information.

jointly with the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) and Wiley-Blackwell. (Source: <http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/jfrm_enhanced/>)

Water Alternatives

A new electronic scientific Journal has just been launched: "Water Alternatives: An interdisciplinary Journal on water, Politics and Development": WaA is an

interdisciplinary journal addressing the full range of issues that water raises in contemporary societies. The inaugural issue was released on the 1st of June 2008. (Source: <<http://www.water-alternatives.org/>>)

Water Scarcity and Drought in EU

Speedy solutions are needed to combat water shortages, according to experts and politicians who debated the issue at a conference hosted by the European Water Forum in the European Parliament in April 2008. Water crept up the EU's political agenda last summer, following the serious droughts that swept across Europe. The events forced the Commission to react, publishing a communication on water scarcity and drought, which proposes higher water prices to deter overuse. (Source: <http://www.emwis.net/topics/WaterScarcity>)

Climate Change

Many physical and ecological systems are being affected by climate change. Researchers looked at whether these changes were related to temperature increase, or other factors such as land use change or simply natural variability. Their findings are largely consistent with the report by the second working group of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC WG-2), which indicates that more than 89% of the significant changes in physical and biological systems are consistent with global warming. Those interested may contact Cynthia Rosenzweig, NASA, USA (Email: crosenzweig@giss.nasa.gov).

A "Technical Paper on Climate Change and Water" has been released by the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) in April 2008 as an important addition to the 4th IPCC Assessment Report.

IPCC was established in 1988 by two branches of the United Nations, the World Meteorological Organization

(WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). (Source: <http://www.ipcc.ch/meetings/session28/doc13.pdf>)

Agriculture Development through Human Capacity Building

The International Agricultural Training Centre (IATC), Israel is organizing the following three programmes during 04-22 September 2008.

(i) Water and Crop Production Management, (ii) Agribusiness, Export and Marketing Management, and (iii) Livestock: Advanced Dairy Technology and Farming Management.

The citizens of transitional countries will be eligible for a scholarship covering all tuition expenses, valued at 2250 EURO. Information about registration procedure and programme is available at <<http://www.galilcol.ac.il>>, or contact Ms. Mariel Ostrower, Programme Director, International Agricultural Training Centre, Israel, E-mail: <mostrower@galilcol.ac.il>

Events

International Irrigation Congress: Management, Technologies and Irrigation Good Practices, 18-20 June 2008, World Trade Center, Saragossa, Spain. Contact: Congress Secretariat, E-mail: irrigationcongress@irrigationcongress.org; Website: www.irrigationcongress.org

Groundwater and Climate in Africa - An International Conference, 25-28 June 2008, Kampala, Uganda. Contact: Richard Taylor, E-mail: info@gwclim.org, URL: <http://www.gwclim.org>

International Conference on Flood Recovery Innovation and Response, FRIAR 2008, 2-3 July 2008, Institution of Civil Engineers, London, UK. For more information, please contact: Mr. Kimberley Robberts, E-mail: krobberts@wessex.ac.uk. Web site: www.wessex.ac.uk/conference/2008/friar08

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