

Agenda for the Eighteenth Meeting of the
ASIAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ASRWG)
 Tehran, Iran
 16 October 2011: 13.30-17.00 hours

Year of Establishment: 1996

Mandate: To focus on common topics and issues; to enhance the transfer of appropriate technology in irrigation and drainage to and from the Asian Region; and to encourage membership and coordinate activities in the region.

Members: (1) VPH Dr. Karim Shiati, Chairman, 2006 (Iran, 1997); (2) Prof. Tai-Cheol Kim, Vice Chairman, 2007 (Korea, 2006); (3) Mr. Khem Raj Sharma (Nepal, 1997); (4) Dr. Siripong Hungspreug (Thailand, 1998); (5) Mr. B.M. Yusupov (Uzbekistan, 1998); (6) Mr. T. Anwar Khan (Bangladesh, 1998); (7) Mr. Waseem Nazir (Pakistan, 1999); (8) Mr. Kuo, Sheng-Feng (Chinese-Taipei, 2001); (9) Mr. Sastrodihardjo Siswoko (Indonesia, 2002); (10) Mr. Taner Kimence (Turkey, 2006); (11) VP Shinsuke Ota (Japan, 2006); (12) Mr. Mohd. Abdul Nassir bin Bidin (Malaysia, 2007); (13) Mr. Wang Xiodong (China, 2008); (14) Mr. Ravinder Singh (India, 2009); and (15) Secretary General, ICID.

Permanent Observers/Observers: (i) FAO Representative (Dr. Klaus Siegert); (ii) ICARDA Representative (Dr. Theib Oweis); (iii) VP Dr. W.F. Vlotman (Australia); (iv) INPIM Representative (Mr. David J. Groenfeldt or Mr. Peter P.C. Sun); (v) IRRI Representative (Dr. Tu Phuc Tuong); (vi) IWMI Representative (Mr. Nanda Abeywickrema); (vii) IPTRID Representative (Mr. H.W. Denecke); (viii) World Bank Representative (Mr. Geoffrey Spenser); and (ix) Mekong River Basin Representative.

Website: <<http://www.asrwg.icidonline.org>>

Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 17th meeting of ASRWG

The minutes of the 17th meeting of the Working Group held at Yogyakarta in October 2010 will be confirmed.

Item 2 : Membership of the Working Group

2.1 New nominations

The following new nominations were received for the membership of the Working Group:

- Dr. Kota Tirupataiah in place of Mr. Ravinder Singh (India)
- Mr. Uttam Raj Timilsina in place of Mr. Khem Raj Sharma (Nepal)

CVs of the nominees will be tabled at the meeting for consideration.

2.2 Deferred nominations

The following nominations were deferred at the Yogyakarta meeting due to non-attendance of the nominees:

- Mr. Hanan Itzkovitch (Israel)
- Dr. Tapas Kumar Biswas (Australia)

In February 2011, the Central Office informed the WG's decision to the above National Committees with a request to confirm the nomination or nominate a fresh member with an assurance that the nominee would either be present during the meeting or represented by the concerned NC. Responses are awaited.

CVs of the above nominees will be tabled at the meeting for consideration. The group may like to discuss and decide the membership at Tehran meeting.

2.3 Non-attendance/contribution

During the Yogyakarta meeting, the group noted that the nominees from Thailand and Uzbekistan have not been contributing to the activities for more than three years. The group suggested that the Central Office may seek fresh nominations from these National Committees.

In February 2011, the Central Office informed the group's decision to these NCs and requested a fresh nomination for the membership of the WG. Responses are awaited.

Attendance sheet of the members at the meetings of the ASRWG held in 2009 and 2010 will be tabled during the meeting.

A. CONTINUING ITEMS

Item 3 : To discuss future Work Plan

3.1 New Country Membership in ICID

The countries in Asia region have been allocated to Vice Presidents for follow-up actions to enhance the ICID membership as shown in **Annex**.

As a follow-up action to bring more Asian countries into ICID fold, the Central Office in January / February 2011 contacted a few countries for the membership of ICID in Asia region which include Bhutan, Cambodia, Kuwait, Lao PDR, Maldives, Oman and UAE. The National Committees of Azerbaijan, Mongolia, Turkmenistan and Yemen whose membership was accepted by the IEC in the past were requested by the Central Office (February 2011) to pay their first subscription to commence their membership formally. Responses are awaited.

The Central Office requested (February 2011) the National Committees of Jordan, Lebanon, Tajikistan and Vietnam to reactivate their ICID membership. VPH Dr. Karim Shiati (Iran) also made contacts (31 January 2011) in UAE and enthused them to become a member of the ICID.

During the Yogyakarta meeting, the Chairman suggested that DPR Korea (North Korea) may be included in the list while sending invitation letters since North Korea is known to be much interested in the water and food security. Accordingly, the Central Office requested (31 January 2011) the Embassy of Democratic People's Republic of Korea in New Delhi to provide the contact coordinates of DPR Korea. Response is awaited.

Muscat informed (8 May 2011) that the membership issue is being taken up with the concerned Omani authorities for consideration.

In response to Central Office's request, Dr. Fadi G. Comair, Director General of Hydraulic and Electrical Resources & President, Mediterranean Network of Basin Organizations (MENBO) from Lebanon has requested for the fees of reactivation of Lebanon National Committee (LEBCID). Accordingly, the Central Office has provided the necessary information about the membership subscription and requested to send the formal letter for revival of membership. Response is awaited.

3.2 Three-year rolling work plan

During Yogyakarta meeting, the group noted that the members of the ASRWG are concentrating their efforts on completing the tasks emerging from Asian Regional Task Force on Climate Change. It was proposed that after releasing the relevant document on the subject at WWF-6, Marseille, France in 2012, members could discuss to organize a new Work Team for the new topic at Adelaide, Australia in 2012.

Item 4 : Website of ASRWG

At Yogyakarta, the Working Group noted the progress made regarding network linkages among the member National Committees. While discussing the matter, the Chairman encouraged all the countries to strengthen the network linkages and act in coordination. The main objective of the group is to develop network linkages between various NCs pertaining to the Asian region. The website of the WG is fully functional <www.asrwg.icidonline.org>. Network linkages with the NCs of Australia, Chinese Taipei, India, Iran, Malaysia, and Thailand have been already established.

The Central Office requested (20 April 2011) all National Committees of Asia region to link their NC website, depicting all the main activities, and provide the web link to the Central Office, ICID. Response is awaited.

Item 5 : Work on the Basin-sharing Model for Mekong River

During the Yogyakarta meeting, the documents received on the basin-sharing model for Mekong River were circulated to the members. At Yogyakarta, Secretary General M. Gopalakrishnan informed the members about further development on the Basin-sharing model for Mekong River.

The Central Office circulated the following documents/ announcement to the members of the group for their information and suggestions/ comments:

- Draft “IWRM based Basin Development Strategy for the Lower Mekong Basin”
- Vacancy announcement for the position of Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
- Hiring international consultant: implementation of the procedures for water use monitoring, Mekong River Commission Secretariat

Dr. Hungspreug/THAICID representative and Er. M. Gopalakrishnan, Secretary General, ICID may like to apprise the WG about further developments on the subject.

Chairman may apprise further status at the meeting.

Item 6 : Linkages with Regional and Transnational Organizations for Cooperation

6.1 International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

During the Yogyakarta meeting, the WG members noted the good collaboration between IWMI and ICID at the New Delhi meeting (2009). During the meeting, National Committees of the Asian region were requested to review the document “*Trends and Drivers of Asian Irrigation*” and provide feedback to the Chairman VPH Dr. Karim Shiati for discussion during Tehran meeting in October 2011.

The Central Office circulated (20 April 2011) the IWMI document “*Trends and Drivers of Asian Irrigation*” to NCs and requested to review the above document and provide comments/ suggestions directly to ASRWG Chairman VPH Dr. Karim Shiati for discussion at Tehran meeting. Response is awaited.

Chairman may apprise further status at the meeting.

6.2 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

6.2.1 Bangkok Workshop (FAO, January 2011)

Secretary General ICID was invited to join the FAO’s Regional Workshop on the “*Analysis of Sustainable Water Resource Use*” in the Asia Pacific region during the month of December in Bangkok, Thailand on invitation from FAO. THAICID and ASRWG were also represented in the FAO’s Regional Workshop respectively through ICID Vice President Chaiwat Prechawit (*Thailand*) and Dr. Tai-Cheol Kim (*Vice Chair of ASRWG*). Vice Chair ASRWG made a presentation on possible collaboration areas between ICID-ASRWG and FAO-RAP. Secretary General introduced ICID and its significant contributions for the WWF5 coordinating a consortium of over 56 global water organizations. The workshop aimed to identify collectively define and identify issues relating to Sustainable Water Use. It came out that there were more preferences on knowledge pooling by improved information flows and creation of the ‘*Centres of Excellence*’ and ‘*Knowledge Networks and Partnerships*’.

Representatives from the four Project partner countries who were involved in the FAO’s Japanese aided programme – Vietnam, China, Malaysia and Thailand, several international organizations such as UN-ESCAP, ICID, GWP, IUCN, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), USAID, AusAID, Regional Groups like ICID- ASRWG, and national organizations such as THAICID, Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC), and CEDAC (*Centre d’Etude et de Développement Agricole Cambodgien*) were participating in the event. The aim was set as to collectively chalk out the project roadmap until its completion (*funded by Japan*). Each one of the countries projected certain case studies of their own; the dialogue processes adopted involving different stakeholders and investment framework and priorities while carrying out the project was explained to the audience.

The presentation on ASRWG by Prof. Kim highlighted what the Working Group targets, particularly on issues relating to Climate Change. It brought out possible areas of cooperation with FAO, particularly while ICID addresses them in a few of the topics of forthcoming Congress(es) and annual conferences. ICID delegates pointed out that the synergising several and similar efforts will yield positive results in the ICID network countries in Asia.

Prof. Kim may apprise the WG about main outcomes of FAO workshop in Thailand.

6.2.2 Other FAO Programs

The WG had suggested in the New Delhi meeting (2009) that project programs related to agriculture and water would be developed. During the Yogyakarta meeting, the group suggested that the Central Office may continue contacting Dr. Siegert to explore possibilities of mutual projects.

The Central Office contacted (April 2011) Dr. Klaus Siegert (FAO representative) to explore the possibilities of developing mutual projects/ programs so that it can be discussed during Tehran meeting in October 2011. Since there was no response from Dr. Siegert, the Central Office approached Dr. Pasquale Steduto, Chief, Water Service, Land and Water Division (FAO) and requested to provide the contact details of Dr. Siegert or guide on the subject. Response is awaited.

FAO representative/ Chairman may like to apprise the WG about further developments during the meeting.

6.3 UN – WATER

The group noted that ICID, as one of the partners of UN Water, had been playing an active role upon invitation. The close liaison with UN Water has enhanced ICID's role and visibility in all issues linking agricultural water management, future water challenges with external drivers like climate change, global financial crisis and bio-fuel compulsions.

Secretary General represented ICID in UN (Water) meetings in Stockholm in August 2011 and provided feedback on several meetings of UN (Water) that considered matters of interest to ICID like a new TF on water efficiency, WWF6 inputs etc. ICID has joined the UN-Water Task Force on Water & Climate through WG Climate and TF on Climate Change and Irrigation of ASRWG.

VPH Dr. Shiati is the member of UN-Water TF on Water & Climate and may apprise the members.

6.4 ICID / UNW-DPC Cooperation on Capacity Development in Agricultural Water Management

• Regional Workshops, April 2011

The UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) supported the project consortium to organize two Regional Workshops on the Application of the UNESCO/IHA GHG Measurement Guidelines. The first workshop was convened at the Three Gorges Project Hotel (Yichang, Hubei – China), on 07-09 April 2011, hosted by China Three Gorges Corporation (CTGPC) and the China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research (IWHR). The second Regional Workshop was convened at the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee Greater Noida Campus (IIT Roorkee, India), on 04-05 April 2011, hosted by the Alternative Hydro Energy Centre of the Indian Institute of Technology (AHEC-IIT).

• WWD 2011

Dr. Reza Ardakanian, Director, UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) vide his e-mail of 4 April 2011 has forwarded the summary reports of the joint activities held during WWD 2011 in March 2011 in Cape Town (South Africa). UNW-DPC was involved in a number of activities at WWD 2011 like:

- UNW-DPC was represented at the UN-Water booth
 - Launch of the UNW-DPC Book on "Capacity Development for Drinking Water Loss Reduction: Challenges and Experiences"
 - Launch of the UNW-DPC DVD on "Reducing Water Loss in Cities around the World"
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- Session on Non Revenue Water Reduction: an African Perspective
- Workshop on UN-Water Mapping Exercise on Water Quality
- **UNW-DPC-FAO-ICID Workshop on AquaCrop, October 2010, Yogyakarta**

A two-day synthesis Workshop on “*Improving Farm Management Strategies through AquaCrop: Worldwide Collection of Case Studies*” was held in Yogyakarta on 8-9 October 2010, back-to-back to the 6th Asian Regional Conference (ARC) of ICID. More than 30 participants from 11 countries, professionals from UNW-DPC, FAO and ICID attended the workshop. A new crop model, named AquaCrop, has been developed by FAO. Members are requested to visit the website of AquaCrop at <www.fao.org/nr/water/aquacrop.html> and provide their suggestions on the improvement of the model.

- UNW-DPC scheduled a session on 20 August 2011 at Stockholm when UNW-DPC presented a new version UNW-AIS (UN Water Activity Information System). ICID as UN-Water partner represented through its Secretary General who provided a feedback.

6.5 IUCN Dialogue on ‘Sustainable Management of Transboundary Water Regimes in South Asia

A Dialogue on ‘Sustainable Management of Transboundary Water Regimes in South Asia (including Bangladesh and India) has been launched by IUCN; a project titled ‘*Ecosystems for Life*’ under this initiative shall look into regional Food Security issues linking Water, Climate Change and Ecosystem protection. The funding support is provided by the Government of The Netherlands to IUCN.

The test bed shall be the Ganga Brahmaputra system, one of the fairly large river basin systems in South Asia involving several countries’ interest. The countries to be involved in the consultations as envisaged are Bangladesh and India. Such inter dialogues of global interest involving regional and national groups can help address the issues much better in a basin wide context. A ‘*track 3*’ approach is envisioned to consider multi sectoral and cross cutting issues like water for food, people and ecosystems.

Enhanced water productivity and irrigated agriculture as a tool for poverty alleviation, environmental security and bio-diversity conservation are some of the aspects taken on board initially. IUCN has requested Secretary General Gopalakrishnan to join as a member of the Regional level Advisory Committee (RAC) besides also in National Advisory Committee in respect of India. On 7th February, a meeting of the Regional Advisory Committee took place in Dhaka, Bangladesh for carving out strategies and goals. A second meeting shall be in New Delhi on 16th August 2011. SG shall provide feedback.

6.6 ADB – ICID relationship

Secretary General had very useful discussions with Arjun Thapan on 13 January 2011 during his visit to Delhi. One relates to the ‘*Way forward on the Intensification of Irrigation and Drainage Research to achieve Global Food Security*’. The other key item relates to ‘*Broad basing of ICID membership*’. This inter-alia, covered ICID’s fresh efforts to invigorate the Intensification of Research and Development in Irrigation and Drainage Sector involving its NCs. Dr. Thapan informed about ADB’s efforts to promote better water management in the region and the new initiative through Global Water Resources Group. Preliminary discussions were held on the scope for cooperation in the Research and Development. ADB’s enthusiasm to see ICID’s renewed efforts in promoting innovations in water savings was apparent during mutual exchanges.

Secretary General, ICID had another meeting with Arjun Thapan, Special Senior Advisor to the President for Infrastructure and Water and Vice Chair of the WEF Global Council on Water Security, Asian Development Bank at ICID Central Office on 12 May 2010 with participation of some senior officers of the Govt. of India. The objective of the meeting was to consider the report on India’s water challenge based on the outcome of the World Economic Forum at Davos this year spearheaded by ADB. Dr. Thapan from ADB indicated the prospects of joint work supporting Government agencies and other water related organizations to look at critically future scenarios and options.

ADB subsequently organized a conference on “India Water Dialogue” on 8 July 2010 which was attended by Secretary General. He made special contributions on “Water Use Efficiency in Agriculture” wherein ICID’s WatSave Awards, related issues concerning efficiency’ were also highlighted. Secretary General shall provide feedback and apprise the WG about further developments on ADB/ICID relationship.

6.7 GWP workshop (associating IWMI) in Colombo (February 2011) on “Water for Food Security and Climate Change Challenges”

ICID joined the above workshop on invitation and two presentations one by VPH Gao Zhanyi and another by Secretary General Gopalakrishnan on “*ICID Response to Water for Food Security and Climate Change Challenges*” were made on this occasion. These as well as other presentations that dealt with different aspects of the Challenges that Asia faces in addressing Food Security are available in GWP web site on the workshop. The sessions concluded with a message “No more business as usual” in the face of climate change and food security concerns. The full proceedings are now available in <<http://www.gwp.org/Global/About%20GWP/Publications/Colombo%20Synthesis%20Report%20Climate%20Change%20Food%20and%20Water%20Security%20in%20South%20Asia,%20final.pdf>>.

Item 7 : Possibilities of developing cooperative arrangements with International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering (PAWEES) and International Network of Water Environment and Paddy Fields (INWEPF)

At Yogyakarta, Dr. Kim Tai-Cheol (Korea) briefed the activities of the International Network of Water Environment and Paddy Fields (INWPEF) and International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering (PAWEES) in the meeting. Case studies from Japan, Turkey, and Indonesia were presented.

In 2011, INWEPF Symposium and 8th INWEPF Steering Committee meeting will be held at Penang Island, Malaysia from 1-3 November 2011 to exchange knowledge and experience based on expertise among the INWEPF member countries. The main theme of the Symposium is “*Sustainable Agriculture Water Use and Multifunction of Paddy Fields*.” Scholars and policy makers from local governments and anybody interested in or contributing to the goal of INWEPF missions are invited to contribute papers to the Symposium. Members interested to participate, may contact: Mr. Thian Kim Tai, Assistant Director, Irrigation and Agricultural Drainage Division, Ministry of Agriculture and Agro- Based Industry Malaysia at <ktthian@moa.gov.my>.

Dr. Kim will brief the joint INWEPF-PAWEES Symposium and the activities of the 7th INWEPF steering and the 9th PAWEES meeting held on 26-28 October 2010 in Jeju, Korea.

Item 8 : Asian Regional Task Force on Climate Change and Irrigation (ARTF-CC)

At Yogyakarta, Vice President Dr. Shinsuke Ota (Japan) presented the interim outcome of the Asian Regional Task Force on Climate Change and Irrigation (ARTC-CC) in the meeting. During the meeting, Dr. Harumi Saito (Japan), Mr. Taner Kimence (Turkey), and Dr. Fransisca Mulyantari (Indonesia) presented their case studies. The Chairman urged all members to concentrate their efforts on completing the tasks emerging from Asian Regional Task Force on Climate Change (ARTF-CC). The Central Office has been sending all the case studies received from the National Committees to VP Shinsuke Ota for further synthesis.

In response to Central Office’s request, VP Ota informed (28 April 2011) his intention to make a power point presentation at ASRWG meeting and the ICID Symposium at Tehran. VP Ota forwarded (2 May 2011) the summary of the ARTF-CC activities to Chairman/ Vice Chairman, which will be presented at the ICID Symposium on ‘*Climate Change Impacts on Soil and Water Resources*’. Excerpts from a brief report sent by VP Ota are as follows:

ARTF-CC was set up at the Sacramento meeting of Asian Regional Working Group to study countermeasures to tackle with climate change in the field of irrigation and drainage. It is obvious that countermeasures will vary from country to country, depending upon respective climatic condition and degree of climate change effect as well as socio-economic development stage and present status of irrigation and drainage facilities. Nevertheless, this study aims at finding out some similarity among countries under common conditions and universal ideas lying under various cases, which will be useful and referred to when irrigation/drainage engineers, working as government officials, researchers, practitioners and others, consider practical mitigation/adaptive measures to meet their own conditions related to climate change.

In this regard, following principles are applied –

1. To focus on climatic condition and irrigation/drainage status of each country.
2. To have a wider view covering governance, peoples’ recognition and social movement and local practices in addition to science and technology.

3. To collect a variety of case studies taking geographical distribution into consideration
4. To extract keys for success really useful to find out appropriate countermeasures.

The study was carried out in two ways viz. (1) Firstly the Task Force sent a questionnaire asking about situations and policies of each country regarding climate change in the field of irrigation and drainage, and (2) Secondly, a format was prepared to briefly explain each case and sent to member countries for filling-out. Components in the format were group and field, background, purpose and goal, present situation, effect & result and keys for success. So far, 11 countries have participated in this study and have submitted 14 cases.

The results available so far will be compiled in a draft report and will be presented during the Tehran meeting. The final report will be prepared for the 6th World Water Forum to be held in Marseille in 2012. The essence of the study will also be presented in the ICID Symposium on '*Climate Change Impacts on Soil and Water Resources*' at Tehran, in order discuss the emerging issues and enrich the contents.

VP Ota may apprise the WG about further developments during the meeting.

Item 9 : Outcome of 6th Asian Regional Conference

The 6th Asian Regional Conference (ARC) under the theme '*Improvement of Irrigation and Drainage Efficiency through Participatory Irrigation Development under Small Land Holding Conditions*' was successfully held on 14-16 October 2010 at Yogyakarta, Indonesia. In most Asian countries, food security involves provision of irrigation services to many smallholders with landholding sizes often considerably less than one hectare, especially in densely populated countries like China, India, Pakistan, Iran, Bangladesh and Indonesia. Most of the staple food in the region is produced by these smallholders. A smallholder focus in the region is therefore a prerequisite for successful irrigation management, efficient water use and food security. For such smallholder focus, a better understanding is required not only of their present socio-economic situation within the institutional, technical and management environment of irrigated agriculture in which they operate, but also of the trends that influence irrigated agriculture in general and their future livelihoods in particular. For conclusions and recommendations emerged from the 6th ARC, please access the website at <http://www.icid.org/decl.html#yogya_out>.

Item 10 : The 7th Asian Regional Conference

At Yogyakarta, Mr. Ian Moorhouse (Australia) made a presentation on the general information including the water management of Murray-Darling Basin and the preparations of the 7th ARC under the theme of "*Regional cooperation for water and food security*" in Adelaide, Australia from 23 to 28 June 2012. All members are requested to participate in the conference by submitting papers for the conference.

The Central Office requested (28 April 2011) the Australian National Committee to make a power point presentation on the preparations of the 7th ARC during the Tehran meeting in October 2011. VP Dr. Vlotman has informed (16 May 2011) the Central Office that he or somebody from Australia will make presentation on preparations/Theme etc at Tehran meeting.

B. NEW ITEM

Item 11 : The 8th Asian Regional Conference

The Turkish National Committee (TUCID) will organize the 8th Asian Regional Conference in 2012 at Turkey.

Representative from TUCID Mr. Taner Kimence may provide more details about the conference.

Item 12 : Any other business

- **ASIA 2012, March 2012, Thailand**

The ASIA 2012: 4th International Conference and Exhibition on "Water Resources and Renewable Energy Development in Asia" will be held from 26-27 March 2012 at Chiang Mai, Thailand. A major technical exhibition will take place alongside the ASIA 2012 Conference, at which international consultants, developers, contractors and suppliers will showcase their expertise in the fields of water infrastructure, hydropower equipment, monitoring systems, planning software, power plant components and many other things.

- **2nd Asia-Pacific Regional Synthesis meeting, July 2011, Singapore**

The 2nd Asia-Pacific Regional Synthesis meeting was held in Singapore on 9 July 2011. Prof. Tai Cheol Kim, Vice Chair of the group vide his e-mail of 7 June 2011 has invited the attention of the Chairman towards ASRWG's participation and contribution to the 2nd APWS and WWF-6.

Prof. Kim informed (14 June 2011) that he was unable to participate in the above meeting due to his prior engagements.

- **Japanese Water Forum Fund (JWF Fund) 2011**

The JWF invited applications from grass-root organizations in developing countries for the JWF Fund 2011. The submission period for the application was 13-27 July 2011 and offered a grant of US\$ 1000 per project/organization. The eligible applicants were grass-root organizations in developing countries involved in resolving water and sanitation problems. This information has been circulated to ICID NCs.

- **Abu Dhabi Dialogue Knowledge Forum's Small Grants Program**

In February 2011, the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) invited participants for Abu Dhabi Dialogue Knowledge Forum's '*Small Grants Program Launch Workshop*' held in Kathmandu in the first week of March 2011. The Central Office circulated (3 February 2011) the announcement among all Chairs of NCs of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, India, Nepal and Pakistan with a request to get in touch with ICIMOD. In response, NENCID informed that they are in contact with the ICIMOD.

- **Asia-Pacific Water Summit (APWF)**

On behalf of ICID, Prof. Tai Cheol Kim, Vice Chairman of the ASRWG participated in the 1st Asia-Pacific Regional Synthesis meeting for the 2nd Asia-Pacific Water Summit and the 6th World Water Forum held in Bangkok on 21-22 April 2011. The meeting was held at the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC) at Bangkok, co-organized by the Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Kingdom of Thailand (MNRE) and the Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF), and hosted by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

The meeting provided the opportunity for APWF members to:

- Confirm the regional process for the 2nd Asia-Pacific Water Summit and the 6th World Water Forum.
- Define sub-themes of the 2nd Asia-Pacific Water Summit and invite parallel session organizers of each sub-theme.
- Define Regional Targets and invite Regional Target Coordinators for development of solutions (concrete initiatives) to achieve those Targets according guideline for the regional process of the 6th World Water Forum.
- Finalize the first announcement of the 2nd Asia-Pacific Water Summit.
- Discuss how to coordinate the regional inputs to thematic and political processes of the 6th World Water Forum.

On June 16, a briefing session on the 2nd Asia-Pacific Water Summit for diplomats took place at the Four Seasons Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand. It was organized by the Department of Water Resources of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Thailand. Representatives from embassies of 20 countries in Asia and the Pacific region attended.

ASIAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ASRWG)**Allocation of Asian and Oceania countries amongst Vice Presidents, ICID**

Vice President	Name of countries allocated during the period 2010-2011				Total
	Active	Deemed inactive	Admitted but not paid subscription	New ones to be liaised	
Dr. Mrs. Samia El-Guindy (Egypt)	-	-	-	Kuwait, Oman United Arab Emirates	3
Mr. Shinsuke Ota (Japan)	China, Japan, Korea	-	Mongolia	DPR of Korea Laos Republic	6
Dr. Willem F. Vlotman (Australia)	Australia, Fiji	Vietnam, New Zealand	Yemen		5
Mr. A.K. Bajaj (India)	Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Chinese Taipei, Kazakhstan, Iraq, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, India and Uzbekistan	-	-	Bhutan, Maldives	12
Engr. Husnain Ahmad (Pakistan)	Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Syria, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan	Jordan, Lebanon, Tajikistan	Azerbaijan Turkmenistan	-	11
Mr. Chaiwat Prechawit (Thailand)	Malaysia, Philippines Thailand, Indonesia	-	-	Cambodia Papua New Guinea	6
Dr. Ragab Ragab (United Kingdom)	Israel	-	-	-	1
Total	26	5	4	9	44