

Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the
WORKING GROUP ON WATER MANAGEMENT IN WATER STRESSED REGIONS (WG-DROUGHT)
 Tehran, Iran
 16 October 2011: 13:30:17:00 hours
Strategy Theme: Basin

Date of Establishment: 2008

Completion of the Mandate: 2014

Mandate:

- (i) Drought Management Strategies: To capture field experiences of the implementation of drought risk management strategies.
- (ii) Coping with water scarcity
 - Critical evaluation of the validity of the crop water requirement computations based on climate data as a tool to be used in coping with water scarcity;
 - Approaches and strategies for incorporating economical justification when deciding on the amount of water to be allocated for agricultural production;
 - Re-defining, as necessary, the conventional irrigation efficiency concept; and
 - Design, operation and maintenance of sand dams – Under-ground water reservoirs.
- (iii) Rainfall management for sustainable agriculture: Innovation and implementation of smart rainfall management technologies.

Members Present: (1) Mr. Mohammad Sadegh Jafari, Vice-Chairman, 2009 (Iran, 2008) - Acting Chairman); (2) Vice President Dr. Ragab Ragab (UK, 2008); (3) Dr. Takanori Nagano (Japan) represented Dr. T. Watanabe; (4) Dr. Graziano Ghinassi (Italy, 2008); (5) Prof. Chang-Chi Cheng (Chinese Taipei, 2008); and (6) Dr. Sanjay Belsare represented Dr. T.B.S. Rajput (India, 2009).

Member Hon: VPH Prof. Dr. Ricardo Segura Graiño (Spain).

Observers: (i) Ir. Sabine Walser (Germany); (ii) Ir. E. Farahani (Iran); (iii) Dr. Ming-Young Jan, (Taiwan); (iv) Ir. Sadjjad S. Hosseini (Iran); (v) Ir. Loh Kim Mon (Malaysia); (vi) Ir. Anna Tedeschi (Italy); (vii) Dr. Sylvain R. Perret (France); (viii) Ir. Michael Van Der Laan (South Africa); (ix) Mr. Mati Tonismae (Estonia); (x) Ir. Osmo Purhonen (Finland); (xi) Mr. Olli-Matti Verta (Finland); (xii) Ir. Ahmed M. Aziz (Iraq); (xiii) Ir. Dodang Ridwan (Indonesia); (xiv) Ir. Karimov Akmal (Uzbekistan); (xv) Ir. Balgabaeze Hurlah (Kazakhstan); (xvi) Ir. Mukhamedjanov Shukhrat (Uzbekistan); (xvii) Ir. Salah Saad Zarad (Egypt); (xviii) Ir. Magdi Abdelhamid (Egypt); (xix) Ir. Mojtaba Poormoghaddam (Iran); (xx) Ir. Rasoul Azimi (Iran); (xxi) Ir. Ibrahim El-Baroudy (Egypt); (xxii) Ir. Ibrahim M. Mahmoud (Egypt); (xxiii) Ir. Mukhlis Zainol Abidin (Malaysia); (xxiv) Ir. Jin-Yong Choi (Korea); (xxv) Ir. Eunmi Hong (Korea); (xxvi) Ir. Azita Ramezari (Iran); (xxvii) Ir. Sara Akbarnejad (Iran); (xxviii) Dr. N. Asokaraja (India); (xxix) Ir. Kiwook Park (Korea); (xxx) Mr. Mellouli H. Jamil (Tunisia); (xxxi) Ir. Khodjet-Kesba Omar (Algeria); (xxxii) Ir. Puleng Mofokeng (South Africa); (xxxiii) Ir. Andre Roux (South Africa); (xxxiv) Ir. Zulfan Zahar (Indonesia); (xxxv) Ir. Sue Walker (South Africa); (xxxvi) Ir. Yacob Beletse (South Africa); (xxxvii) Ir. Mohammad Salman Sabahi (Iran); (xxxviii) Ir. Maurice Roos (USA); (xxxix) Dr. K. Yella Reddy (India); (xxxx) Ir. R. Davtalab (Iran); (xxxxi) Ir. Zhaleh Vaziri (Iran); and (xxxxii) Mr. Clarke Ballard (Australia).

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

Mr. Clarke Ballard (Australia) assisted the Chairman as Acting Secretary for the meeting.

Item 1 : Confirmation of the minutes of the 3rd meeting of the WG-DROUGHT

The minutes of the third meeting of WG Drought held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia in 2010 were accepted / confirmed.

Item 2 : Review of the membership

Dr. Kiwook Park (Korea) was nominated by the Korean National Committee. Dr. Park introduced himself. His membership was accepted by the WG.

Dr. Takanori Nagano (Japan) was nominated by the Japanese National Committee in place of Dr. T. Watanabe. Dr. Nagano introduced himself. His membership was accepted by the WG.

The nominations of Dr. Anatoly Polevoy (Ukraine), Dr. Theodoro Estrela Monreal (Spain) and Dr. Abdul Razzaq Ghumman (Pakistan) were deferred since they were not present. The Central Office may invite fresh nominations from the concerned NCs.

Ms. Sabine Walser (Germany) expressed her interest in joining the membership of the WG. She will contact the German National Committee in this regard. Meanwhile, she has been invited to participate in one of the themes as she may prefer. Her e-mail address: <Sabine.Walser@tu-dresden.de>.

Mr. Dadang Ridwan and Mr Zulfan Zahar (Indonesia) were authorized by INACID (letter no. 51/INCID/X/2011; dated 11 October 2011) to attend the 4th meeting of WG DROUGHT. They attended the meeting. The WG appreciated their participation.

Item 3 : WG-IADWS (erstwhile) publication – “Irrigation under Drought and Water Scarcity”

This publication requires only final editing and updating of references, and it can then be published.

Item 4 : Drought management strategies in water stressed / scarce regions - Theme 1

Prof. Chang-Chi Cheng (Chinese Taipei) presented a paper on the work plan for this theme. It was clear that more country experiences were required, and that these need to be documented in a consistent way. Discussions followed on drought response strategies in member countries. It was recommended by the vice-chairman that members of this theme focus on policies, plans and strategies rather than ways and methods of coping with water scarcity.

Item 5 : Coping with Water Scarcity – Theme 2

Mr. M. S. Jafari (Iran) presented a detailed paper on Iranian experiences on coping with water scarcity. This theme is complementary to Theme 2 in that it concentrates on detailed methodology and solutions rather than strategies and policies.

Item 6 : Rainfall Harvesting and Management for Sustainable Agriculture in Water Stressed/Scarce Regions – Theme 3

Mr. V. C. Ballard (Australia) presented a paper on the work plan for this theme and an outline of Australian experiences. Time did not permit presentation of the full Australian paper on experiences under this theme.

Item 7 : Discuss WG activities as per timeline for completion of mandate

It was clear that all three theme leaders proposed similar work plans. The first step was to obtain as many papers as possible on experiences in individual countries in relation to each of the three themes. These papers should carefully follow the topics set out in the work plans to avoid duplication.

It is essential that theme leaders have enough papers to enable them to present intermediate outputs at the WG meeting in Adelaide 2012. This will require all WG members to prepare, or arrange from others in their country, a paper on each of the three themes by the end of March 2012. Papers on other countries in which WG members have experiences will also be welcomed.

Progress will not be possible without these inputs from the whole of the membership of the WG.

Item 8 : Scheduling possible workshop in 2013

Members agreed in principle that a workshop should be held in Turkey (2013) to present draft final findings of the WG. The workshop would cover the three sub-themes, either as a series of country presentations or papers, or by re-arranging material from the country papers into sub-topics covering all the countries for which information is available.

Vice President Dr. Ragab Ragab (UK), Mr. Clarke Ballard (Australia) and Dr. Takanori Nagano (Japan) indicated that they would be prepared to assist in organizing the workshop. However, it was recognized that the basic material to be presented will come from work by members under the three themes.

Item 9 : Any other business

- **Invitation from WMO**

The members noted the information.

- **Participation in Africa-Asia Drought Risk Management Peer Assistance Survey – UNDP**

Working Group members were informed on this issue.

- **UN-Water – Participation in the Specific Panel**

The members noted the information

The acting Chairman thanked Mr. Ballard for assisting him as Acting Secretary for the meeting.
