



# News Update

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

Established 1950

July 2008

*From Secretary General's Desk...*

Dear Friends,

As you know, the key ICID activity in the preceding month was the 10<sup>th</sup> International Drainage Workshop held between 6-11 July 2008 in Helsinki, Finland and Tallinn, Estonia. This brought together President Lee and a few others like PH Bart, VPH Chandra, WG Drainage Chair Vlotman with our colleagues in FINCID and ESTICID. The Central Office has conveyed information on the very successful events that took place; we congratulate both FINCID and ESTICID on their great efforts. Dr. Vlotman together with Mr. Rauna Peltomaa would cover this successful workshop in the forthcoming Newsletter.

Let me devote some space to cover two key events where I participated. The first one held in Singapore was on Himalayan River Systems and enhancing the scientific base to understand the impacts due to looming Global Climate Change. The Singapore event was facilitated by ICIMOD with the funding support of the World Bank. The Abu-Dhabi Knowledge Forum was initiated as an off-shoot of the ongoing Abu-Dhabi Dialogue on South Asia Water Cooperation. The Himalayan region countries like Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Nepal and Pakistan were represented through their Governments, Science and Technology Organisations, besides others drawn from the Academia and Civil Society. The Abu-Dhabi Knowledge Forum, a sub set of the larger Abu Dhabi Dialogue Group is to identify the internal strength and weakness of the region and explore areas where a coordinated research and training activities would be of immediate use. In so far as agricultural water management and flows are concerned, the floods as well as drought mattered and some progress was made in focal groups to identify the cooperation possibilities cutting across borders. The

Group felt the need for an increased effort to advance the knowledge transcending borders. In the light of the Global Climate Change impacts, the Himalayan River system as a whole, from the source to sea had to be studied: the data gap surfaced as the priority attention area. Given the wider implications on the economy of a sizeable population whose livelihood depends on the Himalayan Rivers, the Dialogue process aimed to envision augmenting the scientific data base with joint efforts and cooperation. While the assessment of the impact of climate change was a starting point for coordinated research, the need to look into water governance structure and current management in place shall also be looked into. Exploring future management options to maximize benefits by increasing water use efficiency came to the fore. The occasion brought together some of us in the ICID fraternity together. Most of the participating countries were our active members and we could exchange our views. Mr. Syed Raghob Abbas Shah (PANCID) and Mr. Mir Sajjad Hossain (BANCID), to name a few, were in the assembly. We were able to convey to the assembly not only the role that ICID could play in looking to the objectives of the knowledge forum, but also at the forthcoming Lahore Congress and IEC events. We invited Bhutan and Afghanistan to join ICID fold during our meetings through the experts present from these countries.

I utilized the opportunity to confer with our colleagues from Pakistan (*Syed Raghob Abbas Shah is the Secretary General of the Organising Committee of the Congress*) on the preparations for the forthcoming Lahore Congress. Senator Nisar A.Memon of Pakistan who chaired the proceedings of the Knowledge Group's sessions was considerate to provide a slot to us to introduce ICID and Lahore Congress in the plenary/valedictory session.

A seminar on "Reforms in Irrigation Sector" is being planned in Bangalore, India in December 2008 by the Central Board of Irrigation and Power, associating the Govt. of Karnataka. I was invited to join the first meeting of the Organizing Committee in Bangalore. International Organizations like FAO, ICID, IWRA etc, were amongst those who were invited to partner the International Seminar to be held in December 2008. The meeting focused on key issues that are relevant. It was felt that this seminar will devote time to consider (i) Diagnosis of existing irrigation services and modernization options (ii) New Economy, New Investments: pathway for high irrigation efficiency and (iii) Institutional Reforms: where do we stand and where we should go.

To conclude, a few lines on the forthcoming IEC and Congress events in Lahore. We were assured of a very successful IEC event and congress by Syed in my meetings with him in Singapore. I shared the concerns of a few of our colleagues from countries with certain travel advisory restrictions. On behalf of the Organising Committee, Syed assured me that all efforts would be made to ensure utmost security to delegates participating in the Congress / IEC. Senator Nisar too came forward to enable a meeting with the Ambassadors of these countries to explore getting a support letter. I have written on this to VP Shaikh and am sure that we will not have any difficulty in having a successful and well attended event.

Best regards,

M. Gopalakrishnan  
Secretary General

## **News from National Committees**

### **Chile (CHICID)**

Mr. Juan Antonio Arrese Luco, Director of Hydraulic Works and President of Chilean National Committee of ICID (CHICID) has nominated Ms. Brenda

Códova Thomas to be the new Secretary of CHICID. She is in charge of the Irrigation Projects Department and can be contacted at :

Dirección de Obras Hidráulicas, MOP, Morandé N° 59 Oficina N° 536, Santiago, 8340652, Chile. Tel /Fax : +565 2 671 0764, E-mail : [brenda.cordova@mop](mailto:brenda.cordova@mop).

gov.cl, Website : <http://www.doh.gob.cl>

The ICID Central Office welcomes Ms. Códova and looks forward to her active participation in the activities of ICID. We express our thanks to Mr. Jorge Galvez Blanco, former Secretary of CHICID for his contributions and support to activities of ICID. [Source : CHICID]



## OBITUARY

It is with profound grief and sorrow that we inform the readers about the sad demise of Vice Presidents Hon. Tan Sri J.G. Daniel (Malaysia) and Prof. C. Fasso (Italy).

**Tan Sri Daniel** born in 1921, Graduated in Civil Engineering from the London University. He spent his whole career in the Drainage and Irrigation Department in Malaysia. As Vice President of ICID for the term 1975-1978, Tan Sri J.G. Daniel's contribution and dedication to ICID are widely recognized in the ICID fraternity and will be long remembered. His valuable contributions as an outstanding professional in the filed of Irrigation and Drainage are well known.

**Prof. Fasso** born in 1920, Graduated in Hydraulic Engineering from Politecnico di Milano, Italy in 1944. He was Professor in the Agricultural School, Catholic University in Piacenza; in the Universities of Gagliari and Magadiscio. He was Vice President of ICID for the term 1993-1996 and Vice Chairman of erstwhile ICID Committee of Practices and Member of WG-CONST. As Chairman of ICID Permanent Committee for Technical Activities from 1999 to 2005, he contributed to the Committee and the work bodies with dedication, zeal and significant sense of duty. His significant role as Chairman of Task Force on 'Global Issues Related to Food Production, Security and Trade' will always be remembered. Every one in ICID fraternity regarded him for his amicable nature, knowledge, jovial interactions and pleasing personality.

ICID family offers its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of Vice Presidents Hon. Mr. Daniel and Prof. Fasso. May their soul rest in eternal peace.

programme of UNEP and following consultations with The Netherlands as host government, the GPA Coordination Office has been relocated from The Hague to Nairobi in Kenya effective from August 2008. Their contact coordinates are : Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director, UNEP GPA Coordination Office, P.O. Box 30552, Nairobi, Kenya. Tel.: (254 20) 762 3386/34116/3662, Fax : (254 20) 762 4275/4608. E-mail : executiveofficer@unep.org, website : www.unep.org [Source : UNEP-GAP, The Hague]

## 5<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum 2<sup>nd</sup> Announcement

As you are aware, Turkey will host world's largest water related event in

Istanbul during 16-22 March 2009. 5<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum is open, all-inclusive, transparent and multi-stakeholder processes which aim to raise the importance and awareness of water issues and to propose concrete solutions to address global challenges. Given Turkey's unique position at the cross-roads between continents, regions, cultures and civilizations, "*Bridging Divides for Water*" has been chosen as the over-arching theme for the 5<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum. For detailed information please visit their web site: <[www.worldwaterforum5.org](http://www.worldwaterforum5.org)>

The "Second Announcement" and its summary are now available at:

<[http://www.5thworldwaterforum.org/fileadmin/giden\\_duyurular/2ndan\\_summary.pdf](http://www.5thworldwaterforum.org/fileadmin/giden_duyurular/2ndan_summary.pdf)>,

<[http://www.5thworldwaterforum.org/fileadmin/giden\\_duyurular/2ndannouncement.pdf](http://www.5thworldwaterforum.org/fileadmin/giden_duyurular/2ndannouncement.pdf)>

## 59<sup>th</sup> ICID Foundation Day

ICID Central Office organized a special session in New Delhi on 24 June 2008 to celebrate 59<sup>th</sup> ICID Foundation Day. The New Delhi Centre for World Water Council (NDC-WWC) also had its 58<sup>th</sup> Brainstorming Session together with ICID foundation day.

Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Deputy Inspector-General, Ministry of Environment and Forests (Government of India), was the Chief Guest of the function. Dr. Kumar made an excellent presentation on 'Desertification and Climate Change'. He focused on climate change leading to land degradation, promoting alternative rural livelihoods (Policy), public-private partnerships and participatory approach



Dr. Kumar and Er. Gopalakrishnan during the Session

in mitigation and adaptation efforts. More than 50 professionals from government, private and academic sectors attended the special session.

## Revisiting multiple uses of water 5 years on

Five years ago, in January 2003 an international symposium held in Johannesburg, South Africa (see [www.musgroup.net/page/425](http://www.musgroup.net/page/425)) led to the formation of the MUS (Multiple-use services) Group on multiple uses of water, and a number of research and pilot project initiatives. Practitioners, researchers and policy makers from 14 countries shared papers and experiences about the positive and negative aspects of multiple uses systems.

Five years on, it is time to revisit these issues and discuss progress in influencing policies, promoting implementation, testing technologies and evaluating the impacts. This will be the main event of MUS Group in 2008. This symposium, to be held later this year in Ethiopia, will also be a preparatory event for the 5<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum to be held in March 2009 in Istanbul, where multiple use services have been identified as a main topic.

For more information, contact Stel Smits and John Butterworth, International Water and Sanitation Centre at E-mails : [smits@irc.nl](mailto:smits@irc.nl); [butterworth@irc.nl](mailto:butterworth@irc.nl)

## Events

**XIII World Water Congress, entitled 'Global Changes and Water Resources: Confronting the Expanding and Diversifying Pressures'** will take place in Montpellier, France, 1-4 September 2008 under the auspices of the International Water Resources Association (IWRA). For more information, please access < <http://www.wwc2008.mssem.univ-montp2.fr/>>

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional Conference on Agricultural Water Management in Eastern and Southern Africa** during 5-19 September 2008 at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Contact : Prof. B.M. Mati, E-mail : [3rdawmconference@cgiar.org](mailto:3rdawmconference@cgiar.org) and [b.mati@cgiar.org](mailto:b.mati@cgiar.org), Website : [www.asareca.org/swmnet/imawesa/3rdAWWconference](http://www.asareca.org/swmnet/imawesa/3rdAWWconference).

## 20<sup>th</sup> ICID Congress – Updates

As you are aware, Pakistan National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (PANCID) is going full throttle to make arrangements for the 20<sup>th</sup> ICID Congress to welcome you. In case you have not registered, please do so early. You also need to initiate procedure for procuring your Pakistani Visa immediately, as it may take some time. National Committees are advised to make their reservations (it is FREE !) promptly for their National Committee displays before space runs out. Similarly, exhibitors also need to urgently contact the organizers for their space requirement.

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.

**Africa Water Resources Management 2008 (AfricaWRM 2008)** during 8-10 September 2008, Gaborone, Botswana. This conference is being organized by the International Association of Science and Technology for Development (IASTED).

**McGill Conference on Global Food Security** during 24-26 September 2008 at McGill University, Montreal, Canada. Contact : Mr. Richard W. Pound, E-mail: foodsecurity@mcgill.ca. Website : www.mcgill.ca/macdonald/events

**Second International Symposium on 'Food and Water Sustainability in Asia 2008'** during 6-8 October, 2008 at Macau, China. For more information, please access this website at <http://www.prime-intl.co.jp/FW2008/>

**ICID's 20th International Congress on Irrigation and Drainage** during 13-18 October 2008 at Lahore, Pakistan. Contact: Conference Secretarial: 506 WAPDA House, Lahore, Pakistan. E-mail: [icid@icid2008.org](mailto:icid@icid2008.org), Congress website: [www.icid2008.org](http://www.icid2008.org)



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Now available on the website **Volume 57.3, Special Issue on Capacity Building**, Edited by *T. Franks, C. Garcés - Restrepo, F. Putuhena*, to be published in July. Click on <http://www.interscience.wiley.com/journal/ird> for direct access to the home page of Irrigation and Drainage at the Wiley site, or at the abstract of the concerned paper for a direct link to the abstract of that paper.

### Volume 57, Issue 3 Research Articles

**Tom Franks, Carlos Garcés-Restrepo, Ferry Putuhena**  
Developing capacity for agricultural

water management: current practice and future directions. Abstract

**Pay Drechsel, Olufunke O. Cofie, René van Veenhuizen, Theophilus O. Larbi**

Linking research, capacity building, and policy dialogue in support of informal irrigation in urban West Africa. Abstract

**Wilfried Hundertmark**

Building drought management capacity in the Mekong River basin. Abstract

**Thierry Facon, Daniel Renault, P. S. Rao, Robina Wahaj**

High-yielding capacity building in irrigation system management: targeting managers and operators. Abstract

**J. Huamanchumo, Y. Peña, L. Silva, J. Hendriks**

Developing capacity in water users organizations: the case of Peru. Abstract

**Sam H. Johnson III, Joop Stoutjesdijk**  
WUA training and support in the Kyrgyz Republic. Abstract

**W. Leathes, J. W. Knox, M. G. Kay, P. Trawick, J. A. Rodriguez-Diaz**

Developing UK farmers' institutional capacity to defend their water rights and effectively manage limited water resources. Abstract

**Bancy M. Mati**

Capacity development for smallholder irrigation in Kenya. Abstract

**Carel Keuls**

Knowledge network development in water resources and irrigation management: the case of CKNet-INA in Indonesia. Abstract

**Henk Ritzema, Wouter Wolters, Catharien Terwisscha Van Scheltinga**

Lessons learned with an integrated approach for capacity development in agricultural land drainage. Abstract

## INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

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