

**AGENDA FOR THE 31ST MEETING OF THE
ASIAN REGIONAL WORKING GROUP (ASRWG)**

04 September 2024, 08:30-10:00 hours (Session I) and 10:30-12:00 hours (Session II)
Sydney, Australia

Year of Establishment: 1996

Mandate: The general objective of the Asian Regional Working Group is to focus on common topics and issues and to enhance the transfer of appropriate technology in irrigation and drainage to and from the Asian Region. The mission of ASRWG is to encourage membership and to coordinate activities in the region.

Website: http://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/104

ASRWG Agenda Item 1: Review of the membership¹

1. During the online meeting on 26 June 2024, the Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary reviewed the nominations of the Thai National Committee of ICID (THAICID) viz. Prof. Dr. (Ms.) Nuchanart Sriwongsitanon and Dr. Noppadon Kowsuvon for the membership of the working group. THAICID has also re-nominated/ re-confirmed the membership of Dr. Arthon Suttigarn. Similarly, the Nepal National Committee of ICID (NENCID) has nominated Mr. Sanjeeb Baral (*in place of Mr. Bashu Dev Lohanee*) for membership of the WG
2. The WG may recommend these names for the membership of ASRWG to the PCTA and consequently to IEC in September 2024 for formal approval. Chair in consultation with the Vice Chair, Secretary of the WG, and the Central Office has updated the membership of the WG as given in **Annex 1** (*refer to the electronic version for the latest membership*). New nominations, if any, will be dealt with suitably after the meeting.

ASRWG Agenda Item 2: Action taken report by the Chair

3. The Chair will present the report on the actions taken on the various issues/ proposals of the working group since its last meeting held in November 2023 at Vizag, India:
 - (a) Interim (virtual) meeting was held on 26 June 2024 since the last physical meeting was held in Vizag, India.
 - (b) The Technical Report and workshop discussions have been taking place vide e-mail exchange.
 - (c) The proposal/ format for the Technical Report has been shared with Nepal and Indonesia for their contributions.
 - (d) The areas of collaboration with IACID for ARC9 have been discussed through a virtual meeting on 19 March 2024.
 - (e) The organization of the internal/international workshops has been discussed with IAL.
 - (f) The international organizations (FAO, IWMI, WB, and ADB) have been contacted for their contributions.
4. The Chair may provide updates, if any.

ASRWG Agenda Item 3: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Status of activities in the Asian region

5. The Action Plan on the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 (**Annex 2**) will be reviewed during the meeting. One of the main tasks assigned to the Task Team (TT) is to achieve Strategy C4.21 and prepare the Technical Report on '*Irrigation and Drainage for Asian Food Security*', which is expected to be released at the 9th Asian Regional Conference from 1-7 September 2024 in Sydney, Australia. The Chair may provide further updates, if any, at the meeting.

ASRWG Agenda Item 4: Collaboration with IACID for the 9th Asian Regional Conference, September 2024, Australia

6. The 9th Asian Regional Conference theme is 'Irrigation's role in delivering economically viable food security and sustainable urban green spaces in an increasingly unpredictable climate' with sub-themes as below:

¹ This will also include details of membership of WG as **Annex**

- (a) **Governance** – identifying and addressing structural and policy impediments to the adoption of better irrigation practices
- (b) **Investment** – fit-for-purpose and cost-effective technologies which support end users to implement sustainable irrigation practices (Environmental, Social, Governance)
- (c) **Capacity development** – ensuring that end users can access and adapt knowledge and systems to support sustainable irrigation practices.

7. During the online meeting, Mr. David Cameron (IAL) informed the Working Group that the Conference website is up and running. A good number of abstracts have been received, reviewed and authors informed of their oral/poster presentations. The formal registration process has already commenced. The international workshops have already been firmed up with International and Australian speakers. He stated that the processes of the ARC9 are being carried out in close cooperation with ASRWG. Mr. David Cameron may provide further updates including the results of the Conference, if any, at the meeting.

ASRWG Agenda Item 4.1: Progress on the technical report/ case studies of the group

8. During the online meeting on 26 June 2024, Dr. Vijay Labhsetwar as the Leader of the Task Team for the Technical Report informed that seven Technical Reports viz. Sri Lanka, Chinese Taipei Committee, Australia, Turkey, China, India, Indonesia, and Japan have been received (Nepal report not received). Two reports from International Organizations (IWMI and ADB) have also been received (FAO report not received).

9. All these reports have to be proofread, corrected, formatted, and brought to ICID acceptable format and returned to authors with editorial observations for the improvement of the chapters. The eye-pages (Preface, Forward, etc.) and scope also have to be developed, besides the last chapter on Way Forward: Country/committee strategies for food security. Finally, bring the Technical Report to e-book format by ICID Central Office for its e-distribution. As mentioned above, the Technical Publication will be released in a special ceremony at the 9th Asian Regional Conference and 75th IEC meeting of ICID, 01 - 07 Sept 2024 at ICC Sydney, Australia. The document is expected to be about 146 pages long and has been prepared by ASRWG as its output towards completing its mandate and Road Map to ICID Vision 2030. The Chair and Vice Chair may provide further updates, if any, at the meeting.

ASRWG Agenda Item 4.2: Organization of International Workshop in September 2024, Australia

10. As customary, the internal workshop on '*Irrigation and Drainage for Asian Food Security*' will be organized during the Sydney meeting in September 2024. Members/ Authors are expected to make their presentations based on their technical reports during this workshop. Vice Chair Dr. Vijay may provide further updates, if any at the meeting.

11. Additionally, as per commitment, an International Workshop on '*Agricultural Water Management for Food Security: More than Modernization*' will be organized and coordinated by IACID in cooperation with ASRWG. This workshop falls under the scope of the 9th Asian Regional Conference (ARC9). The structure and the speakers in the workshop have been firmed up by IAL. Mr. David Cameron or Mr. Michel Scooby of IACID may provide further information on the international workshop.

ASRWG Agenda Item 4.3: Organization of Internal Workshop in September 2024, Australia

12. The Internal Workshop of the ASRWG is held in the meeting of the WG in 75th IEC at Sydney, September 2024. The Vice-Chair Dr. Labhsetwar will announce its program and presenters including the WG members and invited speakers of the international organizations.

ASRWG Agenda Item 5: Brief report of 14th International Drainage Workshop in 2024, Tajikistan

13. The Tajikistan National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage (TajNCID) organized the 14th International Drainage Workshop (IDW) on "*Modernization of irrigation and drainage systems for adaptation to climate change and sustainable development*" from 30 May to 01 June 2024 in Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan. The Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation organized the event with the support of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and international development partners. President Dr. Marco Arcieri, Secretary General Er. A.B. Pandya, Vice President, and the Chair of ASRWG Dr. Tsuguihiro Watanabe and other office bearers of the ICID attended the event.

14. Mr. Sharif Mahmudov from TajNCID may enlighten the members on the issues discussed and especially the takeaway from the IDW. The Chair may provide his observation at the IDW, if any.

ASRWG Agenda Item 6: Strengthening linkages among NCs

15. During the Vizag meeting, the chair informed that while strengthening linkages among NCs is important, there is still a lack of mutual linkages between the NCs. It is anticipated that efforts will be made to strengthen the connections between NCs. Members may explore new ways to strengthen the linkages among NCs. The Chair may provide further updates, if any, at the meeting.

ASRWG Agenda Item 7: Collaboration with the International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering (PAWEES) and International Network of Water Environment and Paddy Fields (INWEPF)

16. The Chair may provide further updates on the collaboration of the International Society of Paddy and Water Environment Engineering (PAWEES) and the International Network of Water Environment and Paddy Fields (INWEPF) at the meeting.

ASRWG Agenda Item 8: Working Group webpage update

17. As a new initiative, ICID has launched a new website (<https://icid-ciid.org>) as part of ICID's 70th Anniversary Celebration to meet the new web technologies. One of the newly added web features provides WG members access to their profile section using their dedicated account. ICID CO vide email dated 9 July 2021 <<https://icid.bmeurl.co/C7D4D2E>> informed all members on how to access their accounts and change their passwords to maintain accuracy. Members are requested to review and update their information using their credentials and help ICID maintain accurate information.

ASRWG Agenda Item 9: World Irrigation and Drainage Schemes (WI&DS)

18. ICID has taken the initiative to document the development of irrigation and drainage schemes in the world by establishing an online Register on "World Irrigation and Drainage Schemes (WI&DS)". WI&DS will fulfil the need for a much-awaited global repository of information in systematic irrigation and agricultural water management. Irrigation projects having 5000 Hectares and above of Command Area can submit their information for inclusion in the register. The irrigation projects approved by the National Committee/ ICID Central Office for inclusion are entitled to Certification. Chair will encourage members to urge all irrigation and drainage scheme owners, managers, and researchers across the world, especially in their respective countries to contribute to the register. The review process and other details are outlined on the portal < <https://wip.icidevents.org/> > in detail.

ASRWG Agenda Item 10: Any other business (with permission of Chair)



NOTES FOR CHAIRPERSON:

1. Draft minutes of this meeting to be submitted to ICID Secretariat at Sydney, Australia after the meeting.
2. Chair to participate and present the WG report to PCSO meeting on 05 September 2024.

A. Membership of the Asian Regional Working Group (ASRWG)

Sl. No.	Countries (Year of joining)	Present representatives (Year of Joining)	Participated in October 2022, Australia	Participated in November 2023, India	Participated in the virtual meetings in April/July 2023	Participated in the virtual meetings in June 2024	Remarks
1.	Japan (1951)	Vice President Dr. Tsugihiko Watanabe, Chairman, 2020 (2019)	•	•	•	•	
2.	India (1950)	Dr. Vijay K Labhsetwar, Vice Chair, 2020 (2018)	•	•	•	•	
3.	Turkey (1954)	Dr. Aynur Fayrap, Secretary, 2020 (2012)	•		•	•	
4.	Australia (1952)	Mr. Momir Vranes (2021)	•	•	•		
5.	Australia (1952)	Mr. David John Cameron (2023)		•	•	•	
6.	Bangladesh (1973)	Dr. Robin Kumar Biswas (2022)					
7.	Bangladesh (1973)	Dr. (Ms.) Nazmun Nahar Karim (2022)			•		
8.	China (1963)	Mr. Dang Ping (2021)	•	•			
9.	China (1963)	Ms. Li Ruoxi – Young Professional (2021)	•	•	•	•	
10.	Chinese Taipei Committee (1969)	Dr. Ray-Shyan Wu (2018)	•		•	•	
11.	Chinese Taipei Committee (1969)	Dr. Gwo-Hsing Yu (2015)					
12.	Chinese Taipei Committee (1969)	Mr. Tony Chih-Sheng Chen (2022)	•	•	•		
13.	India (1950)	Mr. Rajni Kant Agrawal, Direct Member - WAPCOS (2021)	# ²		#		
14.	India (1950)	Dr. Arvind Kumar - Direct Member, IWF (2023)			•		
15.	Indonesia (1950)	Vice President Dr. Mochammad Amron (2015)	•	•		•	
16.	Iran (1955)	VPH Karim Shiati (1997)	#				
17.	Iraq (2006)	Eng. (Ms.) Zainab Saleem – Young Professional (2021)	#	#	•		
18.	Iraq (2006)	Mrs. Shaimaa Shihab Ahmed (2021)	#	#			

² Through representation

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19.	Japan (1951)	Mr. Toru OKUDA (2022)	•	•	•		
20.	Japan (1951)	Dr. Masaomi Kimura (2023)		•		•	
21.	Kazakhstan (2006)	Representative from KAZCID					
22.	Malaysia (1958)	Ir. Syed Abdul Hamid bin Syed Shuib (2013)	#				
23.	Malaysia (1958)	Mr. Mohamad Radzi Bin Abdul Talib (2022)	•				
24.	Myanmar (1962)	Dr. (Ms.) Mu Mu Than (2017)					
25.	Nepal (1973)	Mr. Bashu Dev Lohanee (2017)			•		Replaced by Mr. Sanjeeb Baral
26.	Pakistan (1953)	(2017)	#		#	•	
27.	Philippines (1956)	Representative from PNC-ICID					
28.	Saudi Arabia (1977)	Representative from SACID					
29.	South Korea (1970)	Prof. (Ms.) Kyung Sook Choi (2015)			•		
30.	South Korea (1970)	Ms. Jeong Min, Ryu – Young Professional (2017)					
31.	Sri Lanka (1950)	Eng. W.B. Palugaswewa (2016)	#				
32.	Sri Lanka (1950)	Eng. (Ms.) Talatha Janaki Meegastenna (2022)	#		•	•	
33.	Tajikistan (1997)	Representative from TAJCID			#	•	
34.	Thailand (1950)	Mr. Arthon Suttigarn (2012)	•	•		•	
35.	Turkey (1954)	Mr. Egemen Gürsoy (2023)			•	•	
36.	Uzbekistan (1994)	Mr. Ilkhom Juraev (2015)			•		

B. New nominations received from the National Committee

No.	Name	Country	Remarks
1	Prof. Dr. (Ms.) Nutchant Sriwongsitanon	Thailand	Attended online meeting on 26 June 2024
2	Dr. Noppadon Kowsuvon	Thailand	Attended online meeting on 26 June 2024
3	Mr. Sanjeeb Baral	Nepal	Recommended as a member, subject to his presence else provisional member



ROAD MAP TO ICID VISION 2030 – ACTIVITIES OF WORK BODIES

Goals/ Strategies	Activities	Outcomes/ Outputs	Milestone for 2021	Milestone for 2022	Milestone for 2023	Milestone for 2024	Responsibility
C3. Strategy: Promoting Regional Cooperation	3.5 Enhance Linkages between National Committees for International Cooperation	Technical Report	Enhancement of Linkages between NCs for International Cooperation through Knowledge Sharing and Event organization	Enhancement of Linkages between NCs for International Cooperation through Knowledge Sharing and Event organization	Enhancement of Linkages between NCs for International Cooperation through Knowledge Sharing and Event organization	Enhancement of Linkages between NCs for International Cooperation through Knowledge Sharing and Event organization	
	3.6 Broaden relationship and mutual understanding and cooperation between NCs from developing countries and developed countries	Collaboration/ MoU	Exchange visits/ training between NCs MoU between NCs				
	3.7 International conference/ workshop/ seminar	Compilation of proceedings	Review of the Process, Organization, and Outcomes of the 8th Asian Regional Conference, May 2018, Nepal	MoU between NCs	Collaborated Preparatory Works for the 9th Asian Regional Conference with IACID	Workshop in 9th Asian Regional Conference, Sep. 2024, Australia.	
				Participation in 9th World Water Forum (WWF9), March 2022, Senegal			
				Participation in 4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit (APWS4), April 2022, Japan			
C4. Strategy: Compile, Collate and Share Knowledge and Experiences	4.4 Special joint Publication on Agricultural Water Management for Sustainable Rural Development	Side Event with AARDO (African-Asian Rural Development Organization) (held in 2018)					
			WG Workshops on Impacts of COVID-19 on Agricultural Water Management in Asia				
	4.21 Report on "Contribution of Agricultural Water to the Rural Development in Asia"	Technical Report ("Contribution of Agricultural Water to the Rural Development in Asia" was published in 2018)		Workshop on Irrigation and Drainage for Asian Food Security in Asia, in 73rd IEC, Oct. 2022, Australia	Workshops on Irrigation and Drainage for Asian Food Security in Asia, in 74th IEC, Nov. 2023, India	The formal release of the Report at 9th ARC, Sep. 2024, Australia	
D3. Strategy: Facilitate Development of Intersectoral Platforms Involving NCs	3.1 Developing inter-sectoral engagement		Collaboration with PAWEES and INWEPF				
			Organizing multisectoral events /workshops				

