

Draft Minutes of the Virtual 6th Meeting of  
**WORKING GROUP ON IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT (WG-IDM)**  
2 July 2021: 13:30 hour (IST)

**Strategy Theme: Schemes**

**Members Present:** (1) Mrs. Mary Jean M. Gabriel, Chair (South Africa); (2) Mr. Ahmet Seren, Vice Chair (Turkey); (3) Dr. Katsuyuki SHIMIZU, Secretary (Japan); (4) Dr. Waleed Hassan M. Abou El Hassan (Egypt); (5) Prof. L.B. Roy - Direct Member (India); (6) Dr. Ms. Eman Ragab Mohamed Nofal - Young Professional (Egypt); (7) Er. Harish Kumar Varma, Executive Director, ICID Central Office (India).

**New nominee present:** Dr. Gamal Mohamed Elkassar (Egypt)

**WG-IDM Minutes Item 1: Introduction by the Chair**

1. Chair welcomed all the members and presented a brief report on the actions taken on the decisions and proposals of the working group at its last meeting held on 16 November 2020.

2. Webinar on “Role of ICT Technologies for sustainable irrigation management and scheduling (MENA Region-Case studies)” held on 7 April 2021. Dr. Amgad Elmahdi, Head of MENA Region-IWMI (member of WG-IDM) together with Prof. Dr. Yusuf Ersoy Yildirim, Dean of Eskisehir Osmangazi University (Turkey) made presentations. The Chair thanked the speakers and group members for their contribution.

3. The Working Group (WG) reviewed the membership of the WG. VPH Francois Brelle (France) and Eng. Mohammed Omar Makram Afify – young professional (Egypt) has not contributed to the activities of the group during last two consecutive years so the group recommended as in the last meeting to discontinue the membership and invite new nominations from the respective National Committees (NCs) as well as from other NCs.

**WG-IDM Minutes Item 2: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Status of activities on irrigation development and management**

4. During the virtual meeting, the WG agreed to review and update the activities as part of Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 (refer Annex). The WG agreed to discuss the status of various activities and reported the progress to Permanent Committee for Technical Activities (PCTA). The WG discussed the Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 and provided latest updates to PCTA for inclusion as follows:

5. A6 Strategy 6.7: Mr. Ahmet Seren (Turkey) reported that he had already submitted “Technical Report on Drivers and Social Resistances within the Systems to Improve Irrigation Management in Turkey” on 18 March 2021 and Eng. Ali Mohamed Ahmed Elhaj had already shared the documents in respect of works done in Gezira Irrigation Scheme in Sudan. Chair and CO will contact VPH Ian Makin about collaboration with his WG in this activity.

6. B1 Strategy 1.14: Report on south-south cooperation for capacity development in the field of irrigation management - WG Chair Ms. Mary Jean Gabriel (South Africa) informed the progress on capacity development from the African Regional Working Group (AFRWG). One of the South African colleges collaborate with member countries (South countries). The Chair will write a brief report and give additional information on this matter.

7. B3 Strategy 3.1: Assess methods and develop guidelines on relevant water balance approach - Dr. Amgad Elmahdi submitted the table of contents on “Guidelines on relevant water balance approach” to the Chair, vice-Chair and secretary of our WG on 8th Feb., 2021 and it was circulated in the meeting.

8. D2 Strategy 2.3: Investigating and documenting the social and economic impacts of irrigation systems - Dr. Akie Mukai (Japan) reported to Chair through e-mail that she was working on it.

9. C1 strategy 1.3: Organize workshop, seminar and symposium on Water Balance Approach – No update information was available. CO will inform the WG members on this matter.

**WG-IDM Minutes Item 2.1: Publication of the WG**

10. Goal C4 - Strategy 4.17 titled “Overview paper on the Irrigation Development for publication in Irrigation and Drainage (IRD)” by Dr. Ming-Young Jan (Chinese Taipei) is under preparation. However, as he was unable to attend the last two virtual meetings, the group agreed to contact him by email on the matter.

11. Chair invited all members of WG to provide their inputs to other two documents entitled “Norms and standards of irrigation development” and “Condensed overview of existing documents and practical examples on water balance approach”. CO will request WG members again to deliver suggestions and inputs on the documents.

12. The group noted the interesting books brought out by the Iranian National Committee of ICID viz. (i) Irrigation Management Strategies in Arid Regions - by M. Parsinejad, M. Sarai Tabrizi (Page: 224, Year: 2018) and, (ii) Water Accounting and Auditing - A Sourcebook, Charles Batchelor and Jeppe Hoogeveen, Jean-Marcc Faures and Livia Peiser - translated by Irrigation Systems Development and Management Working Group (Page: 271, Year: 2019).

13. Just after the last virtual meeting, ICID Central Office recirculated and put the reports on the website which were sent by Mr. Ali Mohamed A. Elhaj (Sudan) viz. (i) Gezira Canal Regulation Handbook – published by the Ministry of Irrigation and Hydropower, Republic of Sudan; (ii) Report of the Gezira Scheme Consultative Workshop held at the Hydraulic Research Centre (HRC) in 2016; and (iii) Article titled “Impacts of Legal and Institutional Changes on Irrigation Management Performance: A Case of the Gezira Irrigation Scheme, Sudan” published in the Journal ‘Water’ in 2018.

14. Dr. Katsuyuki Shimizu (Japan) reported that he modified the second draft report titled “Investigating and providing information on the positive amenities, services and goods provided by irrigation systems” based on the comments by Chair and Vice-Chair. He agreed to submit the final draft to CO, the Chair and vice-Chair after the meeting.

15. The group noted the PDF version of the book titled “Irrigation Strategy for South Africa” brought out in 2015 by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Republic of South Africa which was shared by Chair Ms. Mary Jean Gabriel.

**WG-IDM Minutes Item 3: Presentation by the working members**

16. No presentation was prepared in this meeting. Prof. L.B. Roy (India) offered that he will make a presentation in the next meeting and the group agreed. Chair and CO encouraged all members of WG to make presentations related to mandate of the WG at the next meetings.

**WG-IDM Minutes Item 4: Updating Multilingual Technical Dictionary (MTD)**

17. CO had requested Dr. Amgad Elmahdi (Australia) to consider contribution in Arabic in the last virtual meeting. No update information has not been reported by Dr. Elmahdi.

**WG-IDM Minutes Item 5: Any other business**

18. Extension of term of the WG till 2023 was approved by IEC vide resolution no. IEC-2/71 based on the recommendation of PCTA.

20. CO advised the WG to hold virtual meetings at least twice per year accordingly the suggestion of the President Dr. Ragab that all WGs should organise atleast two virtual meetings in between physical meeting during IEC.

