MINUTES OF THE FIRST VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE
WORKING GROUP ON MANAGING WATER SCARCITY UNDER
CONFLICT DEMANDS (WG-MWSCD)

Date: 25 August 2021; Time: 16:30 Hours (Indian Standard Time)

Members Present: (1) VPH Franklin E. Dimick (USA), Chairman; (2) Mr. V.C. Ballard (Australia), Vice-Chairman; (3) Dr. Ragab Ragab (UK), President, ICID; (4) Dr. Takanori Nagano (Japan); (5) Dr. Hisham Mostafa Mohammed Ali (Egypt); (6) Ms. Mikiko Sugiura (Japan); (7) Dr. Shivaji T. Sangle (India); (8) Ms. Leila Eamen (Canada); and (9) Er. Harish Kumar Varma, Executive Director, ICID Central Office.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 1: Introduction by the Chair

Chairman VPH Franklin E. Dimick (USA) expressed appreciation to those attending the meeting for their help in moving the work of the Working Group forward. Chair discussed the revised schedule of the upcoming meetings due to the adverse influence of COVID-19 virus. Scheduled face-to-face meeting in Morocco will be replaced with a virtual meeting at the scheduled time in the conference agenda.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 2: Road Map to ICID Vision 2030 – Status of activities of Managing Water Scarcity under Conflict Demands

Road Map will be updated to reflect the delays caused by adverse impacts of COVID-19 virus.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 3: International Workshop on ‘Managing on the Regional, State or Local Level, Water Scarcity Resulting from Conflicting Demands’ in October 2022 at Adelaide, South Australia

The workshop has been delayed until the ICID meeting in Adelaide, Australia in October of 2022 so that the presentations can be made in person rather than virtual at Morocco later this year. Chair will contact those whose abstracts were accepted for the workshop originally scheduled for 2020 to determine if they will be able to present their full papers in Adelaide in 2022. If vacancies occur, replacement papers will be selected from those abstracts previously submitted.

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

Dr. Takanori Nagano (Japan) sent an email to all working group members in April of this year requesting input to the dictionary but only received one response. A discussion ensued regarding what is needed and the value of creating a dictionary with words or terms that have meaning to persons working in the water sector. Chair requested Dr. Nagano to send the request out again and then requested all members of the working group to respond to his request by providing terms related to the work of the working group mandate.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 5: Status of draft indices

Drafting of the indices was assigned to Mr. Amali Abraham Amali (Nigeria) at the last meeting of the working group. Mr. Amali has not provided an update on his actions on this matter. Chair will contact him to obtain an update.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 6: Preparation of draft Guidelines

At the last meeting of the working group, it was decided that coordination of this effort should take place with other working groups with similar mandates but a leader for this activity was not selected. A discussion then took place at this meeting concerning the effort to prepare draft guidelines in coordination with other working groups. It was determined that the work of this working group is unique in many ways and that coordination with other working groups would not be appropriate or meaningful. Chair asked for a volunteer to lead the effort in preparing draft guidelines. No volunteers were noted. Chair noted that Dr. Jan Ming-Young (Chinese Taipei Committee) would be a good candidate for such an endeavor so indicated he would contact Dr. Jan Ming-Young to see if he would accept that responsibility.
WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 7: Webinar/Web-based Seminar

Chair expressed appreciation for those who arranged for and conducted the two webinars held earlier this year. One was by President Dr. Ragab Ragab (UK) entitled “Suitable water, crops and land management for water stressed regions.” The other was presented by Ms. Terri Edwards (USA) of the Bureau of Reclamation entitled “Dividing the Waters: A History of Litigation in the Truckee River Basin and the Hope for the Future”. Both of these webinars were very successful and informative. Chair indicated we need additional webinars to help educated people on the work of this working group and asked each working group member to search for possible webinar sessions in each of their countries. Mr. Clarke Ballard (Australia), Vice-Chairman of the WG, indicated he would discuss it with the Australian National Committee and President Dr. Ragad indicated he might have a contact with a webinar presenter.

WG-MWSCD Minutes Item 8: Any other business

Dr. Takanori Nagano (Japan) expressed concern that COVID-19 delays of our activities might necessitate a request for extension of the term of the working group. Chair indicated he would request extension to 2023 and possibly 2024 but that the goal of the working group should be to complete the mandate in 2023.

A discussion ensued concerning the need for continuing the work of this working group with another mandate and another working group as the issue of competing demands for water will not go away and, in fact, will increase in intensity as time goes by. It was agreed that further work needs to be done and members were asked to consider what needed to be included in a mandate for the new working group.