

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE  
WORKING GROUP ON USE OF NON-CONVENTIONAL WATER  
RESOURCES FOR IRRIGATION (WG-NCWRI)**

20 October 2021, 14.30-15.30 hours

**Strategy Theme: On-Farm**

Presented by the Chair

**Year of Establishment: 2018**

**Completion of the Mandate: 2024**

**Mandate:**(a) Exchanging knowledge, experience and data as well as networking on the topic in order to be up-to-date with new developments, methods and approaches; (b) Preparing comprehensive reviews and prospects with respect to different aspects of NCWR; (c) Producing technical manuals, guidelines or standards with respect to all NCWR including waste water, drainage water and saline/brackish water; (d) Organizing international workshops, seminars and meetings on the NCWR topic; (e) Producing documents on successful case studies with the new developments with respect to NCWR presented by the members from different countries; (f) Enlarging the membership of the WG by encouraging more member countries where the use of non-conventional waters is a common practice for irrigation management; (g) Finalizing the publication of a Technical Paper pending from the activities of the erstwhile Working Group on Use of Poor Quality Water for Irrigation (WG-PQW).

**Website:** [http://icid-ciid.org/inner\\_page/123](http://icid-ciid.org/inner_page/123)

**Members Present:** (1) Dr. Wu Wenyong, Chair (China); (2) President Dr. R. Ragab (UK); (3) Dr. Tasuku Kato (Japan); (4) Dr. Tapas Kumar Biswas (Australia); (5) Dr. (Ms.) Anna Tedeschi (Italy); (6) Ms. Jigyasha Rai Yangkhurung (Nepal); (7) Dr. Shu-Yuan Pan (Chinese Taipei Committee); (8) Dr. Chihhao Fan (Chinese Taipei Committee); (9) Dr. Sunil D. Gorantiwar (India); (10) Dr. Qi Xuebin (China); (11) Er. B.A. Chivate represented Secretary General, ICID Central Office (India).

**Observer:** Ma Meng (China)

**WG-NCWRI Agenda Item 1: Review of the activities progress in the Mandate by the Chair**

1. The Chair introduced the member of the WG:
  - a. The Chair Introduced new nominations of Dr. QI Xuebin from China and Dr. Sunil D. Gorantiwar from India. Dr. Qi and Dr. Sunil introduced themselves.
  - b. Dr. QI Xuebin gave a presentation on “Assess the effect of irrigation with Reclaimed water under different irrigation techniques on the tomatoes quality parameters”.
2. Dr. Tasuku Kato reported the progress of the case studies document - the use of non-conventional waters in different countries, and planned to finish the draft before 72nd IEC Meeting, Morocco.

**WG-NCWRI Agenda Item 2: Discuss activities to be suggested for the Mandate on non-conventional water resources for irrigation**

**WG-NCWRI Agenda Item 2.1: Developing standards with respect to NCWR**

3. Dr. Anna introduced AWC-FAO guideline “Brackish Water Used for Agricultural Production in the Near East and North Africa”, FAO Irrigation and Drainage Paper 48 “The use of saline waters for crop production” and FAO Report 29 “Water quality for agriculture”. Dr. Anna suggested that the update could be focused on two aspects of alleviating salinity effects with bio stimulants and good management concepts under multiple practices. President Ragab cleared the guideline scope of ICID, discussed the problems and arguments of important parameters such as LF & EC<sub>e</sub>, and proposed the concept of P50 in salinity control. Dr. Biswas and Dr. Sunil also evaluated and suggested update the parameters of SAR, LF, EC<sub>e</sub>, etc.
4. The layout or outline of the guideline are expected to be proposed by Dr. Anna during the next virtual meeting. The Chair suggested to establish an international team with experienced experts for drafting the guideline. President Ragab suggested Dr. Kato should report the salinity control progress in coastal areas of Japan during next virtual meeting.

**WG-NCWRI Agenda Item 2.2: Discuss international workshop on NCWR topics**

5. WG decided to organize a Workshop on “Use of non-conventional water resources for irrigation” during the 24th ICID Congress to be held from 03-10 October 2022 at Adelaide, South Australia. President Dr. Ragab suggested for a one-day Workshop and prepare for the announcement of the Workshop.

6. President Ragab proposed the theme “Use of nonconventional water for food production” for the workshop. The Chair suggested that the workshop may include two sub-themes of reclaimed water irrigation, and brackish water irrigation and salinity management. Dr. Biswas and Dr. Anna will prepare the relative documents.

7. Dr. Biswas suggested the workshop might include four sections and field technical tour. Dr. Biswas was expected to be responsible for the organization of field technical tour, and contact with Mr. Bryan Ward for the programme. A committee of volunteers should be responsible for the paper and abstract. Presentation should be within 10-15 minutes according to the number of participants. The Chair expected Vice Chair Dr. Biswas to draft the flyer.

**WG-NCWRI Agenda Item 3: Capacity building training**

8. President Ragab emphasized that Capacity building training should include technical training for young professionals rather than presentation. The Chair suggested volunteers, i.e. Dr. Tapas Biswas (Australia), Dr. Ashish Pandey (India), and Dr. Tasuku Kato (Japan) or members to propose the topics and brief introduction (within 500 words) on Capacity building training courses. The training courses may include smart irrigation, drip irrigation, sprinkler irrigation, etc., which should be related to non-conventional water reuse.

**WG-NCWRI Agenda Item 4: Selection of Vice Chair or/and Sectary of the WG**

9. The Chair sent e-mail for the application of candidates for the position of Vice Chair and Sectary of WG-NCWRI twice in September 2021. The Chair received only one application i.e. Dr. Tapas Biswas from Australia for the position of Vice Chair / Secretary. The Chair recommended to elect Dr. Tapas Biswas as Vice Chair, and Dr. Tapas Biswas made a short remark. The Chair encouraged members to volunteer for the position of Secretary.

**WG-NCWRI Agenda Item 5: Any other business**

10. Dr. R. Ragab, President of ICID made a closing remark on the virtual meeting, and encouraged members to attend the 72<sup>nd</sup> IEC meeting at Marrakech, Morocco.

