

Reply to:
University of Rome "La Sapienza"
Dipartimento di Idraulica, Trasporti e Strade
Via Eudossiana, 18
00184 - Rome, Italy
Tel.: +39 06 44585069; Cell: +39 348 0826200
Fax: +39 06 44585027
E-mail: Lucio.Ubertini@uniroma1.it



Prof. Lucio Ubertini, Vice President

International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage • Commission Internationale des Irrigations et du Drainage



**The Sixty First International Executive Council Meeting (61st IECM) and
The Sixth Asian Regional Conference (6th ARC)**

Yogyakarta - Indonesia, 10 - 16 October 2010

Workshops on “Water: a Priority for Latin American Countries”: A Report

Prof. Lucio Ubertini, as ICID Vice President, promoted in Rome, Italy, workshops to involve Latin American Countries in ICID activities on the topic ‘*Water: a Priority for Latin American Countries*’, with the possible cooperation IHP-UNESCO.

In the three meetings, held on the 25th of February, the 24th of March and the 14th of July the Vice President presented the role and activities of ICID, and invited the Latin America Countries to reactivate or join the Association

Latin American countries could share the objectives focused by ICID about the links between water and food, water and agriculture, water and development, given that, despite the almost unlimited water resources of some of its areas, the water has not yet the central role in development.

Official representatives of many countries (Embassies in Rome) took part to the workshops with interest and speeches: Republic of Argentina, Federative Republic of Brazil, Republic of Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Republic of Guatemala, Mexico, Republic of Peru, Republic of Ecuador, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

Moreover, there was the involvement of cultural (IILA, Istituto Italo Latino Americano), technical (CAE S.p.a) and institutional (Cultural representative for Foreign Affair Ministry) subjects, interested in the development of water resource strategies in Latin American countries. Also ITAL-Idid was represented by the President Dr. Gabriella Zanferrari.

Some scientific seminars related to the water management were presented:

1. Prof. Piergiorgio Manciola (Full Professor in Hydraulic and Maritime Structures and Hydrology, Perugia University, Italy) to highlight technical aspects related to water resources illustrated the Italian management of the Ridracoli dam, used for hydro electrical purpose, and of the Trasimeno Lake, with flood and drought issues.

Central Office

48 Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapury, New Dehli 110 021, India
Phone: +091•11•2611 6837 or +91•11•2611 5679
Fax: +091•11•2611 5962 E-mail: icid@icid.org
Website: <http://www.icid.org>; <http://www.ciid-ciid.org>

Reply to:
University of Rome "La Sapienza"
Dipartimento di Idraulica, Trasporti e Strade
Via Eudossiana, 18
00184 - Rome, Italy
Tel.: +39 06 44585069; Cell: +39 348 0826200
Fax: +39 06 44585027
E-mail: Lucio.Ubertini@uniroma1.it



Prof. Lucio Ubertini, Vice President

International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage • Commission Internationale des Irrigations et du Drainage

2. Dr. Fabio Russo (Assistant Professor in Hydraulic and Maritime Structures and Hydrology, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy) summarized typical Latin America Countries water management problems and projects:
3. Dr. Valeria Montesarchio (Post-doc researcher, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy) presented the role of the integrated monitoring networks.
4. Eng. Maura Rianna (Ph.D. Student, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy) illustrated the role of detention storages for water management
5. Eng. Elena Ridolfi (Ph.D. Student, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy) presented measures for flood protections.

The workshops highlights the following aspects:

1. Water plays a central and irreplaceable role in development of all human activities.
2. A unitary vision is essential to better understand water problems and enact proper and economically feasible solutions.
3. It is appropriate act to support a better use of water resources, specifically for operational and design purpose.
4. The central and strategic results of the meetings would be to coordinate and prepare a set of projects to be submitted to the next Executive Council ICID in Yogyakarta in October 2010, and discussed in a special Workshop dedicated to Latin America.

Some of the involved Latin American countries (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador) already presented their priorities for improving and enhancing the use of water resources:

- Bolivia (Attachment 1)
Water Ministry (Ministero del Agua in Bolivia), with the *mission* of satisfying the water needs in basic sanitation and water supply (approximately 134.000 residents are without water) and protect biodiversity.
- Colombia (Attachment 2)
Recovery of the Subachoque River Basin, from hydraulic and environmental point of view. Need to build sewage treatment plant and to monitor River water quality and quantity.
- Ecuador (Attachment 3)
Tumbambiro project: build a weir (48 m) across the Piñán River and divert the water (23 km channel) to the Cariyacu River.

Central Office
48 Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapury, New Dehli 110 021, India
Phone: +091•11•2611 6837 or +91•11•2611 5679
Fax: +091•11•2611 5962 E-mail: icid@ciid.org
Website: <http://www.icid.org>; <http://www.ciid-ciid.org>

Reply to:
University of Rome "La Sapienza"
Dipartimento di Idraulica, Trasporti e Strade
Via Eudossiana, 18
00184 - Rome, Italy
Tel.: +39 06 44585069; Cell: +39 348 0826200
Fax: +39 06 44585027
E-mail: Lucio.Ubertini@uniroma1.it



Prof. Lucio Ubertini, Vice President

International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage • Commission Internationale des Irrigations et du Drainage

Chulapas project: in the Chulapas River Basin, transfer of water resources from the east to the west, where the resource is scarce and there is no possibility of irrigation. The building of a 100 m high dam, of a hydroelectric plant and long pipelines to transport water are planned.

Ozogoche – Palmira - Guamote Project: a 38 m high weir and a network of channels and pipelines are planned to irrigate 5000 ha in the Guamote Region, to improve the farming productivity.

Also other project were synthetically illustrated, as:

- design of the water resource quantitative monitoring system at river basin level;
- design of the water resource qualitative monitoring system;
- construction of dams for water supply purpose (agriculture, drinking water, hydroelectric);
- localized actions for territory hydraulic protection;
- construction of irrigation systems;
- actions of land reclamations.

All the representatives underlined the interest of their Countries to schedule periodic meetings to develop scientific programs on the topic 'Water: a Priority for Latin American Countries' and in the ICID activities.

The Latin American Countries involved by Vice President express the interest to attend the American Regional Working Group (AMRWG) in Yogyakarta, scheduled for October, the 12th, and to activate their Local Committee to this aim. The report about the meetings held in Rome will be presented to the AMRWG.

Central Office

48 Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapury, New Dehli 110 021, India
Phone: +091•11•2611 6837 or +91•11•2611 5679
Fax: +091•11•2611 5962 E-mail: icid@icid.org
Website: <http://www.icid.org>; <http://www.ciid-ciid.org>