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DRAFT REPORT

INTERNATIONAL HYDROLOGICAL PROGRAMME

24th IHP Regional Steering Committee meeting for
Southeast Asia and the Pacific Ulaanbaatar,
Mongolia

24-26 October 2016

As 7 November 2016



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MINUTES OF THE 24TH MEETING OF THE IHP RSC (24th-26th October 2016, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia)

Venue: Kempinski Hotel

- 1 Welcome and opening remarks

Prof Tabios, RSC chairperson, opened the meeting at 9:02 and invited the Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia and Mongolian national commission for UNESCO to present their welcome and opening remarks.

9:03- 9:08

Prof G.Nyamdavaa (Chairperson, Mongolian IHP National Committee) delivered his opening remarks. He emphasised the national sustainable development goals has been approved by the parliament of Mongolia. He mentioned:

 - this event will contribute to develop the National plan for the delivery of SDG6
 - Build collaboration and exchanges within peers in the region for sustained cooperation scientifically

9:08- 9:10

Secretary General of the Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO MS Uyanga also presented her welcome remarks and her best wishes for a successful meeting.
- 2 Opening comments on behalf of RSC and UNESCO

Prof Guillermo Tabios, Chairperson invited all participants to introduce themselves

RSC Secretariat represented by Dr Ai Sugiura also welcomed all participants and in particular thanked the participation of Prof Ibrahim Komoo, Vice-chair of UNESCO Global Geopark council, who was invited in an effort to create synergies between Natural Sciences Programmes and to introduce the newly approved International Geoparks and Geosciences Programme to IHP RSC members, and Hans Thulstrup, Programme Specialist for Natural Sciences, UNESCO Office in Beijing.
- 3 Adoption of the Agenda (Annex 1)

9:25-9:29 Chairperson presented the agenda of the meeting with the addition in item 14 of two additional points, first a brief presentation from GDRC and second a brief presentation from UNESCO Office Beijing on MAB and IGGP activities in Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Japan, Mongolia, the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Korea (ROK).



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The agenda was adopted by motion from Australia and secondment from Malaysia.

- 4 Secretariat report (Annex 2) 9:30-9:40 RSC Secretariat presented the secretariat report. In particular the status of the five action points from the 23rd RSC meeting.

Secretary asked what is behind the new synergy effort from Jakarta office. The Secretariat replied it was following the new direction from ADG/SC who would like to see synergetic collaboration between the Science programmes as Biosphere reserves from MAB programme or geoparks are socio-environmental models for sustainable development and those systems are included into river basins or water related ecosystems. Moreover IWRM or HELP river basin management is completely in line with the BR and geoparks integrated management of a territory.

- 5 Report of IGC Bureau (Annex 3) 9:44-10:11 Prof Ian White, former IGC Vice-Chair and Prof Yasuto Tachikawa, IGC Vice-Chair

Prof White reported six major points from the 53rd session of UNESCO IHP Bureau:

- The high level panel on water (HLPW) proposed by Mexico was formed independently of IHP with the UN-World Bank and IHP will join as friend as WMO is involved as part of the Secretariat.
- Region I had proposed the term of Bureau be increased from 2 to 4 years and also a problem for appointing alternate members of the Bureau when resignations occur was raised. A consultation with IHP National Committees was made. Council members further requested that such process has to be made in consultation with all IHP National Committees and focal points, involving also all delegations to UNESCO.
- Category 2 Water Centre: CIRAT (International Centre on Water and Transdisciplinary) in Brazil was approved but it appeared the proposal was not ready and not even supported by IHP Brazil NatCom.
- The draft Resolution on category 2 centres reporting was presented for further details in item agenda 15.



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- The Communication and outreach strategy from Madam Yan Huang was presented: a) preparation of the communication and outreach strategy for IHP VII, b) identification of key enablers for the fulfilment of IHP's mandate with 5 elements, c) Responsibilities IHP Secretariat which does not have the resources, no dedicated person, d) Responsibilities of IHP Network : the lack of resources when doing this exercise; e) 5 points action plan for communication: action 1: website is not very friendly, no official FB and Twitter accounts but IHP Secretariat is doing it informally, action 2: communication plan , f) challenges & lessons learnt , g) recommendations: use of temporary staff, h) expectations from the council on Draft Resolution, especially on the WEBSITE. This RSC is also important part this communication process.
- Prof White extended his congratulations and thanks to Ms Yan as she was did an amazing work especially regarding the lack of resources she had.

The Secretary who is also Vice-Chair reported the following points:

- Mr András Szöllösi - Nagy was elected as chairperson of IGC
- Prof Tachikawa was appointed as Vice-chairpersons for Group IV
- Institutional developments at UNESCO
 - o The Council elected to the IHP Resolutions Drafting Committee: Mr Ignasius Dwi Atmana Sutapa (Indonesia, Group IV).
 - o The Council elected the members to the IHP Finance Committee: Mr Hanwoo Kang (Republic of Korea, Group IV) .
 - o Ms Yan Huang was elected as Chairperson (China , Group IV) of the IHP Communication and Outreach Committee until the end of the 23rd session of the IHP Council.
- A report on celebrating the 50th anniversary of UNESCO water programmes emphasising in particular for the activities of Group IV during the 22nd IHP-RSC, the book on regional activities and the elections of distinguished hydrologists of the region.



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- Representatives from the UNESCO Secretariat presented examples of cooperation between the IHP and MAB, Man and the Biosphere Programme, and International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGGP), the Management of Social Transformation (MOST) and Bioethics Programmes of the Social and Human Sciences Sector (SHS), and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC).
- Centres under the auspices of UNESCO:
 - o UNESCO - IHE Institute for Water Education (category 1) : The Chairperson of the Council indicated that the question was whether or not UNESCO - IHE would remain a category 1 institute. On one hand, he noted that if UNESCO - IHE becomes a category 2 centre, this would certainly reduce the impact of the Institute’s activities. The Chairperson concluded that he believes that the two positions could be reconciled with some flexibility, and he summarised the situation by stating that the Council is for UNESCO - IHE to continue as a category I centre. Prof White commented on the importance of IHE-Delft in supporting Water education globally. Prof White reported very intense discussions are taking place between UNESCO and the Dutch government but they do not include IHP but a higher level in UNESCO.
 - o A sunset clause is required so that the UNESCO logo can be removed from Centres that are no longer reporting on activities to the IHP Intergovernmental Council or contributing to IHP’s work program. This has to be done at the UNESCO General Council Level. Requesting Permanent Delegations to consider introducing sunset clauses to Category II centres would promote efficiency and focus on core goals.

6 Country Reports 10:12

(4min max) part 1
(Annex 4)

The 13 IHP delegates presented their country report for the period November 2015-October 2016. (only major points are reported below and country reports and ppt are available under Annex 4

- 1) Australia highlighted the following points



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- a. : Australia was Vice-Chair of the IGC of IHP from June 2014-2016.
 - b. IHP Australia work is done mostly on voluntary basis even though it is very important network for Australia.
 - c. There are several programmes in Australia to tackle water challenges in Australia: WIRADA (Water Information Research and Development Alliance) and programmes on groundwater management, Pacific Island water scarcity issues, Climate change impact, study on El Nino differential impacts over the Pacific, water security.
- 2) China presented their past year IHP activities as in Annex 4.
 - 3) Indonesia presented their past year IHP activities as in Annex 4.
 - 4) Japan presented Japan IHP major activities during the past year especially the MEXT SOSEI project on climate change, the 3rd Global Summit of Research Institutes for Disaster Risk Reduction GADRI in March 2017 in DPRI, Kyoto University, the International Summer School by Tokyo University and ICHARM 2weeks programme as well as activities funded by JFIT.
 - 5) Malaysia reported on activities undertaken during the report period at national and regional level mainly through projects supported by MFIT. Details are provided in Annex 4.
 - 6) Mongolia presented their activities undertaken during the reporting period and by expressing Mongolia IHP to strengthen collaboration between UNESCO and Mongolia through a joint statement on future cooperation in three points:
 - The meeting is a great opportunity to strengthen the cooperation between UNESCO and the RSC members
 - Intensification of the cooperation between all of us to solve the water related problems and to contribute to the SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation)
 - Close collaboration to develop and carry out joint projects and events
 - 7) Myanmar presented their past year IHP activities as in Annex 4.

6 Country Reports IHP delegates (11:22)
(4min max) part 2
(Annex 4)



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- 8) New Zealand: IHP links to government priorities which is link with infrastructure: a) importance of access to data (APFRIEND), b) Flood estimation (APFRIEND), c) IHP VIII
- 9) Papua New Guinea reported on their activities undertaken during the reporting period as follows: 1) 2. Activities Organized by the National Committee, 2) Other Hydrological & Water Related Activities Conducted by Individual Water Agencies, 3) Participation in Regional Programs, 4) Future Tasks. (details in Annex 4)
- 10) Philippines reported on their activities undertaken during the reporting period and in particular on “Highlights of Activities of Most Active of Philippine National Committee Members”. It was underlined that in the Philippines there was a water governance crisis rather than a water crisis and institutional reforms were needed. (details in Annex 4)
- 11) Republic of Korea reported on their activities during the reporting period focusing on :
 - a) The Korean National Committee for the IHP has been preparing for the establishment of a UNESCO Category II Water Centre, the International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management (i-WSSM) at the K-water Institute, Republic of Korea which was unanimously endorsed by all member states in the 20th Session of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP and approved by the General Conference in 2013.
 - b) The International implementation roadmap and monitoring of implementation (19 champions were invited during the second week of Oct) developed during the 7th World Water Forum (WWF) will be included in the 8th WWF in Brasilia. (details in Annex 4)
- 12) Thailand presented the report on Thai activities during the reporting period: 1) Activities at national level in the framework of the IHP, 2) Research/applied projects supported, 3) Future activities. (details in Annex 4)
- 13) Vietnam reported on their activities during the reporting period: 1) Activities undertaken in the period October 2015 - October 2016 with a focus on the installation of FFGS (Flood Forecasting Guidance System) from HRC (Hydrological



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Research Centre) (USACE), 2) Future activities. (details in Annex 4)

- 7 Updates from the centres under the auspices of UNESCO in the Asia Pacific Region (Annex 5)
- Category 2 centres reported on their activities during the reporting period.
- 1) APCE presented the activities of APCE during the reporting period. (details in Annex 5)
 - 2) HTC-KL reported about their activities during the reporting period. In particular it was reported there is still no nominated director and Dr Norlinda is still the acting director. It was also reported that in Malaysia the “IWRM” is now replaced by “Water Security” as it is more widely understood. For South-South cooperation, HTC-KL started a special programme on training on Urban Stormwater Management with Ethiopia. (details in Annex 5)
 - 3) ICHARM presentation core message was the gratitude of ICHARM to all its partners who have made possible its 10th anniversary including the support of IHP-RSC. The long term targets adapted under the new governing board were presented: 1) Data&Statistics, 2) Risk Assessment (not only hazard but including vulnerability), 3) risk change identification, 4) support in sound policy making (new strategy of IFI), 5) support in community of practices. (details in Annex 5)
- 8 Report of the 7th International Conference on Water Resources and Environment Research
- Yasuto Tachikawa reported on the achievements of the 7th ICWRER 2016 and especially the UNESCO IHP-RSC, IDI and IFI for the delivery of SDGs in the region with the presentations of the recommendations from the session “Actions for strengthening regional water cooperation for a water secure region”.



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(ICWRER2016), 5-9 June 2016 in Kyoto, Japan (Annex 6)

- 9 26th IHP Nagoya Training Course (Annex 7) Yasuto Tachikawa introduced the 26th IHP-TC on “Coastal Vulnerability and Freshwater Discharge” from 27 November -10 December 2016 covering theme 3, 4 and 5 of IHP-phase VIII.

A message from Prof Ishizaka, leader for Nagoya University for the IHP-Training Course was delivered on the need to mobilise sponsorship for international students to attend the IHP-TC as the financial support from Japanese government has become very limited.

- 10 Post- Catalogue of Rivers Initiative: Updates on Hydrologic Analysis modules (Annex 8) (13:47)

Kenichiro Kobayashi introduced the background of the Catalogue of Updates on Hydrological Analysis (CHA) which was proposed at the 22nd RSC Catalogue of meeting in Yogyakarta. Since then the following activities were undertaken:

- In December 2013, the first regional call for contributions was made.
- At ICWRER2016, the first technical coordination meeting took place during the session with IDI and IFI and UNESCO Jakarta (June 2016)
- A Japanese coordination meeting took place in August 2016
- The latest regional call for contributions was made at the region at Bali meeting (July 2016)
- The website prototype was presented to the RSC. It comprised : 1) module from Prof Tachikawa and 2) module on RRI from Prof Sayama, 3) evapotranspiration module from Prof Kobayashi and 4) a page on “how to contribute to CHA?” with a word document with the format on how to send contribution to CHA.
- The RSC members discussed on 1) if the name “Catalogue of Hydrological Analysis” was appropriate, 2) what CHA was trying to achieve. The CHA Japanese team underlined CHA is not intended to be a Japanese initiatives but all RSC members were encouraged to participate and contribute what they can or want. It was concluded:



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- a “task force team” has to be formed and the current technical sub-committee can be the initial task force team
 - There is a need for the task force team to conduct some kind of literature review in order to assess if there is any other existing initiative with the same purpose
 - a regional call for contributions will be resent to all RSC members by a task force and all RSC members are highly encouraged to consider what they can contribute and commit.
 - In the light of the received commitments, the name as well as the purpose of the current CHA will be redefined.
 -
- 11 Organization of the 25th RSC meeting in xxxx and associated conference
- The Chair reminded Manila has been proposed and agreed during the 23rd IHP-RSC meeting. The precise dates need to be confirmed but the 25th IHP-RSC will take place during the week of 13 November 2017. The two options are:
- 1) Metro Manila
 - 2) Tagaytay Taal volcano
- 12 Organization of the 26th RSC meeting—in xxxx and associated conference
- China expressed its willingness to host the 26th RSC meeting for 2018 and a proposal will be submitted during the 25th RSC-IHP. For the 27th IHP-RSC for 2019, Myanmar was requested to consider the possibility of hosting the meeting as they could not host the 23rd IHP-RSC. For the 28th IHP-RSC for 2020, Malaysia and Vietnam expressed their willingness to host the meeting.
- 13 Election of RSC Secretary
- The Chairperson proposed Prof Tachikawa to remain the Secretary and RSC members re-elected Prof Tachikawa as Secretary.
- 14 Any other issues (Annex 9, 10, 11)
- 1) Hans Thulstrup, Science Programme Specialist from UNESCO Office Beijing reported on Man and Biosphere (MAB) and International Geoparks and Geosciences Programme (IGGP) activities in East Asia and Beijing cluster countries. (Annex 9)
 - 2) Prof Ulrich Looser from GRDC presented the activities and the mission of GRDC as well as ICWRGC UNESCO Category 2 Centre by highlighting GEMstat water quality data base. Water quality data are gathered from national authorities in order to perform

an assessment and reporting on global state of water quality. Prof Ulrich requested the participants to encourage their link to governmental offices to share data on water quality. He also presented the 15th meeting of the Commission of Hydrology (CHy) in Rome, Italy in December 2016 and requested IHP-RSC members to encourage national WMO representatives (hydrological advisor) to participate at CHy-15 and support GRDC and GEMstat.

- 3) Prof Takara announced the 3rd Global Summit of Research Institutes for Disaster Risk Reduction under the Global Alliance of Disaster Research Institutes Disaster Risk (GADRI) to take place in Kyoto from 19-21 March 2017. The participation of around 300 participants, 103 organisations from 27 countries are expected. It was also noted that the membership of GADRI is free and Prof Takara encouraged RSC members to participate to the gathering.

- 15 Adoption of Resolutions (Annex 12)
- of Three draft resolution presented during the 23rd RSC and agreed to need their formulation changed were presented for approval :
- 1) DRAFT 7th WWF: approved (motion by Prof White and seconded by Mr Dennis)
 - 2) DRAFT Runoff data archives: approved (motion by Prof White and seconded by Prof Lee)
 - 3) DRAFT qualifications for filling vacant core staff positions in the secretariat of UNESCO's IHP: was adopted with the change (remove NOTING WITH ALARM) (motion by Prof White and secondment by Prof Ulrich)

The draft resolution submitted this year by Australia on Category 2C Centre and Chairs reporting was presented. The following points were noted during the discussion by RSC members:

- Category 2 Water Centres are important members of the UNESCO Water Family
- The award of the UNESCO brand-name to Category 2 Water Centres is prestigious
- Currently there is no mandatory requirement for Category 2 Centres to report to IHP's Intergovernmental Council and some Centres fail to report to IGC.



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- This means IHP has no complete assessment of progress on IHP’s work program and makes the organisation appear inefficient
- Only the UNESCO General Conference has the power to impose conditions for Category 2 Centres.
- The bottom line of this resolution is encouraging regular reporting of Category 2 Water Centres and for permanent delegations to the GC to raise the issue of mandatory reporting to IHP IGC as a condition for continuing a Category 2 Centre, as a more regular process than the evaluation every 5 years.
- UNESCO explained the UNESCO Category 2 centre and chairs have different mechanisms and it might be just that the processes are different as all UNESCO Chairs, including Water chairs, report to the Education sector and not to the respective sector like Natural Sciences for instance.
- Australia put the motion and it was seconded by Korea. The resolution was adopted without any objection.

16 Closing of the Meeting Prof Komoo was invited to give his impressions of his first IHP-RSC meeting. He expressed he learnt a lot about the process of the decision making of this group and for this region and he appreciated the good balance between more developed countries with a lot of activities and some less developed countries with more challenges in tackling their water issues.

RSC Chairperson closed the meeting at 16:07

Action points:

	Action	Person	Deadline
Action 1	Follow-up on Action 1 and 2 from 23rd IHP-RSC	Chairperson	ASAP
Action 2	<p>Related to CHA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o a “task force team” has to be formed and the current technical sub-committee can be the initial task force team o There is a need for the task force team to conduct some kind of literature review in order to assess if there is any other existing initiative with the same purpose 	<p>Prof Chikamori, Prof Kobayashi, Prof Tachikawa</p>	Not defined



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a regional call for contributions will be resent to all RSC members by a task force and all RSC members are highly encouraged to consider what they can contribute and commit. ○ In the light of the received commitments, the name as well as the purpose of the current CHA will be redefined. 		
Action 3:	All adopted resolutions to be sent by Secretariat to IHP-Secretariat	Secretariat	ASAP

Presentations can be downloaded at:

<http://ifit-for-science.asia/24th-ihp%E2%80%90regional-steering-committee-meeting/>