

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Asian G-WADI Meeting – Declaration Adopted

In Lanzhou/China, 28 representatives of the Asian G-WADI members from Ten Asian member countries (Afghanistan, China, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan), as well as representatives of UNESCO Offices (Beijing/New Delhi/Tehran), some members of the Steering Committee of the Global G-WADI Programme and few observers from other regions of the world met, presented country reports and discussed various issues related to the Asian G-WADI Network.

Resulting from an intensive and interactive process, the participants:

1. **Extended** special thanks and appreciation to our host "CAREERI", Prof Li Xin and his team, Imperial College of London, particularly Prof Howard Wheater and his team and UNESCO Offices in Almaty/Beijing/New Delhi/Tehran, for the great opportunity provided to us to benefit from the Global Workshop in Groundwater Modeling and to hold a meeting of the Asian G-WADI Network;
2. **Underlined** the urgent need for Asian G-WADI Steering Committee Members and UNESCO Offices in the region to draw-up an updated version of the Terms of Reference for the Asian G-WADI coordination mechanism;
3. **Declared** their firm intention to work together to enhance the visibility and outreach of the Asian G-WADI network through a better coordinated web site and regularly updated information brochure;
4. **Committed** themselves as members of the Asian G-WADI to convince their governments and policy makers to prioritize water resources of the arid and semi arid regions of their countries. This will include contacting their planners and policy makers to secure funding from government budgets and other bilateral funding sources for pilot basins and other activities and providing successes in this direction to the G-WADI Asian secretariat and UNESCO;
5. **Called upon** UNESCO and the Global G-WADI network (whenever possible) to allocate sufficient seed resources to assist the Asian G-WADI Network to generate additional resources for their activities;
6. **Elected** CAREERI, P. R. China to take up immediately the responsibility to host the regional network secretariat for the next three years as agreed in the 2005 Asian G-WADI meeting on the rotation of the network secretariat;
7. **Agreed** that an Asian G-WADI Steering Committee be formed from Dr Forood Sharifi from Iran representing the Tehran Cluster, Dr Shakeel Ahmad from India representing the New Delhi Cluster and Dr Anatoly Kholmatov from the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea representing the Almaty Cluster to assist the secretariat in the planning and the implementation of activities at the Regional level of Asia for three years;
8. **Requested** UNESCO Cluster Offices in Asia to assist the Asian G-WADI network to prepare in coordination with the Asian G-WADI secretariat (CAREERI) and the elected steering committee, a plan of action identifying funding options;
9. **Agreed** that the previous coordinator of the Asian G-WADI Secretariat (NIH, India) would be an ex-official member of the Asian Steering Committee;
10. **Requested** the Asian G-WADI secretariat to coordinate and keep record of the activities of the network, including pilot basins, and come up with best practice(s) on the topics underlined by the Asian G-WADI network and regularly disseminate this information to all members of the network;
11. **Requested** the UNESCO-IHP Secretariat to include the current coordinator of the Asian G-WADI Network in the membership of the Steering Committee of the Global G-WADI Network.

CAREERI, Lanzhou, P.R. China  
16 June 2007