

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Asian G-WADI Meeting – Statement

Representatives from 10 of the Asian G-WADI member countries (Afghanistan, China, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan and Tajikistan), as well as representatives from UNESCO Offices (Almaty/Amman/Beijing/New Delhi/Paris), and Prof. Soroosh Sorooshian (Member of Global Advisory Group of G-WADI), met in Beijing, China, on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

Resulting from an intensive and interactive process, the participants:

1. **Extended** special thanks to their host "CAREERI", Prof Li Xin and his team, and UNESCO Offices in Almaty/Beijing/New Delhi/Tehran, for the opportunity to attend and benefit from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Summer School on Land Surface Observing, Modeling and Data Assimilation and the meeting of the Asian G-WADI Network;
2. **Underlined** the urgent need for UNESCO Offices in the region and the Asian G-WADI Secretariat to draw-up mechanisms for more effective coordination of Asian G-WADI. These are included in the attached Terms of Reference;
3. **Emphasized** an urgent need for improved communication between the member states, the Asian G-WADI Secretariat and the UNESCO field offices. The group requested that efficient, frequent and dynamic communication mechanisms be established. Options may include the distribution of an e-newsletter and an e-forum hosted on the G-WADI website. The group requested that the Asian G-WADI Secretariat keep records related to pilot basins and disseminate best practice information related to these pilot basins as it becomes available.
4. **Declared** their firm intention to work together to enhance the visibility and outreach of the Asian G-WADI Network;
5. **Appreciated** the dedication and excellent leadership of the Asian G-WADI Secretariat in guiding the network and in the development of the website to which all in the network shall contribute national news and reports;
6. **Emphasized** the development of joint research initiatives on areas identified as common concerns for members of Asian G-WADI Network;
7. **Committed** themselves as members of the Asian G-WADI Network to convince their governments and policy makers to prioritize water resources management in the arid and semi arid regions within their countries. This commitment will include securing funding from governments and other bilateral funding sources for the development of pilot basin case studies ;
8. **Agreed** to convert the existing structure of the steering committee of Asian G-WADI to a flexible "Asian G-WADI Advisory Group".
9. **Requested** that CAREERI, Chinese Academy of Sciences, continue in their roles as the Asian G-WADI Secretariat for a further three years from 2011-2014.
10. **Called upon** UNESCO Headquarters and the Global G-WADI Network to allocate sufficient funding to assist the Asian G-WADI Network in generating additional resources for their activities;
11. **Requested** UNESCO Cluster Offices in Asia to assist the Asian G-WADI Network in preparing, in coordination with the Asian G-WADI Secretariat (CAREERI), a plan of action on funding mechanisms;
12. **Requested** that the UNESCO-IHP Secretariat invites a member of the Asian G-WADI Network to join the advisory group that manages the Global G-WADI Network.

Beijing, P.R. China  
17 July 2010

# Terms of Reference

## **Asian G-WADI Secretariat (CAREERI):**

1. Name a focal person and provide their contact details to all members of the network and UNESCO.
2. Develop and implement a communications strategy for the Asian G-WADI Network. This should include the setting up of an interactive web forum hosted by the Asian G-WADI Secretariat, and the preparation of brochures, posters and other materials, in consultation with other members of the Asian G-WADI.
3. Seek information and news from all members of the network to be published as news items on both the Global and Asian G-WADI Network websites.
4. Maintain records of the membership of the network, Asian G-WADI Network meetings, and of activities relating to the pilot basins.
5. Lead the implementation of approved regional work plans.
6. If requested, seek information or otherwise provide necessary support for Asian G-WADI Network members. This could include the establishment of a mechanism for the exchange of experts.
7. Act as a liaison between the Asian and Global G-WADI networks.
8. In close coordination with the relevant UNESCO cluster offices, the Global G-WADI Network and the Asian G-WADI Advisory Group, prepare an annual plan of action for the network in consultation with network members.
9. Prepare annual reports and a final report at the end of the third year to be presented at the next General Assembly of the members of the Asian G-WADI Network.
10. If new pilot basins are proposed by a member, review the proposal in consultation with the Asian G-WADI Advisory Group members and related UNESCO cluster offices to receive their comments and suggestions on activities to be held at the basin; and to identify possible assistance if needed.

## **UNESCO Offices (Almaty, Beijing, New Delhi and Tehran)**

1. The UNESCO cluster office in the country of the Asian G-WADI Secretariat serves as the main coordination point.
2. The other cluster offices (Almaty, Beijing, New Delhi and Tehran) will assist the main coordinating office in advancing the work of the Asian G-WADI Network.
3. The main coordinating office will keep informed about, and actively engage in, relevant activities of the IHP Secretariat in Paris, the Science Regional Bureau in Jakarta and related cluster offices in other regions of UNESCO.
4. In consultation with other UNESCO cluster offices in the region and IHP Paris assist the Asian G-WADI Secretariat and the Asian G-WADI Advisory Group in the drafting and implementation of a 'plan of action' for the network.
5. The main UNESCO coordinating office will also act as the main facilitator in all stages of the planning and implementation of regional plans of action.