World Water System Heritage (WSH) program
Draft report of Task Force

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Governor, World Water Council (WWC)
Draft a report to be submitted to BoG54 and containing:

- Information and data on other similar initiatives
- A complete institutional design based on Doc. BoG53.10g
- A financial feasibility study, business plan and budget
- An outline for a communication strategy
The members appointed to TF

Saeed Nairizi, Chairman
Dogan Altinbilek
András Szöllösi-Nagy
Jerome Delli Priscoli
Kazumi Yamaoka
Tom Soo
Avinash Tyagi, Secretary;
and additional WWC members if appropriate

TF proposes Ali Chavoshian and Shinsuke Ota as additional members
Information and data on other similar initiatives

UNESCO has carried out programs;
- World Heritage (WH)
- Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity (ICH)
- Memory of the World (MW)

FAO has carried out a program;
- Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS)

ICID has newly launched a program since last year;
- Heritage Irrigation Structures (HIS)
Primary criteria – all are required

a) The nominated institution shall be a people’s group/organization managing water systems and having demonstrated sustainable management for over generations but at least a hundred years,

b) The institution should have realized effective water management by creating a system bringing together people’s wisdom, coordinating and developing customs, rules and practices,

c) The institution should have contributed to socio-economic development in a given region through sustainable management of water system, and

d) The institution should have involved many stakeholders such as citizens and farmers besides experts and authorities.
Secondary criteria – one or more

a) It has an outstanding historical background,

b) It has effectively served as an outstanding system that overcame at least one of the adverse natural and social conditions such as droughts, flooding, water quality degradation, waterborne diseases, and so on,

c) It has an indispensable element necessary for evolving culture, sustaining bio-diversity and generating socio-economic activities in the region,

d) It has an outstanding universal value being common to humanity.
Complete institutional design based on Doc. BoG53.10g

• The most important elements to which the highest score should be allotted
  a) Sustainability

• More important elements to which higher score should be allotted
  b) Representing collective Wisdom
  c) Stakeholders involved
  d) Contribution to socio-economic development of the region
  e) People participation
Complete institutional design based on Doc. BoG53.10g

• Important elements to which standard score should be allotted
  f) Historical Background
  g) Resilience in Adverse conditions
  h) Specific name in the native language for the system
  i) Adaptability to local conditions
  j) Universal value to humanity
  k) Documentation processes
  l) Harmony with environment
  m) Organizational Structure of the system
  n) Applicability in different conditions
Institutional framework and procedures

Each country in cooperation with members of WWC in that country can establish a National Committee on WSH. The National Committee, or its un-establishment, of any country and member of WWC can submit a candidate WSH for registration to the Centre for WSH.

WWC should establish a ‘Centre for WSH’ designated within the office of WWC/ICID as secretariat of WSH program. The Centre for WSH would maintain and publish the Register of WSH and provide various services and supports to the registered sites and national and local governments by mobilizing WWC resources.
Complete institutional design based on Doc. BoG53.10g

- Institutional framework and procedures –Cont.

WWC should constitute an International Committee on WSH consisting of representatives from FAO, ICID, UNESCO and five other interested institutions and authorities with expertise in water management who are also the members of WWC.

Implementation and the structure of the program will require close collaboration from international organizations such as ICOLD, INBO, IWA, IWHA and NARBO, who have technical knowledge and expertise on water management. It is, therefore, strongly recommended to incorporate a Technical Advisory Committee with these organizations, as resource partners.
Outline for a communication strategy

- Institutional framework and procedures –Cont.

The resource partners of WSH could be FAO, ICID, ICOLD, INBO, IWA, IWHA, NARBO and UNESCO which hold valuable experiences in the field. The Task Force will invite them to our discussion process.

These resource partners would also volunteer to establish National Committees on WHS in countries concerned in cooperation with other WWC members, who have special knowledge on water management.
Financial feasibility, business plan and budget

(i) Processing the applications by the WSH Centre (running costs): ~ 8000 USD per year

(ii) Providing certain technical support via the TAC to the WSH for maintaining the structure in good condition ~ 5000 USD per year

(iii) Developing material for dissemination of WSH ~ 5000 USD per year

(iv) Bringing out publications based on the lessons learnt by the WSH Centre ~ 10000 USD per year

(v) Holding face to face and virtual consultation meetings twice a year (for one face to face meeting for 5 persons ~ 5000 USD)

(vi) Providing honorarium to panel of Judges of the IC on WSH as well as the members of the TAC for evaluating the Systems proposed for registration under WSH ~ 7000 USD
Timeline toward launching the WSH program

- After general approval of the report by the 54th BoG meeting the chair of the TF will make several presentations on launching the concept of WSH program at the 7th World Water Forum.

- It is expected at thematic session 4.4.1 “Fostering water heritage, water values and related cultural expressions” to be held on Monday, 14 April by ICOMOS Netherlands as well as side event at WWC pavilion and side event "Communal Water Management for Coherence and Resilience" to be held on Thursday, 16 April by Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences.
Timeline toward launching the WSH program

- A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and an International Committee (IC) will be setup. The TAC will gather international organizations with technical knowledge and expertise in the field of study. The IC will bring together representatives from FAO, ICID, UNESCO and five other interested institutions and authorities with expertise in water management.
Timeline toward launching the WSH program

- TAC will also work out the technical details as to how a ‘system’ can be included in the Register of WSH, prior to the 55th Board of Governors meeting in July 2015.

- Program will be launched on the occasion of the WWC General Assembly in November 2015.
Complete institutional design based on Doc. BoG53.10g

Mr. Alireza Salamat

on behalf of Dr. Saeed Nairizi (TF on WSH Chair) may be contacted for further information on the recognition of WSH.
Thank you / Merci