

Report of the 22nd session of the
Intergovernmental Council
June 13-17, 2016

Ian White and Yasuto Tachikawa

Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons

- The Council elected Mr András Szöllösi-Nagy (Hungary, Group II – Eastern and Central Europe) as Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP.
- The Council elected the following Vice-Chairpersons: Mr Helmut Habersack (Austria, Group I);
Mr Yasuto Tachikawa (Japan, Group IV),
Mr Cheikh Becaye Gaye (Senegal, Group Va), and
Mr Mahmoud Abu-Zeid (Egypt, Group Vb).
Mr David Korenfeld Federman, the outgoing
Chairperson of IGC, Mexico, Group III).

Election of the Committee Members from Group IV

- The Council were elected to the IHP Resolutions Drafting Committee: Mr Ignasius Dwi Atmana Sutapa (Indonesia, Group IV).
- The Council elected the members to the IHP Finance Committee: Mr Hanwoo Kang (Republic of Korea, Group IV) .
- Ms Yan Huang, Chairperson (China , Group IV) of the IHP Communication and Outreach Committee until the end of the 23rd session of the IHP Council.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS AT UNESCO

- Report on the consultation regarding the establishment of an Intergovernmental Panel on Water

The Council opposed the creation of such a panel within IHP, stressing that IHP should remain committed to its original mandate, as an intergovernmental scientific programme on water, and noting that two high-level panels on water have already been established at higher levels.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS AT UNESCO

- Report of the IHP Communication and Outreach Committee

Ms Yan Huang, Chairperson of the Committee, presented the report of its activities and stated that while communication and outreach were key enablers for all activities of IHP and the UNESCO Water Family, it was necessary to raise the visibility of IHP, especially among the younger audiences. She proposed elements to induce the required development of IHP's communication and outreach in the Committee's related Draft Resolution XXII-3, Implementation of the Proposed IHP Communication and Outreach Strategy.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS AT UNESCO

- Report on the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the UNESCO water programmes

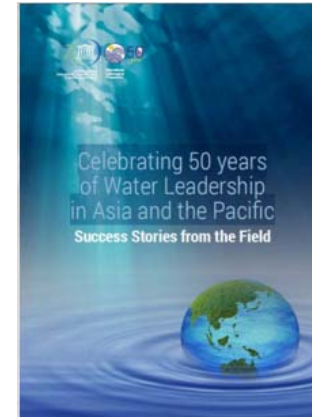
The successful celebrations of the anniversary in Group IV through the 22nd IHP-Regional Steering Committee for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (IHP-RSC SEAP) was reported by Prof Takara. A book was produced, which presented IHP activities in the region and 10 distinguished scientists were recognised for their work in hydrology in the region.

Implementation of IHP-VIII and Regional perspectives

- Mr Shahbaz Khan reported progress and achievements on the implementation of IHP VIII in Asia and the Pacific Region.
- Mr Tachikawa, the Vice-Chairperson from Group IV, reported that the Group has developed the Catalogue of Rivers from Southeast Asia and the Pacific; and it is now developing a new catalogue of hydrologic analysis (CHA). An IFI-IDI joint meeting was organized at ICWRER2016.
- 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).

Fostering UNESCO Water and Environment Networks in the Asia-Pacific Region

- **The 23rd IHP Regional Steering Committee for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (RSC-SEAP) 19-22 October 2015 in Medan, Indonesia.**
 - UNESCO International Symposium on "Integrated Actions for Global Water and Environmental Sustainability" and the 23rd meeting of the IHP-RSC SEAP.



- **Regional and Interregional Science Cooperation Meeting for Asia and the Pacific (IHP and MAB networks) 21-24 July 2016 in Bali, Indonesia**
 - Bringing together IHP and MAB networks in the region for Science exchange and cooperation in Asia and the Pacific region.

Centres under the auspices of UNESCO

- **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 the 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.
- **53rd Meeting of UNESCO IHP Bureau, Paris, 19-21 April 2016** : A sunset clause is required so that the UNESCO logo can be removed from Centres that are no longer contributing. 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.