



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, TOURISM



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.

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

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.
- 3 Adoption of the Agenda (Annex 1) 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).



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

- 4 Secretariat report (Annex 2) 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) 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:
- 6 Country Reports (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
 - 2) China
 - 3) Indonesia
 - 4) Japan
 - 5) Malaysia
 - 6) Mongolia
 - 7) Myanmar
- 6 Country Reports (4min max) part 2 (Annex 4)
 - 8) New Zealand
 - 9) Papua New Guinea
 - 10) Philippines
 - 11) Republic of Korea
 - 12) Thailand
 - 13) Vietnam



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, TOURISM



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| 7 | Updates from the centres under the auspices of UNESCO in the Asia Pacific Region (Annex 5) | <p>Category 2 centres reported on their activities during the reporting period.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) APCE 2) HTC-KL 3) ICHARM <p>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 and Statistics, 2) Risk Assessment (not only hazard by including vulnerability), 3) risk change identification, 4) support in sound policy making (new strategy of IFI), 5) support in community of practices.</p> |
| 8 | Report of the 7 th International Conference on Water Resources and Environment Research (ICWRER2016), 5-9 June 2016 in Kyoto, Japan | <p>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”.</p> |
| 9 | 26 th IHP Nagoya Training Course | <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> |
| 10 | Post- Catalogue of Rivers Initiative: Updates on Catalogue of Hydrologic Analysis modules (Annex 8) | <p>Kenichiro Kobayashi introduced the background of the Catalogue of Hydological Analysis (CHA) which was proposed at the 22nd RSC meeting in Yogyakarta. Since then the following activities were undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In December 2013, the first regional call for contributions was made. - At ICWRER2016, the first technical coordination meeting took |



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, TOURISM



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:
 - 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
 - o 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.
 - o In the light of the received commitments, the name as well as the purpose of the current CHA will be redefined.
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- 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



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, TOURISM



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| 12 | Organization of the 26 th RSC meeting in xxxx and associated conference | <p>China expressed its willingness to host the 26th RSC meeting for 2018 and a proposal will be submitted during the 25th RSC-IHP.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>For the 28th IHP-RSC for 2020, Malaysia and Vietnam expressed their willingness to host the meeting.</p> |
| 13 | Election of RSC Secretary | <p>The Chairperson proposed Prof Tachikawa to remain the Secretary and RSC members re-elected Prof Tachikawa as Secretary.</p> |
| 14 | Any other issues (Annex 9, 10, 11) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 | <p>Three draft resolution presented during the 23rd RSC and agreed to need their formulation changed were presented for approval :</p> |



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, TOURISM



(Annex 12)

- 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 2 Centre and Chairs reporting was presented. The following points were noted during the discussion by RSC members:

- Only the general conference has a decisional power.
- The bottom line of this resolution is encouraging regular reporting even though for Category 2 Water Centres, it is mandatory and there is an 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 in 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	Related to CHA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a “task force team” has to be formed and the current technical sub-committee can be the 	Prof Chikamori, Prof Kobayashi, Prof Tachikawa	Not defined



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, TOURISM



	<p>initial task force team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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. 		
Action 3:	All adopted resolutions to be sent by Secretariat to IHP-Secretariat	Secretariat	ASAP

Presentations can be downloaded at:

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