

# National Report on IHP Related Activities

## Chinese National Committee

### 1. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE PERIOD June 2006 — May 2008

#### 1.1 Meetings of the Chinese National Committee for IHP

##### 1.1.1 Decision regarding the composition of the Chinese National Committee

Mr. Deng Jian, Director-General of Bureau of Hydrology now took the chairmanship according to the regulation of Chinese National Committee for IHP.

Some former members were promoted or retired. New members have been recommended by the National Committee and will be approved by Ministry of Water Resources soon. The approval document on national committee was issued on March 2008. The new national committee includes 29 members for period 2008-2013.

##### 1.1.2 Status of IHP-VI activities

Some key activities are provided in the following paragraphs. More activities with more themes and focal areas are going on, thus a series of national and international workshops will be held when projects are finalized.

**National Water Resources Conference was held on 28-29 May 2006 in Erdos City of Inner Mongolia.** Water Resources Minister Mr. Wang Shucheng and Vice-minister Mr. Hu Siyi attended the conference. The China's water resources status were reviewed. The priorities of water resources management in 11<sup>th</sup> five-year period were highlighted, which includes (1) building national water right mechanism for total volume control and quota management; (2) improvement of water fee collection system; (3) water resources development certificated system; (4) pilot and demonstration for building water saving society; (5) water function zoning for pollutant control etc. About 200 participants participated in the conference. Chairman, Vice Chairs and some members of Chinese National Committee were invited.

**5<sup>th</sup> China Water Issues Forum and China Engineering Academy Academician Forum** was held from 10-12 November 2006 in Nanjing. The forum was organized by National Key Laboratory of Hydrology and Water Resources, IHP National Committee and other institutions. About 200 participants from universities, institutions and hydrological organizations attended the forum. The forum focused on research and progress of water problem complexity and uncertainty. Some common understandings were listed: (1) water problems complexity and uncertainty need hydrological experiments and new technology application; (2) New technology and methodology research are key to solve the problems; (3) enhancement of PUB should be related with China water problems. Chinese National Committees of IAHS and IHP co-organized the forum.

##### 1.1.3 Decision regarding contribution to/participation in IHP-VII

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1. This report is submitted to the 18<sup>th</sup> IHP-IGC meeting at Paris, France, 9-14 June 2008.

**China Hydrology Regulation** was issued officially by the state Council, according to the 496<sup>th</sup> order of the State Council. It was in power from 1 June 2007. The regulation is the first regulation for guiding hydrological activities in China. It includes seven chapters and 47 articles. Some hot issues, such as data free use for public affairs, standard observation were regulated etc. (Chinese version is available through internet)

**China IHP National Committee organized an informal meeting** on 11 November 2007 in Nanjing during the workshop. The National Committee Regulation and Secretariat Working Method have been reviewed and approved. A visiting report on 16<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Council meeting in Paris has been delivered to members. The final strategy report for IHP-VII was distributed to members and participants. It is guaranteed to work closely with regional national committees for regional cooperation on IHP-VII.

## 1.2 ACTIVITIES AT NATIONAL LEVEL IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE IHP

### 1.2.1 National/local scientific and technical meetings

**National High-level Forum on Hydrological Science and Technology** was held on 14 September 2007 in Beijing. About 50 high-level experts and participants attended the forum. The main theme of forum is to debate key requirements of science and technology for China Hydrology to enhance service and improve management. Some projects on basic hydrological experiment were recommended for next five year plan.

China-IHP was co-organizer and main sponsor for the symposium. Some members of China-IHP presented their achievements.

**2007' Annual Meeting of CHES** (Chinese Hydraulic Engineering Society) held on 30 October, in Suzhou, City, Jiangsu Province.

Mr. Chen Lei, the newly appointed Minister of Ministry of Water Resources (MWR) delivered a keynote speech on the meeting, and about 600 representatives from Yangtze River Water Resources Commission, Yellow River Water Resources Commission, IHP Chinese National Committee etc, also attended the meeting.

**Workshop for Extending Hydrological Service was held from 25-27 December 2007.** 15 invited experts and 30 delegates from each provincial hydrological bureau were invited to present their opinions. Beside traditional observation, forecasting, calculation, hydrological services extended to water resources assessment, water quality monitoring, groundwater survey, drought monitoring and prediction, ecological hydrology service, flash flood disaster prediction, international rivers flood forecasts etc. Hydrological service and water resources management have been closely coordinated. International hydrological programme will play important role to introduce advanced experiences around the world.

**2008' National Hydrological Planning and Plan Meeting was held on 9 January 2008.** Mr. Deng Jian, Chairman of CHINA-IHP and Director-General of Hydrology Bureau, delivered a speech in the opening ceremony. Each provincial bureau of hydrology reported their planning and plan. Under the framework of international cooperation, IHP was prior for future cooperation. About 100 participants attended the meeting.

**2008' Annual Water Department Directors meeting was held from 24-26 January 2008 in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province.** The meeting usually summarized achievements in the last year and arranges important work and highlight guideline for future. More than 120 participants from river basin authorities and provincial water resources directors attended the meeting. Some successful experiences from different sectors presented. Chinese National Committee sent participants to the meeting. The activities and achievements of Chinese National Committee were included in MWR annual report.

**The 16<sup>th</sup> World Water Day and 21st Chinese Water Week were initiated on 22 March 2008.** The theme for World Water Day 2008 is "Sanitation Matters." The theme of the Chinese Water Week is "Developing Water for Improving People's Livelihood".

Minister Chen Lei published an article on the People's Daily to commemorate the 16th World Water Day and 21st Chinese Water Week. He wrote that water is closely related to the people's livelihood; flood relief is related to the safety of people's life; drinking water is related to people's health, thus water development is vital for the improvement of people's livelihood.

The Chinese Government has been attached great importance to water development. A series of measures have been taken for flood control and drought relief, safe drinking water supply, reservoir reinforcement, resettlement arrangement and later stage assistant, control of major rivers and lakes, irrigation and drainage and rural water supply.

Chinese National Committee for the IHP was involved in the activities.

**National Water Science Conference was held in Beijing from 31 March to 1 April.** The conference usually organizes once in four years. Vice-premier Hui Liangyu attended the opening ceremony. Some outstanding young experts and excellent project achievements were awarded. Science and technology innovation for water resources were hot topics. More investment and project budget were appealed for the next years. Hydrology science and water resources management with climate change pressure will be emphasized from the conference documents.

**National Hydrology conference was held in Nanning, Guangxi Autonomous Region of Southwestern China, from 2-3 April 2008.** Vice minister, Mr. E Jingping, Chair of China-IHP national Committee, Mr. Deng Jian, SG of CHINA-IHP, Ms. Zhu Xiaoyuan and some of members of the National Committee participated the conference. This is the first conference after Hydrology Regulation issued. All participants, especially from provincial hydrological units, highly appreciated the regulation. Four important tasks were emphasized: (1) enhancing hydrological regulations and rules; (2) improving information system for flood control and drought mitigation; (3) increasing investment for hydrological infrastructures; (4) enhancing basic hydrology researches. A logo of China Hydrology was announced for public use.

**2008' annual water and soil conservation conference was held in Bijie City of Guizhou Province of Southwestern China from 17-18 April.** The conference emphasis water and soil conservation is quite related to eco-civilization. To establish eco-compensation mechanism is new requirement for water and soil erosion. Water conservation oriented people daily life is a new definition for water resources development and management, such as clean drinking water, rural hydropower, water and soil conservation, etc. About 100 participants attended the conference. IHP national committee representatives were involved.

### **1.2.2 Participation IHP Steering Committees/Working Groups**

The 14<sup>th</sup> Regional Steering Committee Meeting for Southeast Asia and the Pacific and International Symposium on Managing Water Supply for Growing Demand was held in Bangkok, Thailand, 16 - 20 October 2006. Due to misunderstanding on financial support problems (China will no longer be supported from UNESCO Jakarta Office for RSC meeting), Dr. Liu Heng cancelled his participation at the final minutes. Mr Chen Yuanfang was requested, on behalf of Chinese National Committee, to present country report. Several Chinese participants with their papers attended the combined workshop.

Dr. Chen Yuanfang, Dr. Xu Zongxue, as a member of FRIEND working group, participated in several meetings on for the Asian Pacific FRIEND.

### **1.2.3 Research/applied projects supported or sponsored**

The website of the Chinese National Committee for IHP has been supported by UNESCO Beijing office and has been updated regularly. It was updated regularly for distributing messages to the public.

Official home page is <http://www.chinaihp.org>

### **1.2.4 Collaboration with other national and international organization and/or programs**

**Hindu-Kush-Himalayan FRIEND Project**, Chinese National committee nominated two experts to work with International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) and UNESCO-IHP in Katmandu, Nepal. Mr. Liu Heng from Chinese National Committee and Ms Huang Yan from Changjiang Water resources Commission will be on behalf of Chinese National Committee to cooperate with international and local counterparts. Ms Huang Yan now is in the preparing meeting in Katmandu.

**22<sup>nd</sup> Sino-Japan Water Resources Workshop** was held from 6-8 November 2007 in Nanjing. Some experts from Japanese Ministry of land, infrastructure and transport and other water related organizations attended the workshop. Three themes are focused on climate change impact on water resources, water information management and water quality protection.

**UNESCO-IHE governing Board meeting** was held on 2 December, 2006. Vice-Chairperson of Chinese National Committee for IHP attended the meeting for reviewing IHE annual workplan and strategy for middle and long-terms.

**14<sup>th</sup> China-Korea water resources management workshop was held on 6-10 May 2008, in Seoul Korea.** Mr. Liu Zhiguang, Vice-Chairperson of Chinese IHP National Committee led a 9-person delegation to attend the workshop.

The workshop has some topics, such as control indicators of total water volume withdraw in a river basin, reservoir flood-control dynamic stages, river basin simulation model, large-flood control strategy, alternative water source technology etc. The delegation also spend a day fieldtrip of

Korean flood control projects.

### **1.2.5 Other initiatives**

## **1.3 EDUCATION AND TRAINING COURSE**

### **1.3.1 Contribution to IHP courses**

**International training and research center for erosion and sedimentation (ITRCES) organized a training course on River Sediment Management and Eco-environment** in Beijing from 9-16 October, 2007. Vice-Chair Person of China-IHP had a lecture on Integrated Water Resources Management

**UNIDO Hangzhou Regional Center (HRC) for small hydropower**, also named as rural small hydropower research institute, enhanced their activities under IHP framework. Four training courses for developing countries are organized in Hangzhou with Chinese government support.

### **1.3.2 Organization of specific courses**

Training course for leaders of hydrological stations was organized from 9-16 November, 2007 in Nanjing. The course is a regular course for improving knowledge. 97 station leaders from 18 provinces attended the training course. The course provided advanced technologies for hydrological observation. It is also refreshed for those leaders who working in hydrological stations. China-IHP gave technical support, especially new development of international hydrological programme.

### **1.3.3 Participation in IHP courses**

Each year about 20 participants were sent to UNESCO-IHE with academic recommendation from China-IHP.

Ms Dong Xiuying from the bureau of hydrology, ministry of water resources participated in the Regional Short Training Course on Urban Stormwater Management, held from 3–7 December 2007 in Kuala Lumpur. It was organized by HTC-KL and UNESCO Jakarta and supported by MIHP, ICHARM, JCUD and other agencies.

## **1.4 PUBLICATION**

Proceedings of Workshop on Ecological Effect of Hydro-Engineering, 11-12 November 2007.

## **1.5 PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS**

### **1.5.1 Meeting hosted by the country**

**Workshop on Ecological Effect of Hydro-Engineering**, 11-12 November 2007 was held in Nanjing.. this is a participation programme with financial support from UNESCO headquarter. 80 participants attended the workshop, 30 papers were collected and included in the proceeding. Chinese National Committee awarded two persons and one group for their outstanding contribution to international cooperation. Mr. Zhang Hailun got permanent achievement for China-IHP for his long-term working as Secretary-general in IHP National Committee. Mr. Xu Zongxue got outstanding contribution award for international hydrological cooperation. Bureau of Hydrology of Changjiang Water Resources Commission was awarded for their long-term supporting for national

and international hydrological cooperation.

The workshop messages were distributed in the official website of Ministry of Water resources and some key national water organization homepages, Such as: CHINA-IHP: [www.chinaihp.org](http://www.chinaihp.org) ; NHRI homepages: <http://www.nhri.cn/tpxw/20071113083959bdcf05.aspx>,

**3<sup>rd</sup> Yellow River Forum** was held from 18 to 21 October 2007 in Dongying, the estuary city of Yellow River. More than 2000 participants including 300 international participants from 60 countries attended the forum. The minister of Spanish Environment Ministry and WWC president also attended the forum. 6 themes and 12 sessions were arranged for specific topics. The themes included maintenance of healthy river, hydraulics and non-structure measures, water environment and ecology protection, trans-basin water transfer and water allocation, water right/price and water market as well as specific sessions, such as UNESCO-IHE alumni evaluation session. The forum became a well-known action and will take place each two years in cities along Yellow River.

Vice-Chairperson of China-IHP and some members were presented.

**The 8<sup>th</sup> Sino-Dutch Joint Steering Committee meeting for water sector cooperation** was held on 17 October 2007 in Dongying. More than 20 delegates from China, the Netherlands, participated in the meeting. Some existing projects were reviewed. Some potential projects were proposed by each side, including climate change impact on hydrological regime, integrated water resources management. Main actions and activities for next year included investigation and researches, such as ecological function, water resources, soil erosion, landslide, river basin management and planning.

**Sino-Spanish Water Forum held in Dongying**, Shandong Province, on October 15th, 2007. More than 160 representatives from the Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Environment of Spain, river basin commissions, provincial water resources departments and companies took part in the meeting. Mr. Jiao Yong, Vice Minister of Water Resources, on behalf of the Ministry of Water Resources welcomed the Spanish government delegation led by H.E. Ms. Narbona, Minister of Environment as well as the preventatives from Spanish companies. Ms. Narbona delivered a speech at the opening ceremony of the Forum. She also held meetings with Vice Premier Hui Liangyu and Miniter Chen Lei in Beijing before the forum.

Presentations on water resources management, river basin management, water saving irrigation and water affair management in China and Spain are given in the Forum, and participants exchanged views by asking and answering questions. The Spanish Exhibition is also held during the Forum.

**Sino-UK steering committee of water resources demand management project meeting was held on 14 May, 2008 in Beijing.** Mr. Hu Siyi, Vice-Minister of Water Resoruces and Mr. Davis, Representative of UK DfID in Beijing attended the meeting. The project started from 2006 and will be completed by 2010. Main purpose is to introduce UK water demand management and to apply in Liaoning and Gansu provinces. In this steering committee meeting, experiences from pilot application were summarized. From central government, all these experiences from pilot basins and projects will be disseminated to all country in the next years. IHP-China has been involved for consultation and implementation in Liaoning Province.

### **1.5.2 Participation in meetings abroad**

**UNSGAB / the High level Expert Panel on water and disaster meeting** was held in Tokyo Japan on 6 September. Vice Chairman of IHP Chinese National Committee was recommended by Ministry of Water Resources to be the member and participated the meeting.

The panel meeting focused on two objectives. The first objective, answers to the theme “Establish, with unified political will, a clear-cut global-level target that articulates the direction for global actions for reducing the loss of life and livelihood caused by water- related disasters”; whereas the second objective answers to the theme “Provide adequate safe water and sanitation during and after disasters”.

## **1.6 OTHER ACTIVITIES AT A REGIONAL LEVEL**

### **1.6.1 Institutional relations / co-operation**

To enhance relationship with IAHS at national level, Asian Water Resources Association (AWRA) at regional level, as well as WMO, IAEA, UN-ESCAP at UN system level would be highly concentrated. To cooperate with national committees for hydrological and water resources research in Southeast Asia and the Pacific are key fields.

### **1.6.2 Completed and ongoing scientific projects**

FRIEND projects for flood/low flow forecasting/predictions in Southeast-Asian group work.

## **2. FUTURE ACTIVITIES**

### **2.1 ACTIVITIES PLANNED TO UNTIL DECEMBER 2007**

The National Committee will continue and pay high attention for regional cooperation under IHP framework. WWAP and WWDR are key issues at present, He River is recommended to be a case study in WWDR-III.

With related to Climate change, a project sponsored by UN system with Spanish fund for achieving MDG goals will be implemented.

### **2.2 ACTIVITIES FORESEEN FOR 2008-2009**

Some projects related to IHP-VII themes will be supported by Ministry of Water Resources though IHP national Committee. IHP National will continue to encourage scientific and technical symposia and workshops. Meanwhile, some initiatives for IHP-VII themes will be encouraged and arranged by the National Committee. Cooperation among the Southeast Asia and the Pacific will be top priority. The activities will include, but not only as below:

- Implement a collaborative research project with IRTCES on erosion and sedimentation
- Establish a research center focusing on climate change impact on the hydrological cycle and water resources
- Develop disaster reduction objectives through cooperation with UNSGAB high-level expert panel on water and disaster

- Prepare a country report with a case study to WWDR 3 under climate change issues focusing groundwater system response
- Organize an international workshop on IRBM and/or IWRM, investigate and summarize public participation in some areas
- Cooperate with regional IHP national committees to develop a development strategy on Small Hydropower
- Implement an international initiative of “Lighting up Rural Africa” through cooperation with African counterparts.
- Organize an international or national conference on water, energy and poverty mitigation focusing on small hydropower development
- Implement a research project on risk management focusing environment and society with case of South-North water transfer project
- Participate in national rural drinking water planning and national drinking water sources area protection planning
- Participate in national rural drinking water safety evaluation and planning, develop water quality protection technology
- Workshop on transboundary river water ecosystem security (Cooperate with CITWES: Center of International Transboundary Waters and Ecosystem Security of Tsinghua University)
- Refresher course for UNESCO-IHE alumni on IRBM

### **2.3 ACTIVITIES ENVISAGED FOR THE LONG TERM**

China IHP National Committee will make more contributions to IHP, especially, may host RSC meeting/workshops or join co-team for regional and international cooperation. In the phase IHP-VII, some working groups will be established for more cooperation activities.