

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CLUB FOR ICOLD EUROPEAN NATIONAL COMMITTEES

(LUZERN, SWITZERLAND, MAY 30<sup>th</sup> 2011)

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The meeting of the Governing Board of the Club for ICOLD European National Committees (European Club) was hold last May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011, starting at 4 pm, at the Clubroom N.6 in the KKL Center, Luzern, under the presidency of Dr. José Polimón, serving Ignacio Escuder as Secretary General.

Board Members of the “European Club” and observers attending the meeting are listed in the following page.

President: Dr. José Polimón (president@spancold.es)  
 Secretary General: Prof. Ignacio Escuder (iescuder@hma.upv.es)

COUNTRY	CHAIRMAN (OR REP.)	ACCOMP. PERSONS	OBSERVERS	CONTACT E-MAIL ADDRESS
AUSTRIA			Werner H. Floegl Floegl.linz@fhce.at	Prof. Gerald Zenz, secretary@atcold.at, gerald.zenz@tugraz.at
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IRELAND	Brian O'Mahony			Mr. Brian O'Mahony Brian.omahony@esb.ie
ITALY	Giovanni Ruggeri	Rosella Caruana Rosella.caruana@enel.com		Mr. Giovanni Ruggeri itcold@iol.it
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TURKEY				Prof Veysel Eroglu eroglu@dsi.gov.tr
UNITED KINGDOM	Andy Hughes andy.hughes@atkinsglobal.com	Ian Hope ian.hope@severtrent.co.uk		Martin Airey Martin.Airey@mottmac.com

The items included in the Agenda (the extended AGENDA is included as **APPENDIX 1** to these minutes) were:

- 0.- Welcome to new representatives and Approval of Agenda Items
- 1.- Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting. Innsbruck (Austria). September, 2010. (minutes\_ANNEX 1)
- 2.- Report from the President (letter\_ANNEX 2)
- 3.- Next European Club Dam Symposium. Proposals (Proposal\_ANNEX 3)
- 4.- European Working Groups. Review and acceptance of their activities.
- 5.- New European Working Groups. Proposals. (Proposal\_ANNEX 4)
- 6.- “Ad hoc” task forces. Proposals (Proposal on European Guidelines\_ANNEX 5) (Proposal on Master Degree\_ANNEX 6)
- 7.- Suggestions to update the website
- 8.- Miscellaneous aspects

Dr. Polimón, acting as President, welcomed all participants and addressed the discussion on such items in the following terms (after the unanimously approval of the agenda items):

**1. Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting. Innsbruck (Austria). September, 2010**

The General Secretary reads the minutes of the Innsbruck Meeting. Afterwards, minutes were approved by the Board without changes or additions.

**2. Report from the President**

The president highlighted the pillars that inspire his work within the Board such as improving education, training and knowledge transfer, supporting current and new working groups, innovation and new technologies and reinforcement of research consortiums, as he had already presented by letter to the Board dated in February 2011.

**3. Next European Club Symposium**

Mr. Ruggeri briefly explained the Italian proposal (the only presented) and committed to inform the board on the location and themes, that are currently being evaluated.

The Board unanimously accepted the proposal and ITCOLD will consequently organize the next Symposium in 2013.

#### **4. European Working Groups. Review and acceptance of their activities.**

- EWG-3. FLOODS IN EUROPE. Leader: L. Berga.

The work of this group finished in 2010, as approved in the last Board meeting. Final report will be available at the European Club website during June 2011.

- EWG-4. INTERNAL EROSION IN EMBANKMENT DAMS. Leader J.J. Fry

As approved in the last Board meeting, the group has continued working. They hold a meeting and symposium in April 22-25, 2011, at the University of BRNO (Czech Republic).

- EWG-6. DAM LEGISLATION. Leader G. Ruggeri

Though formally the Working Group finished their activities last year, Mr. Giovanni Ruggeri suggest to re-send the report in word format, thus it may be easily updated by each country. It is accepted by the Board.

In addition, he receives the recommendation to contact with a Regulatory European working group who may hold interesting information with regard of the status of dam legislation in different European countries.

- EWG-9. DAM SAFETY OF EXISTING DAMS. Leader J. Rocha

As approved in 2010, the work was extended and the group is preparing a first drafted version of the report. A detailed state of the work is given as **APPENDIX 2** to these minutes.

- EWG-12. PUBLIC SAFETY. Leader U. Norstedt

As approved in 2010 a final report is due for 2011. [The Public Safety WG has produced a preliminary draft report that has been circulated among the WG members for comments and upgrading. The WG coordinator Urban Norstedt will also send this report to all national committees asking for correction if something may be misunderstood and for possible add on information from European committees outside the WG willing to contribute. The draft has been released in June. The final agreed report will be sent to the Club secretary before Christmas. The ICOLD new Technical Committee on Public safety around dams has started its work and it is informed about these achievements.](#)

## 5. New European Working Groups. Proposals.

The proposal presented by Mr. Ruggeri, on behalf of Mr. Massimo Meghella, who intends to chair a working group on “Dam Safety Risk Assessment and Management” has been unanimously accepted.

For the next three years, the terms of reference are:

- a) Dam safety risk overall picture and European Directives on floods and critical infrastructures.
- b) Overview on risk elements adopted in some Eur. Regulations /Guidelines for dams
- c) Effectiveness and benefits of ‘risk informed’ decision making methods in dam safety management (review of international cases)
- d) Identification of the proper level of effort (modelling, estimates, uncertainty analysis) for different types of decision
- e) ‘The importance to communicate and balance/share the risk among stakeholders (risk guidelines, etc,)
- f) Risk analysis framework as an effective tool to facilitate knowledge transfer and training

The Secretary informs, also on behalf of Massimo Meghella, that the kick-off meeting of the group is schedule for October 2011 in Valencia (Spain) during the “Third International Forum on Risk Analysis, Dam Safety, Dam Security and Critical infrastructure Management”.

From now till this date, members of the Board are welcome to spread the news on the new European Working Group and propose members to join the Group. Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and Austria have already expressed their wish to participate.

## 6.- “Ad hoc” task forces. Proposals

Two proposals on “ad-hoc” task forces, in order to be able to report to the Board on the possibility of settling two new Working Groups by next year meeting, were presented. In particular:

- “European Guideline for the safety assessment of dams”. Leader: Mr. Ruggeri.

Mr. Ruggeri remarks that a widely accepted “technical guideline” devoted to the safety re-assessment of existing dams could therefore be of great interest for many European countries.

To define and submit to the Club an operational detailed proposal and action plan, a small working group (3-4 persons) should be charged to explore in detail the subject, evaluating:

- a) pros and cons of initiating such task
- b) topics that should be examined in the Guideline
- c) interesting and pertinent available experiences and documents
- d) possibilities of support from the European Commission.
- e) modalities for the constitution of the Task Force

After an interesting discussion in the within the Board, it was unanimously accepted. Several members expressed their intention to participate. In particular:

Mr. Abadjev	Bulgary
Mr. Laasonen	Finland
Mr. Krizanowsky	Slovenia
Mr. De Cea	Spain
Mrs. Anna Engström Meyer	Sweden
Mr. Hughes	U.K.

In addition, Mr. Ruggeri receives a suggestion on checking the European Directive on Tailing (Mining) Dams.

- European Master Degree, structured and organized through our European Club of ICOLD. Leader: Dr. Polimón.

To define and submit to the Club an operational detailed proposal and action plan, a small working group (3-4 persons) should be charged to explore in detail the subject, evaluating:

- a) objectives of the Master Degree
- b) program structure and contents
- c) overall schedule and permeability between countries
- d) potential for on-line activities
- e) sponsorship

After an interesting discussion in the within the Board, it was unanimously accepted. Several members expressed their intention to participate or to identify potential participants. In particular:

Mr. Fernando Girón	Spain
Mr. Guido Mazzà	Italy
To be confirmed	Portugal
To be confirmed	United Kingdom
To be confirmed	Austria

In addition, Dr. Polimón receives a suggestion on checking which similar experiences failed and why, as well as examining existing programs already working through Europe.

## 7.- Suggestions to update the website

Some minor comments were made by members the Board (such as changing the password policies, or upload the minutes). In any case, the members of the Board remarked that the website is very useful and, even more, fundamental for the visibility of our activities.

## 8.- Miscellaneous

No additional topics were raised by members of the Board.

The President closed the meeting at 18:00 hours.

José Polimón  
President

Ignacio Escuder  
Secretary General