



**MINUTES OF THE
129th SANCOLD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**
Held on Tuesday 05 November 2019 at 15:00 at the offices of ARQ, Lynnwood
Manor, Pretoria.

Action

1. OPENING and WELCOME

The Chairperson, Dr Quentin Shaw opened the meeting and welcomed all.

2. ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES and QUORUM

Attendance.

Quentin Shaw	Chairperson	QS
Louis Hattingh	Vice-chairperson	LH
David Cameron-Ellis	(Treasurer)	DCE
Jaretha Lombaard	YPF Chair	JL
Henry-John Wright		HJW
Deon van der Merwe		DvdM
Michelle Blaeser		MB
Guy Robertson		GR
Robert Greyling		RG
Xolani Mdletshe		XM
Vicci Schoeman		VS
Wally Ramokopa		WR
Duncan Grant-Stuart		DGS
Gerald de Jager		GdJ
Danie Badenhorst		DB
Peter Pyke	Secretary	Sec

Apologies.

Apologies were received from Beason Mwaka (BM)

Quorum.

A quorum was present.

3. AGENDA (Amendments and adoption)

Point 9.3 added Tailings initiative
Point 9.4 added SANCOLD Papers
The agenda was adopted.

4. MINUTES OF MC 128

4.1 Amendments
No further amendments.

- 4.2 Approval
Approved – Proposed HJW, seconded DB. These minutes could now be placed on the website. **[Sec]**
- 4.3 Matters arising from previous minutes
Only discussion of items not on agenda - completed items noted
- 4.3.1 Renewal of Representatives Reserved Positions on MANCO – Draft letters prepared for DWS (NWRI) and SAICE to be sent out before year end. **[Sec]**
- 4.3.2 Elections for MC - Letter calling for nominations to be sent out of soonest. Process to be completed before Christmas. **[Sec]**

5. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MATTERS:

- 5.1 Management Committee Election 2019
XM and MvD (& TH) are Reserved positions for DWS (NWRI) and SAICE respectively and reach their term limit at the end of 2019. New appointments are to be requested for 2020 onwards. **[Sec]**
Positions on MC currently filled by DCE, JL, QS, DvdM and M Blaeser expire at the end of 2019. DCE occupied an appointed external position. Elections will be required for 4 posts, one of which is for under 35. The call for nominations is being sent out. **[Sec]**
The Secretary had requested a replacement representative from Universities South Africa (USAf) previously HESA but they were still working on a replacement.
- 5.2 Portfolios for SANCOLD Management
The list of portfolios will be circulated to all MC members for further input and allocation of tasks, to ensure that all MC members contribute in order to distribute the load.

	Portfolio	Responsible Person	Support Persons
1	Membership	Secretary	Treasurer
2	Finance/Treasurer	David Cameron-Ellis	
3	Institutional	Secretary	Danie Badenhorst
4	ICOLD	Secretary	Danie Badenhorst
5	Website	Henry-John Wright	Secretary
6	Young Persons	YPF Chairperson Jaretha Lombaard	YPF Sub-committee, Robert Greyling Gerald de Jager ? Vicci Schoeman Guy Robertson
7	Training / Lectures	Gerald de Jager and Sub-committee	Louis Hattingh, Deon vd Merwe
8	Annual conference	Michelle Blaeser & Sub Committee Jaretha Lombaard, Vicci Schoeman, Louis Hattingh, David Cameron-Ellis and possibly Deon vd Merwe	Secretary
9	Marketing	Need strategy - for future agenda	Robert Greyling Guy Robertson

10	Associated Studies	See listing on Guidelines & Publications	
11	Working groups	Secretary	
12	Publications	Treasurer	Secretary

Sec indicated that we needed to start preparations for the Annual Event earlier than had occurred in 2019. LH indicated that he wished to stand down as Conference Convener and that a new Convener was required for 2020. He indicated that the workload had been substantial and that that a convener needed to spread the load. MB agreed to fill this role with support from the sub-committee and LH. JL indicated she would not be available during the next 6 months. Clear delegations to team members were required so that all could share the workload.

[MB & Team]

The Sec had drafted a checklist which he would share.

[Sec]

5.3 Amendment of Constitution

Minor adjustments were made to update the Constitution to reflect recent changes such as HESA to USAf and this had been circulated to MC in Track Changes. The changes were approved proposed DB seconded QS. Sec to provide updated clean copies for SARS and website.

[Sec, DCE, HJW]

6. SANCOLD ACTIVITIES

6.1 Programme 2020

The programme has been updated from that circulated earlier in the year. Item 10 the guideline on geofabrics – efforts have been redirected into an ICOLD Bulletin which was to have been submitted for approval at Ottawa but wasn't. Whatever the problem was has apparently now been resolved as the draft bulletin has been submitted to Central Office. It can be removed from the programme. Item 22 implement accounting software – can be removed as this had been done. It was also now possible to make credit card payments to SANCOLD using Payfast. We need to formalise the monitoring of progress of scholarship holders. They are required to submit written progress reports to the Secretary in June and November and these reports should be circulated to MC members. They will also be making presentations at the conference.

[Sec]

The intention is to expand the recent post-grad studies by Hermien Oberholzer into the Guideline on Environmental flows which GDJ is co-ordinating.

We need to clearly separate actual activities from aspirations. Guidelines for Risk analysis and Blasting practices are longer term goals subject to funding and input from outside SANCOLD. Industry is prepared to provide funding for issues with direct benefits for them ie Anglo funding studies on seismic practices. SANCOLD needs to widen the scope on input by having internal discussions by task teams and not just driven by a convener.

[Sec – all the above]

6.2 SANCOLD Events

6.2.1 SANCOLD Annual Conference 2019

LH reported that the conference registrations were over 200 with more than 60 DWS delegates. These numbers could be accommodated in the venue. He pointed out that the attendance was facilitated by the venue being Gauteng and suggested that Gauteng be again used for 2020. **[MB & team]**

LH managed to organise a change of the site visit to Vaal Dam at a late stage due to site personnel at Hartbeespoort/Roodekopjes not being able to accommodate the site visit.

6.2.2 SANCOLD Annual Conference 2020

A theme for the conference should not be too specialised but wide enough to draw sufficient papers. Various options for a site visit such as Tzaneen raising were discussed. The site visit identified could influence the venue chosen in Gauteng to ease issues around traffic. It was important to announce the Conference dates as early as possible and then proceed with the arrangements earlier than this year. The Sec had produced a checklist which should be provided to aid the organising team. **[Sec]**

6.3 National Flood Studies Programme (NFSP)

The WRC has provided funding and Jeff Smithers has procured further research funding from overseas besides the SANCOLD support through scholarships but still the progress towards a NFSP has still been slow. The WRC will be holding a NFSP workshop in Stellenbosch on 29th January 2020. SANCOLD is interested in extreme floods specifically the SEF while most other stakeholders require lesser return periods. The proposal by Andre Görgens pursued the PMF route which was not what SANCOLD was looking for. Cost of flood design was also affected by new freeboard criteria which should also be considered with the flood considered. After discussion it was agreed that SANCOLD needs to produce a position paper on what extreme flood should be considered. Such a position paper could be produced quickly by a small task team. The task team to be convened under DCE consisting of VS, DGS, DvdM and LH. **[DCE & team]**

6.4 SANCOLD Training, APP development & dam safety initiatives

6.4.1 SANCOLD Training 2019 Training courses requested by SRK and Sasol were held. SANCOLD should encourage such requests for training to allow wider participation when facilities permitted this.

The Sec mentioned that ECSA had issued new documentation around CPD points which may entail a more involved approval process. **[Sec]**

Where SANCOLD members are involved in training courses offered by others, like Universities, the input of SANCOLD should be acknowledged and/or discount should be offered for SANCOLD members. DB to formulate a proposal to discuss with Gerrit Basson. **[DB]**

6.4.2 Facilitation of Training

No discussion.

6.4.3 Other training.

With fewer dams being constructed there is reduced opportunity for acquiring experience and hence there is a need to transfer and share experience of more senior members. An opportunity could be created by holding more informal meetings with short presentations by 2 or 3 people and then discussions with wider audience participation.

6.5 Young Person's Forum

6.5.1 Quarterly Lectures

The next evening lecture by Henry-John Wright on Bulletin 172 "TECHNICAL ADVANCEMENTS IN SPILLWAY DESIGN - Progress and Innovations from 1985 to 2015", was postponed but would be rescheduled during the coming year at a venue still to be finalised.

Further presentations are planned for later in the year and widening attendance to all SANCOLD members. **[YPF]**

- 6.6 The Development of a Regional Initiative to address sub-Saharan Africa-specific topics.
There is some momentum on this through ICOLD VP Michael Abebe. Ideally SANCOLD could sponsor some delegates to our conference but limited funding prevents this.
- 6.7 Your Tailings Dam Brochure
DGS has incorporated the comments submitted and this should be circulated to MC members. DGS to include this in his ICOLD committee report back session at the conference. **[DGS]**
- 6.8 Your Dam brochure
Kelvin Legge's has been undergoing medical treatment and although he has returned to work, Sec has not been able to obtain an update on progress. **[Sec]**
- 6.9 Ecological Water Reserve brochure
Hermien Oberholzer has undertaken Honours post graduate studies into ecological water releases, which will include the development of a document entitled *Guideline for the Release of Ecological Water Requirements from South African Dams*. This would form a basis for the SANCOLD brochure. **[GdJ]**
- 6.10 Revival of initiative for discussions with new DWS Minister.
A letter had been sent to the DWS Minister via the office of Verena Meyer, thanking DWS for the financial grant towards ICOLD 2016 and requesting a meeting between SANCOLD and the Minister. The audited ICOLD 2016 financial statements had not been included in the letter but should be provided to DWS. The letter had been sent via Verena Meyer as minuted in MC 128 and not via the DWS SANCOLD reps. Although the minutes had not been queried, the Sec conceded that the letter should have been directed through the DWS reps. XM stated that DWS needed to fully brief the Minister on the purpose of SANCOLD and how DWS can benefit from SANCOLD. Before that happened, SANCOLD needed to meet DWS Management so that they could understand the role of SANCOLD and develop common ground on any benefits of co-operation with SANCOLD. It was explained that historically, SANCOLD was created and run by the then Department of Water Affairs to access international best practice in the development and management of it's dam infrastructure. Over the years the focus of DWS has changed with reduced DWS participation in SANCOLD and SANCOLD largely being driven by the private sector. DWS as custodian of State water infrastructure and the largest number of large dams in South Africa, has much to benefit from SANCOLD functioning effectively and providing training and access to international best practice for large dams. Closer co-operation between the activities of SANCOLD and DWS could be mutually beneficial. SANCOLD wishes to engage with DWS on ways to improve co-operation in the interest of long term sustainability of the industry in South Africa. A meeting, between SANCOLD and DWS Management, could be facilitated by the DWS SANCOLD reps, should take place at the earliest mutually acceptable date to seek common ground and generate items to be discussed with the Minister. **[XM, WR, BM & Sec]**

- 6.11 Updating of SA Register on Large Dams
The Register had been updated by Bertrand Collett and placed on the website. WR queried that the data was not up to date. Bertrand should be talking to WR and the Dam Safety office to ensure the info was current. Bertrand was due to give a presentation at the conference and queries could be addressed to him there. WR was better positioned than Bertrand to keep the Register updated and serve on the ICOLD Committee.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 7.1 SANCOLD Scholarship 2020
Five scholarships had been awarded in 2019 with two of these carrying on into 2020. This meant that the budgeted amount had already been allocated for 2020. There would thus not be any new scholarship in 2020. New scholarships would be advertised for 2021. Sec to place in newsletter. **[Sec]**
- 7.2 Membership Matters
There are a number of outstanding membership fees among both Corporate and Individual members. The bulk of our membership income is from corporate members. The Secretary needs to send out a formal letter to defaulting members advising them of membership termination if the fees remain unpaid. Treasurer to supply list of defaulting members to Sec. **[Sec, Treasurer]**
- 7.3 Audit 2019
Audits were completed but there are minor outstanding issues before they are signed off. **[Treasurer]**
- 7.4 Budget 2020
The Budget is prepared in February and the Treasurer requires input from MC on items they are responsible for like training, Secretary budget etc **(Treasurer)**
- 7.5 Financial support for ICOLD 2020.
This was raised as ICOLD New Delhi takes place 4-10 April 2020 and the support would have to be finalised at the February MC meeting. Criteria for receiving support had been circulated to MC members but had not been circulated wider. The criteria should be publicised at the AGM and to the membership. **[QS, Sec]**
- 7.6 Moving bank account.
The new bank account has been opened and is working smoothly but many members are still paying to the old account so it will not be closed yet.
- 7.7 Request for Advertising
The Secretary had made contact with Barbara Spence of SAICE who can provide details of how SAICE addresses issues and rates but further discussions were required. **[Sec]**
This raised the issue of sponsors and advertising at the 2020 SANCOLD Conference where opportunities were available which should be pursued. **[MB & team]**

8. ICOLD ACTIVITIES

- 8.1 ICOLD Circular Letters

Circulars had been distributed.

8.2 ICOLD Issues

8.2.1 Attendance at ICOLD New Delhi

So far the attendees are unknown.

8.2.2 SANCOLD Delegation to the GA

Will be finalised after the election but generally Chairman plus 2 delegates – to be finalised at the February meeting.

8.2.3 Representation on ICOLD Committees

No changes proposed.

8.2.4 Important dates

Noted.

9. GENERAL

9.1 Co-operation with CHINCOLD.

Nobody from RSA had attended the 8th International Symposium on RCC Dams held on 11th-12th Nov, 2019, in Kunming, China nor the 12th Round Table Meeting on Sustainable Development of Dams and Hydropower on 11th-15th Nov. 2019 also in Kunming City. However co-operation with CHINCOLD will be continued in New Delhi. **[Chair]**

9.2 Co-operation with SAIEG (SAICE Geotech Div).

SANCOLD has been publicising their events and they have circulated details of our events to their members. DGS reported that he served on a Geotech committee updating SANS 10286 and also on the ICOLD Technical Committee on Tailings. He wanted to ensure the ICOLD work was incorporated in the revised SANS 10286 with a target date of April 2020.

9.3 Tailings Initiative.

There was also a proposal for Brazilian, Canadian, Chilean and South African co-operation on dam safety for tailings dams and exchange of personnel. This could be useful but may involve some duplication of other work. They were also interested in sharing capacity in co-hosting of annual symposiums which may be unaffordable for SA. SANCOLD however should try to stay involved even as a *corresponding* member. SANCOLD to reply that DGS would be the contact point with contributions from Andrew Copeland and Ross Cooper of Frasers. **[QS]**

9.4 Papers for SANCOLD.

There was a discussion on the quality of papers where there had been a paper accepted which was rejected by a reviewer. There was also a need to develop and guide authors into producing better papers by feedback in the review process. Application of too strict criteria could lead to fewer papers and lower attendance

10. DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

15:00 on Tuesday 4th February 2020 at ARQ Offices, Lynnwood Manor, Pretoria.

11. CLOSURE

At 17:52.