



**MINUTES OF THE
131st SANCOLD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
Held on Thursday 18 June 2020 at 14:30 via Zoom.**

Action

1. OPENING and WELCOME

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed all.

2. ATTENDANCE, APOLOGIES and QUORUM

Attendance.

Quentin Shaw	Chairperson	QS
Louis Hattingh	Vice-chairperson	LH
David Cameron-Ellis		DCE
Henry-John Wright		HJW
Robert Greyling		RG
Marco van Dijk		MvD
Michelle Blaeser		MB
Louiza van Vuuren		LvV
Duncan Grant-Stuart		DGS
Gerald de Jager		GdJ
Danie Badenhorst		DB
Peter Pyke	Secretary	Sec

Apologies.

Apologies were received from Guy Robertson (GR) and Vicci Schoeman (VS)

Quorum.

A quorum was present.

3. AGENDA (Amendments and adoption)

The agenda was adopted with the addition of the circular on the ICOLD Innovation award.

4. MINUTES OF MC 130

4.1 Amendments

No further amendments.

4.2 Approval

Approved – Proposed HJW, seconded LH . These minutes could now be placed on the website. **[Sec]**

4.3 Matters arising from previous minutes

Items completed or Agenda items - completed items noted.

5. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MATTERS:

- 5.1 Management Committee Election 2019
The Secretary had requested a replacement representative from Universities South Africa (USAf) previously HESA but they were still working on a replacement. Similarly, a letter was sent to DWS to request a representative for NWRI branch. This had been resent to XM and BM but there had been no reply so far. DCE suggested a new invitation be sent to DWS reps to invite them to attend. **[Sec]**
The MC positions of RG and LH are up for election in 2020. **[Sec]**
- 5.2 Portfolios for SANCOLD Management
Previous additions to portfolio list were noted.
- 5.3 Concept Marketing Strategy
RG and LvV were still preparing the concept document. **[RG, LvV]**

6. SANCOLD ACTIVITIES

- 6.1 Programme 2020
The activities are largely in limbo due to the lockdown. We probably need to concentrate on the few items we can work on and renew efforts in 2021.
- 6.2 SANCOLD Events
 - 6.2.1 SANCOLD Annual Conference 2019
Final figures on registrations and income were supplied. The Attendance certificates were sent out in February.
 - 6.2.2 SANCOLD Annual Conference 2020
Sec explained that 3 Pretoria venues had been suggested by the PCO. MB and Sec had inspected two of the sites in early March and selected the Capital at Menlyn Main as first choice. Then lockdown occurred. The PCO was asked to provide quotes for an E- conference. The quote was expensive for what would be a one-day event. Time ran out for the process of managing paper for the conference and it was cancelled on 30 May after consultation with Exco members. The PCO had then obtained a more reasonable quote for an e-conference but mobilisation time had run out.
 - 6.2.3 SANCOLD Annual Conference 2021
The information obtained so far can be used for 2021 subject to acceptable quotes from Tourvest and the venue. The date of November 2021 was considered suitable using the theme chosen for this year. After discussion it was agreed that the First Announcement should state the November date with Gauteng as venue to be circulated together with the results of the SANCOLD elections in November this year. **[Sec]**
- 6.3 National Flood Studies Programme (NFSP)
VS was to consult with various role players with divergent views to consider a way forward. The lockdown had limited progress. **[VS]**
- 6.4 SANCOLD Training, APP development & dam safety initiatives
Discussion was held around holding E-conferences and use of service providers vs software packages. Service providers would be expensive each time used whereas software packages once purchased, could be reused. Packages used by members were
 - Quicket – for booking
 - Screenflow - for recorded webinars
 - Zoom – for live webinars
 - GoToMeeting – for live webinars
 - Youtube – for pre-recorded lectures
 Problems that were experienced with Screenflow and Zoom were that very big file sizes occurred for pre-recorded inserts and time delays experienced with changing

slides. Possibly lower quality recordings could be used for pre-recorded inserts and live sessions followed by Q & A with ability to view pre-recorded sessions in own time after events could be useful.

The Guidelines for Freeboard were very conservative and would provide a good opportunity for a benchmarking webinar in which different pre-recorded views could be presented and then debated to generate ideas on how to make them more practical and align with international standards. Case studies should be included to encourage wider participation. Two typical problems could be set where participants provide innovative solutions with a prize of R10 000 for the best solution. MB to draw up draft and circulate. **[MB]**

We need participants to register and provide CPD points possibly a half-day for those attending and a full day for those also submitting benchmarks. Participants to include the Guideline authors and the DSO of DWS. A free webinar to last some 3-4 hours should be scheduled for October with HJW to investigate suitable E-platforms including registration. **[HJW]**

MB to lead the action with supporting team. **[MB, DCE, RG, HJW, LH, Sec]**

6.5 Young Person's Forum

Discussions could be scheduled where new ICOLD Bulletins are issued. This could entail a presentation by the relevant Technical Committee member. HJW is ready with his presentation which should be for all members. This should be recorded for possible later viewing and as trial for later webinars. Registration should be included so that we can track interest of members. **[HJW, RG]**

6.6 The Development of a Regional Initiative to address sub-Saharan Africa-specific topics

Lockdown has hampered any progress This should be kept on the agenda and could possibly be taken further where contact is made with African colleagues or at the Africa Regional Club Meeting in New Delhi. **[QS]**

6.7 Your Tailings Dam Brochure

This was essentially completed but needed an ISDN number. **[Sec]**
DGS to send final version to HJW. **[DGS, HJW]**

6.8 Your Dam brochure

Kelvin Legge had indicated that the work was far advanced but had not yet supplied a copy to us. Sec to pursue **[Sec]**

6.9 Ecological Water Reserve brochure

Hermien Oberholzer has completed her recent Honours post graduate studies into ecological water releases. This would form a basis for the SANCOLD brochure entitled *Guideline for the Release of Ecological Water Requirements from South African Dams* which GdJ is coordinating. He could use the Tailings Dam format for a template. It would also require an ISDN number. **[GdJ]**

6.10 Revival of initiative for discussions with new DWS Minister.

Our request for a meeting with the then-new DWS Minister had reached her office via Verena Meyer and had resulted in a request to DWS staff (including BM) to brief the Minister on SANCOLD. We had then decided to try to meet with DWS Management to acquaint them with SANCOLD activities before any meeting with the Minister. These new meeting requests were channelled through the DWS reps (XM, BM, WR) but had not been successful before the COVID-19 lockdown. Sec to contact BM to find out how best to arrange a meeting with relevant DWS Management and revive the initiative. **[Sec]**

It was imperative that SANCOLD develop a better relationship with DWS so that a better understanding of the work of SANCOLD and its benefits was achieved.

Efforts to broker such a meeting would be continued with BM consulting fellow representatives. **[DB, Sec]**

6.11 Updating of SA Register on Large Dams

WR has accepted the position of representative for the ICOLD Register replacing Bertrand Collett. Both parties have been informed as well as ICOLD Central Office. Queries remained as to discrepancies between the Dam Safety Register and the ICOLD Register which would require detailed checking as some entries were very old. Part of the problems arose as the original ICOLD Register, produced in the Seventies, contained a name but no detailed geographic location details (now-days GPS) and only the nearest town. This makes checking details difficult as some of these dams cannot be found and verified. WR is best placed for verifying details and eliminating the discrepancies. **[WR]**

6.12 SANCOLD Position Paper/Guideline for Emergency Action Plan (EAP) and Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP).

Bandula Kendaragama of SMEC had enquired about SANCOLD information on EAP/EPP. He indicated that he had information on international efforts and indicated willingness to serve on a team producing a SANCOLD Position Paper but not lead the team. FERC legislation from USA and Australian models could be considered. Jaretha Lombaard was mentioned as a possible team leader and DB undertook to approach her with GR supporting her. **[DB]**

6.13 Position Paper on Floods

VS is to approach various role-players and produce a basic document which could be used to kick-start the process. The lockdown had stopped progress. **[VS]**

6.14 Improve Definition of Tailings Dam with a Risk.

During discussions, the problems of defining tailings dams at risk was raised. DG informed that their ICOLD Committee was moving away from height and volume criteria for defining risk and were following the CDA and ANCOLD Guidelines which rather depend on consequences to define risk. This new ICOLD Bulletin could be finalised within the next 12 months. It was decided to await finalisation of this Bulletin and then use it to engage with the Regulator to improve the definition of tailings dams with a safety risk. **[DGS, Sec]**

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

7.1 SANCOLD Scholarship 2020 and 2021

The 2020 allocation was for Udhav Maharaj and Ryshan Ramlall. Their June Progress Reports have been circulated to Manco. The second half-yearly (and final) payments are due in August 2020. **[Treasurer]**

After discussion it was decided that a new scholarships would be advertised for 2021 with a value up to R100 000 p a. Sec confirmed out that the previous advert had stated up to R140 000 p a. 2021 advert have value up to R100 000 and to be placed earlier so that adjudication can be completed by end December 2020 for 2021 award. **[Sec]**

7.2 Membership Matters

Letters advising of termination of membership have been sent to 34 members whose fees are more than one year in arrears. This was followed by letters of Termination of Membership. Some 4 members reacted stating they wished to remain members and would pay. The process would continue for those outstanding for 2019 and now 2020. **[Treasurer, Sec]**

7.3 Audit 2019

- Treasurer to circulate 2019 Audit for signatures of relevant Committee members to finalise. 2020 documents to be sent to Auditors. **[Treasurer]**
- 7.4 Budget 2020
Approved budget affected by cancellation of annual event and possible cancellation of ICOLD support if no ICOLD 2020 attendance. The falling Rand will also result in increase in ICOLD affiliation fees invoiced in Euro which contributed a large proportion of the budget shortfall. After adjustment it appeared that the deficit would be about R300 000 which was close to normal. In the longer term we need to look for growth of income to reduce or avoid deficit. **[Treasurer]**
- 7.5 Financial support for ICOLD 2020.
It is looking less likely that ICOLD New Delhi will take place. The item was removed from the budget. **[Treasurer]**
- 7.6 Request for Advertising
The Secretary had contacted SAICE but further discussions were required. **[Sec]**

8. ICOLD ACTIVITIES

- 8.1 ICOLD Circular Letters
A new circular on the ICOLD Innovation Award 2021 had been circulated. Circulars had been distributed to MC members. Some 5 or 6 abstracts had been received for ICOLD 2021 Congress some of which were not aligned to the questions. Authors had been asked to ensure their papers complied or withdraw. Adjudication committee of LH, Sec and GdJ (for Climate Change/Water Resource) was agreed. **[Sec]**
- 8.2 ICOLD Issues
- 8.2.1 Attendance at ICOLD New Delhi
So far the attendees are unknown except for the 11 committee members who indicated their attendance. It is looking less likely that ICOLD New Delhi will take place. The cut-off date for refunds is 30 October 2020. We need to review attendance by late August. **[Sec]**
- 8.2.2 Representation on ICOLD Committees
WR has replaced Bertrand Collett on the ICOLD Register Committee. Central Office has been advised.
- 8.2.3 SANCOLD Delegation to the GA
SANCOLD voting delegation: QS, HJW, RG/LH and Sec. Central Office to be advised. **[Sec]**
- 8.2.4 Issues for vote at GA.
Previously covered.
- 8.2.5 Important Dates
Nothing new
- 8.2.6 ICOLD 2021 Marseilles
Initial Bulletin has been published.
- 8.2.7 New VP for Africa Region
Nominations will be called to take over the post of VP Africa occupied by Michel Abebe who we nominated previously. We have no candidates identified but must keep this in mind. **[All]**

9. GENERAL

- 9.1 Co-operation with CHINCOLD.

Ongoing. CHINCOLD offered SANCOLD 1000 protective masks. On suggestion of QS we recommended that they be directed to Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital via our Beijing Embassy. We await notification of arrival of the masks. CHINCOLD also offered us the use of Wechat (they can't use Whatsapp) and use of the Chinese Cloud storage. QS to continue discussions with Chinese delegation at New Delhi. **[Chair]**

- 9.2 CHINCOLD 13th Round Table Meeting on Sustainable Development.
We were invited to send a country delegate. To be publicised in Newsletter. **[Sec]**
- 9.3 Co-operation with SAIEG (SAICE Geotech Division).
DGS reported on the joint Tailings initiative. Awaiting finalisation of ICOLD Bulletin then planning to appoint retired individual to incorporate the ICOLD work to update SANS 10286. SAIEG has resigned as corporate member.
Proposal to join Chilean, Brazilian, Canadian and Australian committees for joint conferences/events on tailings issues should be kept in mind. This links to proposals to amend risk criteria for Tailings Dams. Keep on agenda. **[Sec]**
- 9.4 ECSA Code of Practice for the Performance of Engineering Work – Comment.
A request was received from ECSA for comment on their draft document. Sec to distribute to the committee. **[Sec]**

10. DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

14:30 on Thursday 1 October 2020 probably via Zoom.

11. CLOSURE

At 17:55