



**MINUTES OF THE
133rd SANCOLD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
Held on Tuesday 16 February 2021 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
Marco van Dijk		MvD
Michelle Blaeser		MB
Robert Greyling		RG
Louiza van Vuuren		LvV
Guy Robertson		GR
Vicci Schoeman		VS
Janice Zhang		JZ
Duncan Grant-Stuart		DGS
Gerald de Jager		GdJ
Danie Badenhorst		DB
Wally Ramokopa	- joined later	WR
Peter Pyke	Secretary	Sec

Apologies.

Apologies were received from David Cameron-Ellis (DCE) and Henry-John Wright (HJW) – both on a site visit in Zimbabwe

Quorum.

A quorum was present.

3. AGENDA (Amendments and adoption)

The agenda was adopted. Proposed MvD, seconded VS

4. MINUTES OF MC 132

4.1 Amendments

No further amendments.

4.2 Approval

Approved – Proposed RG, seconded DGS. 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 2020

Four candidates stood for the two vacant positions – two candidates for u35 position. Successful candidates were Robert Greyling and Janice Zhang (u35) with a low turnout of only 27 ballots received. Chair congratulated and welcomed them onto MC. It was suggested that we use Google Forms or similar as electronic voting platform in future to simplify the process and encourage more participation. Sec to liaise with HJW for more details. **[Sec]**

The SAICE representative and alternate position still needs to be confirmed. MvD to approach SAICE. **[Sec]**

Similarly, the DWS NWRI branch position was outstanding while the P&R position filled by BM needed renewal for 2021. **[Sec]**

5.2 Co-option of Members to Manco

DGS, GdJ, WR and DB were co-opted to Manco for 2021.

5.3 Election of SANCOLD Vice-Chairperson

Robert Greyling was nominated and elected to Vice-Chair position.

5.4 Election of YPF Chairperson

Louiza van Vuuren was proposed and elected to the YPF Chairperson position.

The Chairman congratulated both people on their election and wished them successful terms of office.

5.5 Extension of contract of Secretary for 2021.

The contract of the Secretary which expired in 2020 was extended for 2021 under the same conditions. We would however need a new Secretary starting in 2022. DB had previously indicated that he might be interested in applying for the position, but now would not be available due to continued work commitments. The Secretary would start advertising for the position towards the middle of the year. Another possibility could be Leon Furstenburg who the Sec could approach. **[Sec]**

5.6 Post of SANCOLD Treasurer

DCE was in the process of emigrating. He has indicated that he is prepared to continue but this could only be considered as an interim measure as it could present problems such as banking and FICA. His offer was gratefully accepted while we seek a replacement. New suggestions required. **[All]**

5.7 Concept Marketing Strategy

RG offered that the Knight Piesold marketing section help SANCOLD develop a Marketing Strategy. Some framework of time and other requirements needed to be prepared. RG to develop framework and consult with QS. **[RG, QS]**

5.8 ECSA accreditation for CPD validation

ECSA changed the method of validating CPD activities. Initially we did not apply as the requirements appeared onerous but SANCOLD has now applied to be able to validate our own CPD activities. ECSA is in the process of vetting applications but does not expect to complete the process for some months.

6. SANCOLD ACTIVITIES

6.1 Programme 2021

The programme was updated for 2021. Some of the items are addressed in the agenda.

6.2 SANCOLD Events

6.2.1 SANCOLD Annual Conference 2021

The information obtained for 2020 can be used for 2021 subject to acceptable quotes from the venue previously selected, The Capital, Menlyn Maine. The Sec had requested Tourvest to also investigate the CSIR Conference Centre as the auditorium could allow greater social distancing. There is no certainty around COVID complications impacting on arrangements. The Heads of Agreement (HoA) with Tourvest was not yet signed. Their quote was R251 658 as opposed to the previous year's quote of R278 271 while the monthly expenditure is lower and spread from April rather than the previous start in June. The lower cost may be due to using a previously identified venue. The terms appeared reasonable and the Secretary could sign the HoA. **[Sec]**

There was a long discussion around the risks, format and need for a conference. Our financial position could still tolerate a loss but the implications of not holding the conference would probably be greater. It was decided that the need existed to hold a conference at which CPD points could be earned and that planning should proceed with advertising and a call for papers for an in-person event but that in parallel, to consider a fall-back electronic event or even postponing later as a last resort. The position could be reviewed if circumstances change.

The postponed ICOLD Marseilles Congress overlaps the originally chosen November dates and a new date of 20-22 October was chosen with an alternate of 27-29 October.

The Conference sub-Committee of MB, RG, VS & GR was confirmed. Louis Hattingh had confirmed that he was still available for consultation although he did not wish to be directly involved. **[MB, RG, VS, GR, Sec]**

6.3 National Flood Studies Programme (NFSP)

MvD reported that there was to be a NFSP meeting 25/26 February. DCE had been monitoring progress but with his leaving we need a new SANCOLD champion to maintain close links to this so that we remain involved. GR and MvD to monitor and report back. **[GR, MvD]**

6.4 SANCOLD Training, APP development & dam safety initiatives

6.4.1 WRC webinar on Climate Change

Louis Hattingh had participated in this for SANCOLD.

6.4.2 Facilitation of APP training

HJW had proposed that SANCOLD promote a system whereby experienced APPs offer opportunities for younger aspirant APPs to join them on dam inspections to gain relevant experience. WR reported that ECSA was considering introducing a programme involving universities and APPs that should include SANCOLD to provide better training for aspirant APPs seeking experience. WR to ensure that SANCOLD is provided with the starter document to enable our participation. **[WR]**

6.4.3 Other Training

This links in with the next point.

QS raised the issue of ownership of material published on other forums and whether it could be reproduced on the SANCOLD website. MvD pointed out that usually ownership resorted with the publisher/conference organiser and that authors would need to obtain permission for the material to be reproduced on the SANCOLD website. Those SANCOLD authors publishing elsewhere were encouraged to obtain this permission to allow this to be shared on the SANCOLD platform subject to space on the

- website. HJW was requested to investigate and report on obtaining these types of permissions. **[HJW]**
- 6.5 Young Person's Forum
 RG reported that he was in the process of handing YPF matters to LvV but that he envisaged that a lecture could be scheduled approx. every second month. QS was available for a talk on Concrete Dams while WR indicated that he could also provide a talk. The YPF could also promote and advertise the SANCOLD Scholarship. LvV to follow up and provide lecture schedule. **[LvV]**
- 6.6 The Development of a Regional Initiative to address sub-Saharan Africa-specific topics.
 No progress. Lockdown due to Covid has adversely impacted all international contact.
- 6.7 Your Dam brochure
 Kelvin Legge reported that he has included more sections of DWS in his team and that he is making good progress and hopes to supply a first draft by the end of February 2021. A review committee would be formed later. **[Sec]**
- 6.8 Ecological Water Reserve brochure
 This was reviewed and close to finalisation. The ISBN number is still to be obtained. The inclusion of the accompanying free software, on website was to be discussed with HJW. **[GdJ]**
- 6.9 Revival of initiative for discussions with new DWS Minister.
 The Secretary approached Trevor Balzer who was working from home due to Covid, the approach was well received and we were requested to forward the previous meeting request directly to his office, which was done. Subsequently Trevor contracted Covid and had been hospitalised. On more recent enquiry, it was learned that he had been discharged from hospital but still very weak and had not returned to work. There had not yet been a reply to our meeting request. WR confirmed that Trevor was still acting DG and that restructuring in DWS would delay any contact with DWS top management.
- 6.10 Updating of SA Register on Large Dams
 WR reported that he received a list from the ICOLD Technical Committee containing 269 names which they are checking against our database.
- 6.11 SANCOLD Position Paper/Guideline for Emergency Action Plan (EAP) and Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP).
 DB reported little progress so far but that DB and GR would consult with Jaretha Lombaard and Cameron Fraser and then report for the next meeting. **[Team]**
- 6.12 Position Paper on Floods
 VS is to consult with DCE and then the NFSP team to ensure alignment of approaches and report at the next meeting. **[VS]**
- 6.13 Improve Definition of Tailings Dam with a Risk
 DG reported that internationally there was a movement away from height and volume criteria for defining risk, following the CDA and ANCOLD Guidelines which rather depend on consequences to define risk. He hoped his committee on amending SANS 10286 would adopt this methodology and that they could later engage with the Regulator to improve the definition of tailings dams with a safety risk. **[DGS]**
- 6.14 Proposed new brochure – Pollution Control Dams
 Secretary reported that Kelvin Legge had offered to generate a new brochure on Pollution Control Dams as he felt there was a gap in current understanding. The offer was gratefully accepted and we look forward to receiving a proposal. **[Sec]**
- 6.15 Guidelines for Freeboard Benchmarking webinar

The issue was a prototype benchmark – to rank the various freeboard methods and how usable they are. Then to put this out and invite input using the various methods. RG would consult with MB the next week. **[RG,MB,DCE]**

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS

7.1 SANCOLD Scholarship 2020 and 2021

The Final Reports of the 2020 Scholarship holders had been circulated to MC members.

There were 8 applicants from 3 universities for the 2021 Scholarship. The adjudication sub-committee recommended that the R100 000 allocation be shared between Jack Basson and Udhav Maharaj. This was approved and the Sec to inform recipients. **[Sec]**

7.2 Membership Matters

Treasurer had just supplied the Secretary with new lists of outstanding membership fees for follow-up which will decrease membership numbers. This highlights the need for strong branding and high visibility for SANCOLD through it's activities. **[Treasurer, Sec]**

7.3 Audit 2020

The 2020 audit has been signed and will be placed on the website. **[Sec]**

7.4 Budget 2021

Concern was expressed at the projected loss with no budget income or expense for Conference provided. Membership income was reduced. The new budget column should read 2021/22 budget. The previously approved budget for Scholarship 2021 was R100 000 not R70 000. Some of the items were discussed and finalised in the meeting for the Treasurer to update. The budget was approved including the increased membership fees. **[Treasurer]**

7.5 Financial support for ICOLD 2020.

After discussion, the budget item for support for ICOLD Congress Marseilles was reduced to from R250 000 to R100 000. Members wishing to request support will be advised to apply before the next Manco meeting. **[Treasurer,Sec]**

7.6 Request for Advertising

The Secretary had contacted SAICE but further discussions were required. **[Sec]**

8. ICOLD ACTIVITIES

8.1 ICOLD Circular Letters

The new Circular Letters from Central Office had been circulated to Manco members.

(Added later: Note that access for new Bulletins for Members has changed and is covered in CL 1954).

8.2 ICOLD Issues

8.2.1 Decisions at ICOLD 2020 New Delhi (Zoom)

Chengdu was chosen over Addis Ababa for the next Congress in 2024. VP positions were unopposed. Changes to long term schedule were made to accommodate New Delhi later in the programme.

8.2.2 Representation on ICOLD Committees

Ivor Segers has been promoted to a position that does not support his continued membership of the ICOLD Dam Safety Committee. He asked to be replaced. Comfort Mahlabela of DWS was nominated in his place. Sec approach Comfort and to advise Central Office if he agrees. **[Sec]**

The Sec also advised that he would retire from the ICOLD Operations and Maintenance Technical Committee at the end of 2021 and a replacement was required.

8.2.3 ICOLD 2021 Marseilles

The dates were changed from June to 12 – 19 November 2021.

8.2.4 New VP for Africa Region

Nominations for this post close on 15 August 2021. SANCOLD has no candidate they wish to nominate.

8.2.5 Important Dates

Nothing further to discuss.

9. GENERAL

9.1 Co-operation with CHINCOLD.

Ongoing. QS to continue discussions with Chinese delegation at next ICOLD meeting. **[QS]**

9.2 Approach by SA Tourism to host ICOLD/SANCOLD event

SA Tourism wishes to boost tourism by supporting national and international events. Specifically, they wished to support events outside major metropolitan areas. This could only work for our national conference as an ICOLD event could not be held outside metropolitan areas due to their better facilities. They suggested we bid for another ICOLD Congress/Annual Meeting. Our ICOLD hosting history was explained and already approved hosting schedule presented. Financial support would be less than that required for an ICOLD event and they were unable to confirm that their finance would not preclude Treasury finance. The interval between ICOLD events in specific countries appeared to be some 12- 20 years. It thus appeared to be a decision to be taken later although we could investigate future SANCOLD Conferences outside metropolitan areas with SA Tourism support. **[Sec]**

9.3 Dam Safety Training offer Bandula Kendaragama

Bandula is a SANCOLD member in Australia who has offered to present Dam Safety courses commercially in South Africa. Although it could offer much needed additional training expertise, there was a danger to SANCOLD reputation to endorse the training without more detailed information specially as it was a commercial venture. The Secretary was tasked to obtain more information on the trainer and the course content. **[Sec]**

9.4 VS mentioned the passing of Theo van Robbroeck and asked if SANCOLD was noting the event. Sec explained that a short obituary would be included in the next SANCOLD Newsletter while an extended article would appear in the SAICE Magazine and also on the SANCOLD website. ICOLD Central Office had been informed and had been supplied with an obituary. SANCOLD's condolences had been sent to the family.

10. DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

14:30 on Tuesday 6 July 2021 probably via Zoom.

11. CLOSURE

At 17:15