



SANCOLD ANNUAL REPORT 2024

OVERVIEW 2024

Activities in 2024 was devoted to local professional training through the hosting of an annual technical conference, a specialist seminar on tailings dams and, through the YPF, hosting of seven training webinars. Internationally, SANCOLD participated in the ICOLD conference and remained active in various of the ICOLD technical committees. SANCOLD retained its ECSA accreditation for CPD validation. Cleaning up the membership database is now up to date.

1. SANCOLD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Henry-John Wright continued as chairperson. Robert Greyling was re-elected as Vice Chairperson for a second term and Janice Zang was re-elected as a YPF representative on MANCO. Ashley Coetzee took over as chairperson of the YPF. The DWS role in MANCO as well as their nominated representatives were agreed with DWS and finalised as shown in the table below. Other portfolios remained as in the previous year.

SANCOLD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: 2024

No	Name	Organisation	Term * of Office	Remarks
1	M Gxamza	DWS (P&I)	2025	Reserved position. Renewed from 2018
2	C Mahlabela	DWS (NWRI)	2025	Reserved position. Appointed from 2017
3	S Kelefetswe	SAICE	2024	Reserved position. Alternate M van Dijk appointed 2021
4	M van Dijk	USAf	2024	Reserved position. Nominated 2020.
5	J du Plessis	Gibb	2025	Elected in 2022 for 3-year term
6	C Starke	DJHA	2025	Elected in 2022 for 3-year term
7	K Naidoo	TCTA	2025	Elected in 2022 for a 3-year term.
8	Ms M Blaeser	ARQ	2025	Elected in 2022 for a 3-year term
9	R Greyling*	Knight Piesold	2026	Elected in 2023 for a second 3-year term. Vice Chairperson
10	Ms J Zhang	Knight Piesold	2026	Elected in 2023 for a 3-year term <35 years
11	G Robertson	Pegasys	2024	Elected in 2021 for a 3-year term
12	Ms A Coetzee Vonkeman	DWS	2024	Elected in 2024 for a 3-year term. YPF Chairperson
13	H-J Wright		2024	Elected in 2021 for a 3-year term. Chairperson
14	G De Jager	GdJ	2024	Co-opted for instream flow requirements
15	A Copeland	Knight Piesold	2024	Co-opted for tailings dams
16	W Ramokopa	DWS	2024	Co-opted for APP training/legislation change
17	D Badenhorst	AECOM	2024	Co-opted for Institutional knowledge
18	L Furstenburg	Contract	2024	Externally appointed Technical Secretary
19	D Cameron-Ellis	Damwatch	2024	Externally appointed Treasurer
20	Q Shaw	ARQ	2025	Past Chairperson and ICOLD VP
21	B Oberholzer	DWS	2024	Webmaster

22	S Masikane	SAIAE	-	Administrative Secretary
23	L Mbambo	SAIAE	-	Administrative Secretary Assistant

Notes:

- The term of office is defined from the year following the November elections – i.e. someone elected in November 2020 will serve on the committee from 2021 to the end of 2023
Administrative Secretary appointed in March 2022.

2. OBJECTIVES FOR 2024

The Management Committee set the following objectives for 2024 at its first meeting held in February 2024:

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

1. Meaningful participation in ICOLD activities.
2. Participate in the ICOLD Congress and Annual Meeting in 2024.
3. Involvement in the region and African Regional Club.
4. Strengthen the functioning of the SANCOLD working groups which relate to our representation on ICOLD Committees.

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

5. Attract additional corporate and individual members.
6. Strengthen the relationship with the DWS Management and Ministry.
7. Monitor progress of scholarship holders.
8. SANCOLD position paper on floods.
9. Preparation of a publication on Pollution Control dams
10. Improvement in the dissemination of SANCOLD and ICOLD publications.
11. Continued interaction with members particularly via the regular SANCOLD News and the website.
12. Update the website and keep it current and promote the sale of advertisements on the website.
13. Targeted marketing of SANCOLD.
14. Promotion of the SANCOLD Young Person's Forum.
15. Identify and prepare for SANCOLD 2024 Annual Conference.
16. Organise short training webinars through the YPF.
17. Dedicated Training Programme to start in 2024.
18. Mentorship initiative to start in 2024.

Pursuit of these objectives is discussed in what follows.

3. MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Both individual and corporate membership increased during 2024. The increase is small and probably due to slow recovery in the industry after Covid. The membership list is now a good representation of the actual situation on the ground. Follow-up on non-payment by both Individual and Corporate Membership remains an ongoing task.

Membership Group	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Corporate	47	51	53	54	52	52	40	46	33	42
Individual	173	197	220	234	248	227	191	223	204	221
Student	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

MANCO elected to introduce a new category of membership for students in 2024. Student membership is free, and it was hoped that such early exposure to SANCOLD would, in time, lead to an increase in individual membership. The table above indicates slow uptake,

probably because of poor marketing at university level. This aspect will receive attention in 2025. Members are requested to encourage colleagues and organisations to join SANCOLD.

4. SANCOLD LOCAL ACTIVITIES

SANCOLD focussed on several local matters during the year, the foremost being:

- Retention of ECSA accreditation for CPD Validation. SANCOLD successfully completed an ECSA audit in October 2023 and SANCOLD achieved renewal of its accreditation in 2024.
- The YPF held seven webinars.
- Launching of the new SANCOLD YPF LinkedIn page (374 followers as of 22 October 2024).
- SANCOLD provided financial support of R75 000 in 2024 to one post-graduate student whose research links into furthering SANCOLD work. New scholarship opportunities have been announced and will be awarded in 2025.
- SANCOLD remains concerned about issues around training of dam professionals. SANCOLD is developing a realistic and workable strategy to assist in this need, in the form of a dedicated training programme. The various role players in the industry will need to work together to address this issue effectively.
- Presenting an International Seminar on Tailings Characterisation and Stability Assessment under the auspices of ICOLD in November 2024.
- Publication of SANCOLD information in local and international journals.
- Upkeeping of the SANCOLD website.
- The *Your Dam* publication has been finalised and SANCOLD issued it in 2024.
- Preparations for the SANCOLD 2024 Annual Conference.

5. SANCOLD YOUNG PERSON'S FORUM

A Young Engineers' Forum in ICOLD was formed in Lucerne in 2012. SANCOLD formed a similar Forum in South Africa which liaises with the ICOLD Forum. Ashley Coetzee is the current Chairperson. Currently, there are over 50 members of the Forum. The Forum is active developing the SANCOLD media profile and with the arranging of training webinars.

6. INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

SANCOLD represents South Africa on the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD). SANCOLD has representation on 16 of ICOLD's 27 Technical Committees. These Committees are a key activity of ICOLD and require much-dedicated effort on the part of the participants. South African Working Groups have been formed for most of these Committees, and the names of the current participants are reflected in the tabulation below.

SA Representatives on ICOLD Committees 2024

No	Committee Name	Term	SA Representative
A	Committee on Computational Aspects of Analysis and Design of Dams	2021-2025	R Cassels
C	Committee on Hydraulics for Dams	2021-2025	H-J Wright
D	Committee on Concrete Dams	2021-2024	Q Shaw (Vice Chairman)
E	Committee on Embankment Dams	2020-2023	D Badenhorst (Vice Chairman)

F	Committee on Engineering Activities Associated with the Planning Process for Water Resources Projects		2019-2022	G de Jager
G	Environment		2021-2024	K Naidoo
H	Committee on Dam Safety		2021-2024	C Mahlabela
J	Committee on Sedimentation of Reservoirs		2021-2023	J Cullis
K	Committee on integrated operation of hydropower stations and reservoirs		2020-2023	E Lillie
L	Committee on Tailings Dams		2020-2025	A Copeland
O	Committee on the Register of Dams & Documentation		2021-2024	W Ramokopa
P	Committee on Cemented Materials Dams		2020-2025	D Cameron-Ellis
Q	Committee on Dam Surveillance		2019-2022	L Hattingh
S	Committee on Flood Evaluation and Dam Safety		2021-2024	J Smithers
T	Ad hoc Committee on prospective and new challenges for dams and reservoir in the 21st century		2020-2023	H Anderson
V	Committee for Hydromechanical Equipment		2019-2022	R van Wyk
Z	Committee on Capacity Building and Dams (<i>Ad Hoc</i> Committee)		2021-2024	V Schoeman

The ICOLD policy of making electronic copies of their publications (Bulletins) available free to members to increase dissemination of the information via the National Committees continues. Members can receive the access code for free downloading of publications from the SANCOLD Secretary. This will enable members to register their own direct access to the ICOLD website. Several SANCOLD members have made use of this facility, and other members are encouraged to make use of this excellent knowledge base.

8. AFRICAN REGIONAL CLUB

The African Regional Club (ARC) meets annually at the ICOLD Annual Meeting.

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Administrative Secretary (SAIAE) has ensured more responsive management of member matters and billing, thus assisting the Treasurer with financial management. SANCOLD continues to provide support to the dam industry through the provision of bursaries and through the hosting of the SANCOLD annual conference and other training seminars. The conference also serves as a source of income for SANCOLD.

Despite our persistent efforts over the past year and a half, the treasury and administrative team struggled to obtain timely and accurate feedback from the 2022 conference organiser. Unfortunately, the financial information provided was insufficient to accurately represent the financial status of the conference. As a result, our auditors have had to issue a qualified audit for the year-end 2023 financials, which include the conference costs. We understand the importance of transparency and accountability, and we are committed to addressing these issues to prevent similar occurrences in the future.

10. CONCLUSION

SANCOLD has had an active year. More can be done, specifically related to training and awareness. SANCOLD always needs volunteers to drive and develop various initiatives to grow the dam industry in Southern Africa.

Dr. Henry-John Wright
Chairperson: SANCOLD
November 2024