

#### **(4)Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka**

## **NETWORK OF ASIAN RIVER BASIN ORGANIZATIONS (NARBO)**

### **Annual Report 2008 - Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka (MASL)**

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## **1. About the organization**

(1) Name of the organization and postal address of the office

*Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka*

(2) The representative of the organization

*Eng H P S Somasiri, Acting Director General of MASL*

(3) Purposes and roles of your organization

### **a) Historical background of the organization**

*The Mahaweli Ganga Development Programme, the largest integrated rural development multi-purpose programme ever undertaken in Sri Lanka, was based on water resources of Mahaweli and allied six river basins. Main objectives were to increase agricultural production, hydro-power generation, employment opportunities, and settlement of landless poor and flood control. The programme originally planned for the implementation over a 35-year period was brought to acceleration in 1979, with incorporation of Mahaweli Authority.*

*The total Mahaweli Project Area covers 39 percent of the whole island, 55 percent of the Dry Zone, and encompasses 60 percent of the irrigable land area of Sri Lanka.*

*The Project is to provide Irrigation water for agriculture and water for domestic use, generate hydro-power for the whole range of agro-based industry in the Mahaweli areas and elsewhere, provide effective flood control and most importantly open up new land for agriculture development.*

*The project comprises five Major Dams; Kotmale, Victoria, Randenigala–Rantambe, Maduru Oya and Moragahakanda which is being constructed now..*

**b) Purposes and roles of the organization**

*The primary task of MASL has been and remains "the improvement of human life in the Mahaweli impacted areas".*

**(4) Outline of the organization**

1) Number of staff - **4670 Nos.**

2) Amount of the annual budget in 2008 – **US \$ 49 million**

3) Organizational chart

*Attached (Attachment 1)*

4) Ongoing projects

*As follows:*

▪ **Moragahakanda & Kaluganga Development Project**

*Moragahakanda & Kaluganga Development Project is the largest reservoir project to be taken up for development under the Mahaweli River Development Programme. A full feasibility study of the Moragahakanda Project combined with the Kaluganga Development Project was completed in 2004 by the Lahmeyer International, in association with the Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau (CECB) of Sri Lanka, United Consulting Group (KUWAIT) and Chuo Kaihatsu Corporation, Japan. The project area is located in the Central and North Central Provinces in Sri Lanka. The investment cost of the project is US \$ 425 million. The Economic Internal Rate of Return (EIRR) is 22%.Kuwait has already provided US\$ 37 million for the detailed designs of the project and JICA, SFD are now committed to co-finance the project.*

▪ **Dam Safety & Water Resources Planning Project (DSWRPP)**

*The Dam Safety & Water Resources Planning Project (DSWRPP) is to be implemented by the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Agrarian Services (MADAS) of the Government of Sri Lanka with the financial assistance from the International Development Association (IDA) of World Bank. The project cost is US\$71.66 million will be implemented within 4 years period from mid 2008. Seven stake holder agencies namely MASL, ID, CEB, NASDB, MD, WRB & DMC are involved with the implementation of the project.*

*The Major Components of the Project are as follows:*

- 1. Dam Safety and Operational Efficiency Improvement*
- 2. Upgrading & Modernizing of Hydro-meteorological Information System (HMIS)*
- 3. Technical Assistance for Multi-sectoral Water Resources Planning:*
- 4. Institutional Development and Capacity Building*

*Improve the development and management of water resources within the country, reduce water-induced hazards to public, and enhance effectiveness of water related investments are the objectives of the Project.*

▪ *Mahaweli System B – Maduru Oya Right Bank Development Project*

*Since the commencement of the project formulation of the Mahaweli Ganga Development Programme various agencies under taken survey of the irrigation potential of the Mahaweli System B – Maduruoya Right Bank Project and found that the project is economically and technically feasible and several funding agencies pledged their support for the development efforts. But, the terrorist activities prevented the commencement of development activities until recently.*

*Now Eastern Province of the country has totally liberated and Government focused on all development work in the province.*

*Development of the East of Sri Lanka in every possible sphere is the main objective. Resettlement and development are vital components of this mission. The GOSL, set up a special programme named 'Negenahira Navodaya' to achieve this task under the Ministry of Nation Building. All the government organizations concerned were assigned to carryout specific functions. In this respect MASL was assigned to implement the development of the Zone 6 of Mahaweli System B, Maduru Oya Right Bank, immediately, in order to commence cultivation in the new lands under medium size commercial farms through funding by the private sector investors. The investors are to be provided with a 20 ha. Farm-Plot with an access to water for cultivation and a motor enable access to the farm plot. Until, the completion of the construction and commissioning of the necessary downstream irrigation infrastructure, prospective farmers can utilize ground water as well as stream flow as water for cultivation and livestock development. At present there is a demand from the investors for land for commercial production of crops, livestock etc. to cater the needs of the local and export markets. The Proposed project would attract the private sector to develop the area as a production base. The participation of the Private Sector in the development process will reduce the financial burden on the GOSL.*

*Present development scenario for immediate development needs of Zone 6 of Mahaweli System B-RB will comprise following specific objectives.*

- *Economic development through commercial farming with the participation of private sector investors.*

- *Utilization of available arable land and water resources.*

*Following are the identified project activities*

- *Preparation of blocking out plans of 20 ha. lots (250 Nos.) for commercial farming*
- *Erection of 2 Nos. Bailey bridges*
- *Construction of access roads of 60 kn.*
- *Staking out of commercial farm lots*
- *Selection of Investors for commercial farming*
- *Alienation of commercial farms*
- *Monitoring and follow up*

#### **Mahaweli System B Consolidation Project**

*With Rs 400 million GOSL funds MASL has undertook design and implementation of remedial work of rehabilitation of Left bank Irrigation System and work is now going on successfully.*

#### **(5) Main events in 2008**

- *Dam Safety & Water Resources Planning Project was officially launched 14<sup>th</sup> August 2008, with the participation of His Excellency President of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.*
- *Organized and Conducted Technical Workshop on “Project Launching of Dam Safety & Water Resources Planning Project” 15-16 August 2008.*

## **2. About NARBO activity**

### **(1) The contact person and organization’s web-site**

- 1) The name, position, phone & fax number, e-mail address of the contact person

*Sudharma Elakanda, phone: 0094-11-2675315, fax: 0094-112691163*

*e-mail: elamrrp@sltnet.lk*

*Dam Safety & Water Resources Planning Project. (DSWRPP)*

- 2) The organization’s website URL (English and local language respectively)

*<http://www.mahaweli.gov.lk>*

### **(2) Activities your organization implemented in 2008 as the member**

- *Attended and actively contributed for the 3<sup>rd</sup> General Meeting of NARBO, 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2008, Solo, Indonesia.*

- *Attended for the Review Workshop on Water Related Disasters in Asia, 6<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> October 2008, Philippine.*
- *Attended for the Workshop on Developing Partnership for Water & climate Change Adaptation, 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> December 2008, Selangor, Malaysia*
- *Four members team from JWA attended to Twinning program in Sri Lanka for 3 weeks period and studied Sri Lankan Water sector thoroughly and submitted a report.*

(3) Resolutions and expectations for NARBO activities in 2008

1) Your organization's resolutions

*No*

2) Expectations of NARBO activities

*Sharing experience among member countries through Training Programmes, Twinning Arrangements, Thematic Workshops, Peer Review of RBO etc., also willing to organization Training Programmes in Sri Lanka too.*

### **3. Questions to RBO members**

(1) Areas which your organization has improved the performance in 2008

*How climate change create impacts on Mahaweli Project and on Food Production Program of Sri Lanka. Understood need of aware more public on this matter and keep all alert on this issue.*

(2) The way in which your organization was able to do so

*After having exposed to some of the NARBO program and internal discussions made us to initiate such actions.*

(3) In what way NARBO has helped your organization

*Sri Lankan NARBO should encourage more & more members to join NARBO and make them exposed to such programs so that they could disseminate the message effectively.*

