

Announcement

Forth Thematic Workshop

on

Water Allocation and Water Rights

Date of workshop	23rd- 26th January, 2007
Recipient Organization	Japan Water Agency (JWA)
Venue	Headquarters of JWA in Saitama City, Japan

Liaison:

Japan Water Agency (JWA)

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Participants:

Participants are to be the "Core Member" of the thematic workshop on water allocation and water rights. **Also, participation is by invitation only.**



1. Background

1.1 Concept of the thematic workshop

NARBO has held the thematic workshop as the new attempt since 2005, which has the following features.

- Pragmatic and practical viewpoints are emphasized.
NARBO mainly consists of water related government agencies and river basin organizations, which are in charge of practical water resources management. Thus, it is desirable to hold the activities that can contribute to the practitioners of water-related organizations. Therefore, pragmatic and practical viewpoint is very important.
- Deep and continuous discussions are intended.
Firstly, in order to achieve an effect of the workshop, two-way communications are strongly recommended. For that purpose, we emphasize the discussions among the participants rather than typical workshop programs such as special lectures. In addition, it is necessary to discuss water-related issues continuously with spending sufficient time because they are often very complex. Therefore, the number of the thematic workshop will be several times against one theme, more than once, in order for the continuous discussion.
- Focused, specific and important themes related to IWRM are taken up.
In order to make discussions deeply, focused and specific themes are desirable, which also should be important ones in implementing IWRM.
- Small scale and simple style are preferable.
In order to make discussions deeply, it is desirable that the scale of the workshop should be small. Therefore, the number of participants per one country will be planned to be limited. Also, we intend to hold as many activities as possible though the financial resources of NARBO secretariat are quite limited. Therefore, the cost per one workshop should be reasonable.

The objectives of the thematic workshop are; (i) sharing information on current status of participating countries, (ii) clarifying the problems in participating countries, and (iii) approaching the way for improvement in cooperation with participants. Also, the number of the thematic workshop will be several times against one theme, more than once, in order for the continuous discussion.

With regard to the thematic workshop, **we attach great importance to the self-reliant effort for problem solving made by participating countries themselves.** In other words, we have to adopt the methods that participants themselves come up with the way for approaching improvement in line with each participant's country's situation. Due to that, participants are strongly recommended not only to make efforts on the workshops but during the interim period between each workshop to make internal discussions. Additionally, workshop outcomes, which will be prepared by participants themselves, are greatly expected to lead to the action plans for water resources management in each participating country.

1.2 Thematic workshop on water allocation and water rights

According to the outcome of the research in 2004, NARBO secretariat recognized that the NARBO members had had keen interest in the issues on water allocation and water rights. Thus, the issues on water allocation and water rights were taken up as the theme of the 1st thematic workshop. This workshop will be planned to be held a total of 4 times in two years, and the expected outcome of each workshop is as follows.

- 1st- To identify the issues in participating countries
- 2nd- To analyze the causes of the issues and suggest the approach to improvement
- 3rd- To review the 1st and 2nd workshop and suggest the approach to improvement
- 4th- To draft the report to make a suggestion

1.3 About 4th workshop

The 4th workshop is the final one of this series, in which we will mainly focus on the presentation of **final action program for approach to improvement of water allocation issues** by each participant. In addition, we plan to hold field trips and some lectures. This time, the Japan Water Agency (JWA) takes the role of the host organization with NARBO secretariat.

2. Workshop program

- Date: 23-26 January, 2007
- Venue: Headquarter of Japan Water Agency
- Expected Participants: The "Core Member" of the thematic workshop on water allocation and water rights
- Approximate agenda
 - Day0 Preparatory meeting among Core Working Group members
 - Day1 Opening Ceremony, Session 1, and special lecture
 - Day2 Session 2 and Field trip
 - Day3 Field trip
 - Day4 Session 2, Session 3, Presentation from Japan, Closing Ceremony
- Sessions
 - Session 1 Situation of internal discussion and dissemination
 - Session 2 Presentation on final action program
 - Session 3 Session for revision of drafted action program
- Field Visit
 - Day 2
 - (PM) Tone Canal Control Center
 - Day 3
 - (AM) Tonegawa Lower Reach Comprehensive Operation and Maintenance Office
 - (PM) Chiba Canal Comprehensive Operation and Maintenance Office
- Special Lecture
 - Case study of improving water issue, taking the experience on Aichi Canal as an

example

Transportation

This time, NARBO secretariat recommends that participants should take the Limousine Bus System from Narita Airport to the workshop Venue, Saitama City. We can arrive in the workshop venue directly by that system. It takes approximate 2 hours from the airport to Saitama City by bus and the arrival bus station name is "Saitama Shintoshin" which is final destination of the line. Detailed information on how to access from Narita airport to Saitama Shintoshin and the time table of the bus are available from the following URL.

<http://www.narbo.jp/narbo/guide/access.htm>

Hotel

Rafre Saitama HOTEL

3-2 Shintoshin, Chuoku, Saitama-City, Saitama, 330-0081 Japan

TEL: 048-601-1111

FAX: 048-600-5501

E-mail: syukuhaku@rafre.co.jp

URL: <http://www.rafre.co.jp/>

After arriving at Saitama Shintoshin bus station, you can go to the hotel for 15 min on foot according to the access map sent to all the participants with e-mail on Dec 20th, 2006. Also, if you call JWA office (048-600-6553) before getting on the bus at the airport, JWA staff will pick up you at Saitama Shintoshin bus station.

Training Fees

For implementation of this activity, the following expenditures to NARBO members, especially for Government organization and RBO members from oversea can be supported from NARBO secretariat and resource organizations in case participants from Southeast and South Asia hope. The self-financing by participants is highly expected.

- 1) Airfare of international flight for participants from oversea (Between Narita Airport and the nearest international airport of participants), if participant needs them,
- 2) Accommodation fee (actual cost) and per diem (2,400 JPY per day) if he/she needs them,
- 3) Airport transportation (5,500 JPY (round-trip)), internal transportation (actual cost) and miscellaneous expenses (\$40), if he/she needs it.

(Note: The above fees on airport transportation and per diem are special cases in expensive countries.)

Chilly Weather in Japan

The NARBO workshop will be held in January in Japan and January is in the middle of the

The logo for NARBO (Network of Asian River Basin Organizations) features the word "NARBO" in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly shadowed and set against a blue background that includes a stylized globe or circular pattern.A horizontal banner with a blue background and a wavy, water-like pattern. On the left side, there are three small, square inset photographs showing people in various settings, possibly related to river management or community activities. The text "Network of Asian River Basin Organizations" is written in a pink, sans-serif font across the right portion of the banner.

Network of Asian River Basin Organizations

winter season in Japan. Normally, the climate in Saitama City, the venue of the workshop in the JWA's headquarters, is very cold and dry with an average temperature at 3.7 degree Celsius and an average rainfall of 26mm. Please make sure that all participants bring warm jakctets, scarfs, gloves and others that will keep you warm as well as medicines and throat candy to prevent a cold .

Remarks

NARBO secretariat requires participants attending the pre-meeting at 19:30 on Jan 22nd in JWA HQs. Please come to the lobby of the hotel at 18:45. JWA staff will take you from the hotel to the venue.