

### 3. Records of activities

#### (1) Table of activities

Date	Activity Contents
February 2004	- The 1st NARBO General meeting was held in Indonesia. - The Workshop on IWRM was held in Indonesia.
April 2004	- Website was opened - Newsletter No.1 was issued
July 2004	- NARBO Secretariat participated the 2nd APHW (Asia Pacific Association of Hydrology and Water Resources) conference in Singapore. -NARBO Secretariat participated the Third South Asia Water Forum in Bangladesh
July-August 2004	-The First NARBO Training Course on IWRM was held in Thailand.
August 2004	- NARBO Website Meeting was held in Thailand.
October 2004	- NARBO Secretariat Meeting was held in Indonesia.
November 2004	- NARBO Benchmarking Workshop and Overall Session was held in Indonesia. -Twinning program between JWA and Indonesia NARBO was concluded in Indonesia.
December 2004	- Mr. Sukrasno, who was appointed from Chairperson of NARBO, participated International Conference on IWRM

#### (2) Website <URL: <http://www.narbo.jp>>

The website was opened in April 2004 in light of the importance of providing information, update, reminders about NARBO's activities, access to other websites, publications, case studies, electronic newsletters, guidelines and sourcebooks, on-line libraries and on-line forum for exchange of views. The website is managed by JWA in collaboration with ADB and ADBI and updated on regular basis.

To improve the website, the workshop on design and implementation was held in Bangkok in August 2004 and the contents of the website was renewed in December 2004 based on the discussion in the workshop.

**Note:** Website was fully renewed in January 2005

The database was opened partly and the search function was added in April 2005



NARBO Website

### (3) Newsletter

Newsletter is recognized as another useful vehicle for NARBO activities along with website and JWA is in charge of newsletter. In the same manner, members' positive involvement regarding information gathering is essential. JWA has issued the preparatory, the first, the second and the third issue in February, April, August and December 2004, respectively. All newsletters were posted on NARBO website to make it possible for all members to see easily and also distributed to all members by e-mail. Topics in each issue are as follows.

#### - Preparatory Issue

"High Expectations of Asian Countries toward the Establishment of NARBO"

#### - First Issue

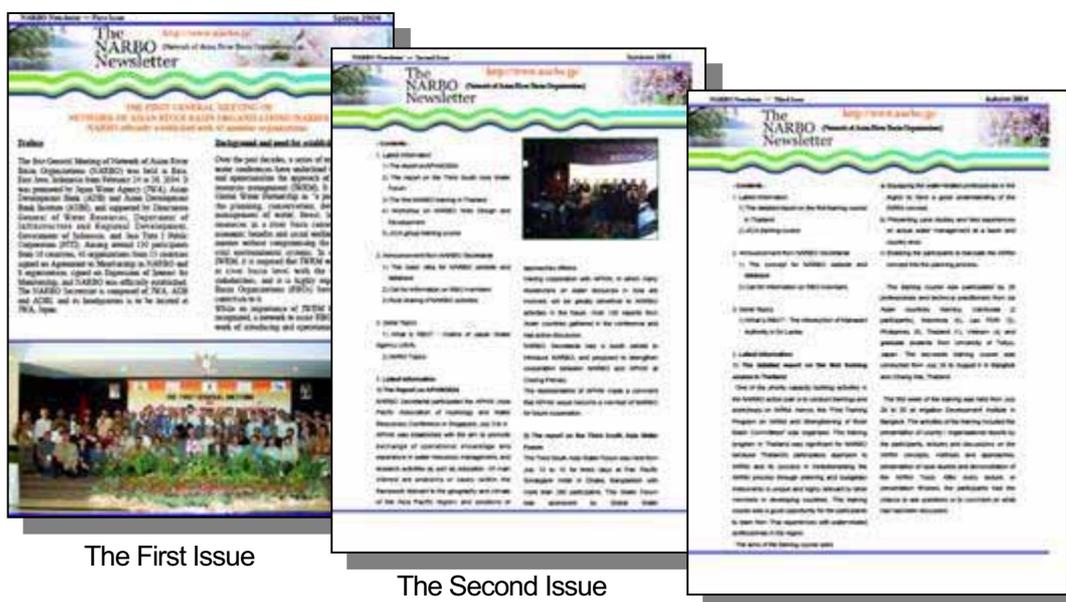
"The First General Meeting of Network of Asian River Basin Organizations (NARBO)"

#### - Second Issue

"The report on APHW 2004", "The report on the Third South Asia Water Forum", "The First NARBO training in Thailand", "Workshop on NARBO Web Design and Development", "What is RBO ? :Outline of Japan Water Agency (JWA)" (Serial Topics)

#### - Third Issue

"The detailed report on the first training course in Thailand", "The concept for NARBO website and database" and "What is RBO ? : The introduction of Mahaweli Authority in Sri Lanka" (Serial Topics)



The First Issue

The Second Issue

The Third Issue

About all back issues, please refer to Appendix 7.

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## **(4) Workshops**

### **1) IWRM workshop**

This workshop was held as the part of the First General Meeting program. After NARBO's Constitutional Body had been selected. At this workshop, NARBO Action Plan was discussed and participants exchanged opinions on the basis of presentations made by appointed speakers from RBOs, governmental agencies and knowledge partners. The IWRM workshop consisted of three parts: the plenary session on the theme of "IWRM Framework and Implementation".

"IWRM Framework and Implementation" on the first day. Parallel sessions on the theme of "National Framework and Implementation" and "RBO's Experiences to Implement IWRM", followed by a plenary session to discuss the proposal for the NARBO Action Plan on the second day. NARBO Action Plan for 2004 - 2005 (Draft) was proposed, focusing on the following three main issues and activities in response to the results of the workshop.

### **2) Workshop on NARBO Website Design and Development**

The workshop was held on August 7 and 8 for two days in Bangkok just after the First training course. 16 participants came from JWA, ADB, IWMI, IRRI (International Rice Research Institute) and 5 RBO

countries. In the workshop, 6 chunks and their contents were decided and JWA announced that they would make continuous efforts to develop better website with cooperation from participants.



Photo 8. Presentation from the secretariat



Photo 9. Discussion on necessary contents

### **3) Members' meeting**

The members' meeting was held on the occasion of the benchmarking workshop in Indonesia in November 2004. At this meeting, they discussed 4 items below.

a. Portfolio of Water Actions (PWA) and commission on Sustainable Development (CAD13) by Mr. Yoshio Tokunaga, Deputy Director of Water Resources Department, Director of Water Resources Department,

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport Japan.

b. Brief Report of NARBO Activity after General Meeting

c. Toward the IWRM conference in Japan dated 7th Dec. 2005 (Consultation of the presentation from NARBO) as like a first message to the World from.

d. Explanation of meaning of submission of report, informed by letter in advance, for

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the NARBO's future activity on sourcebook.

#### **4) Secretariat meeting**

Several meetings were held in Bangkok, Thailand in March, Bangkok and Chiang Mai, Thailand in July-August, in Malang, Indonesia in November and Tokyo, Japan in December 2004 in line with workshops, training course etc.

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## (5) The First Training Course on IWRM

The First training course on IWRM was held in Bangkok and Chiang Mai from July 26 to August 6 in Thailand with a great contribution from Thailand Water Resources Association (TWRA). The training course consisted of two parts. The former was held in Bangkok from July 26 to July 31 and consisted of lectures. The latter one was held in Chiang Mai from August 2 to August 6 and consisted of many site visits.



Photo10. At the lecture (Bangkok)

There were twenty participants from Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Philippines and Indonesia and lectures came from Japan, Thailand (TWRA), Indonesia (JASA TIRTA), Korea (KOWACO) and a various International Agencies (MRC, IUCN, IWMI and UNESCAP). All participants learned and worked very hard every day.

Especially in Chiang Mai, as participants went out to visit the sites in the morning and



Photo11. Group presentation (Chiang Mai)

got back to the hotel in the evening and had discussions and worked on individual

assignments and group assignments (five groups). On the last day of training in Chiang Mai, all participants made presentations about their assignments and each group also did the same thing. After all presentations finished, according to the rating by secretariat, three individuals and one group were awarded.



Photo12. At site visit (At Mae Kuang Dam, Chiang Mai)

**About the detailed program, please refer to Appendix 8.**

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## (6) Benchmarking activity

### 1) Introduction

ADB and IWMI are in charge of benchmarking. Benchmarking has been defined a "a systematic process for securing continual improvement through comparison with relevant and achievable internal or external norms and standards"(Malano & Burton, 2001). The overall aim of benchmarking is to improve an organization's performance as measured against its mission and objectives. Benchmarking implies comparison - either against similar organizations, or organizations performing similar functions or processes. With the relatively rapid adoption of River Basin Organizations (RBO) as the key institutional

element supporting the adoption and implementation of integrated water resources management (IWRM) in Asian river basins, there is a demand for systematic methods for identification of best practices in basin management. NARBO supports the expansion of RBO and IWRM principles in the region. The Framework for NARBO Action Plans (2004-2005) identifies Performance Benchmarking as one of the priority activities for the network. Therefore, the first benchmarking meeting was held on November 29 and 30 at Batu-Malang, East Java, Indonesia with 55 participants from 11 countries.

### 2) Members' workshop

The workshop achieved its objective of having a shared vision of benchmarking for RBOs, an agreed set of performance indicators, and a set of RBOs wanting to pilot the benchmarking approach, including a peer review process

#### a) Benchmarking System Design

The workshop outputs would be used as basis for developing the benchmarking system.

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) Bangkok office would develop the guidelines and format for the benchmarking system.

#### b) Benchmarking Pilots

Eleven NARBO members agreed to serve as pilots for the benchmarking program. They would meet again in the first quarter of 2005 to discuss further the benchmarking system design and plan of action. The eleven volunteers are as follows.

RBOs	Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka
	Bang Pakong River Basin	Thailand
	Jasa Tirta I Public Corporation	Indonesia
	Jasa Tirta II Public Corporation	Indonesia
	Laguna Lake Development Authority	Philippines
	Red River Basin Organization	Viet Nam
Gov. Org.	Jeneberang River Basin Project	Indonesia
	Balai PSDA Jragung-Tuntang	Indonesia
	Dep. of NRE, Dong Nai Province	Viet Nam
	Ping River Basin	Thailand
	KOWACO	Korea



Photo13. Facilitators at the session



Photo14. Group photo

## (7) Twinning program

### 1) JWA and Indonesian NARBO

The MOU and agreement were concluded as a first case of the twinning program between JWA and Indonesian NARBO on November 29 at benchmarking workshop and overall session.

In the launching ceremony, persons as representative of both sides exchanged the MOU and others. After the reading and exchange of (1) MOU, (2) Agreement of exchange of personnel on Twinning program between JWA & PJT I & PJT II, and

(3) Agreement of exchange of information on Twinning program between Indonesian NARBO and JWA, Ir. Sukrasno, Mr. Ota and Dr. Ir. Basuki gave congratulation speech to all participants from many members attending the workshop.

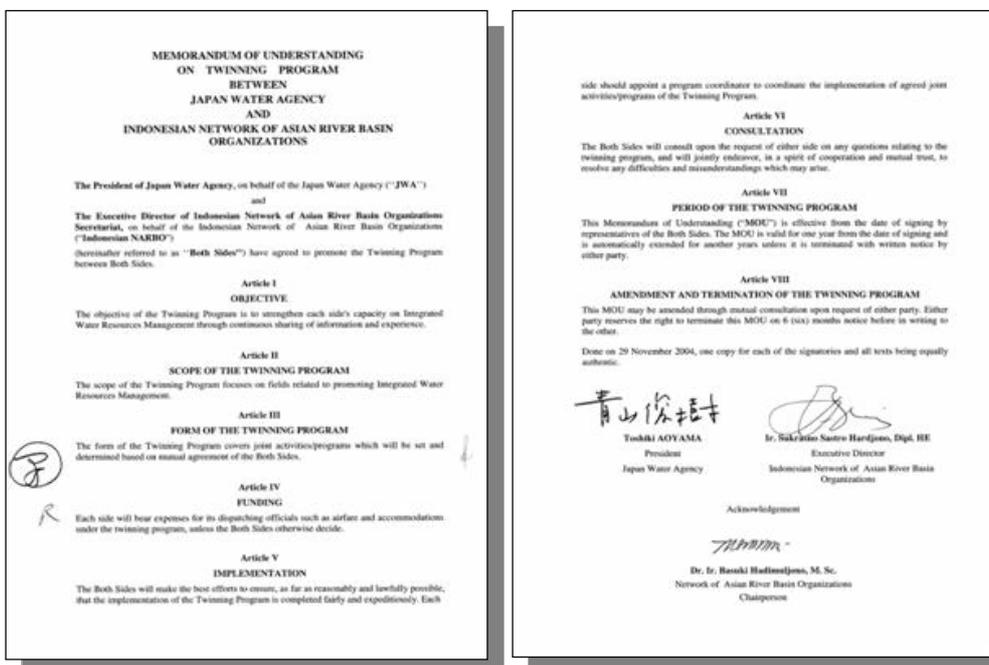
Based on (2), Two JWA staff will be dispatched to Jasa Tirta I and Jasa Tirta II for three months from April 2005 to enhance the ability on IWRM.



Photo 15. Exchange MOU between Mr.Ota and Mr.Sukrasuno



Photo 16. Dr.Basuki gives congratulation speech



Signed memorandum of understanding

About the full size of the memorandum of understanding, please refer to Appendix 9.

## 2) KOWACO and Indonesian NARBO

After the signing program between JWA and Indonesian NARBO, another twining

program between KOWAKO and Indonesian NARBO was launched on December 15 2004.

## (8) Public relation activities

### 1) The Third South Asia Water Forum

The Third South Asia Water Forum was held from July 13 to 15 for three days in Dhaka, Bangladesh with more than 250 participants. The keynote speech titled "What's NARBO -Process to its establishment and goal-" was made by NABO Secretariat at "River Basin

Organization/Area Water Partnership" session on July 14. The secretariat also distributed NARBO newsletters and advertised NARBO. During the forum, some of the participants asked him what to do to become its member.



Photo17. Presentation by NARBO Secretariat



Photo18. Exhibition for NARBO promotion

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## 2) The Second Conference of APHW

It is very important for NARBO activities to work closely with APHW which was formed in September 2002 by researchers who are studying on water resources in Asian region. About 150 experts from Asian region gathered at the conference and had heated discussions.

At the conference, NARBO Secretariat

placed the booth for the exhibition and made the presentation about NARBO and proposed to strengthen the tie with APHW at the closing plenary. APHW representative said that APHW would become a NARBO member and do its activities hand in hand.

## 3) The International Conference on IWRM

The conference was held in Tokyo from December 6 to 8 for three days 2004. At the plenary session on December 7, Mr. Sukrasno Sastro Hardjono, who was appointed from Chairperson of NARBO, gave the presentation "New Network of IWRM for Asia - Network of Asian River Basin Organizations". In the presentation, he pointed out that "Asian countries absolutely have important roles and responsibility toward the resolution on water management in the World.



Photo 19. Presentation by Mr. Sukrasno

**About the whole his speech, please refer to Appendix 10.**

## 4. Efforts for information collection

NARBO Secretariat distributed the questionnaire to attempt to collect members' information on the occasion of the benchmarking workshop in Indonesia in November. Other than this effort, the secretariat

sometimes e-mailed questions to members on specific items to collect information. The results of these questionnaire and questions are expected to open to members on website at the proper occasion.