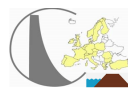


## EURCOLD Working Group on Levees and Flood Defences -progress report-

For the 2017 Annual Meeting of the  
ICOLD European Club  
July 2017, Prague

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## Terms of Reference

(as submitted after Stavanger meeting 2015):

Produce a report (or set of reports) on at least one of the following general topics:

- Overview of facts on levee and flood protection structures / systems (number of levees, protected area/population, recent failures, governance, ...);
- Documenting similarities and differences between large dams, small dams and levees (best practices, failure mechanisms, ...) taking into context into account;
- System approach of dams and levees: How do upstream dams and downstream levees interact in terms of their presence, requirements, safety and operation;
- Identifying topic areas not yet covered by the International Levee Handbook (ILH):
  - topics where ILH extensions could have large added value for dam practitioners;
  - topics requiring further study under the umbrella of levees.

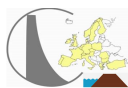
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## Membership status

- Current member countries: Czech Republic, England, Finland, France, (Hungary), Italy, Germany, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain and Switzerland.
- 38 individual members
- With the support of individual contacts in these countries, we are exploring whether Belgium, Ireland and possibly Russia too are willing to become members (need actual contact and agreement with the national committees).
- A close link is maintained with the USSD Levee Committee and USA Levee Safety Coalition.
- A link is also established with the "Small Dams" group within ICOLD
- Links are beginning to take shape with: Australia, Canada, and Korea

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## Working Group Progress

- Our WG meeting during the FLOODrisk2016 conference was a success with 29 attendants from 10 countries. WG activities and also technical presentations were at the program.
- The "levee and flood risk situation" report is well advanced: 10 countries have now submitted a detailed chapter.
- The "dams/levees comparison" report has well started, with a drafting workshop held in the Netherlands in January 2017. We now must move from the scoping phase to the writing phase.
- A web site has been launched, presenting information put online by the web master, but also has potential for interactivity for WG members and web site subscribers.
- A newsletter has been launched (first issue February 2017).

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## ICOLD Prague meeting

- Next Working Group meeting Friday 7 July in Prague (ICOLD meeting) – thanks to CZ members and organization committee
  - Morning will be a formal WG meeting
  - Afternoon will be a workshop
  - We expect a large attendance, including representatives from national committees not (yet) being members
  
- Thanks to a joint action from the F, NL, USA national committees and EurCOLD President, a letter was sent to ICOLD bureau and a Circular was sent to national committees to answer a survey and to propose a levee technical committee in ICOLD. The matter will be submitted to a vote during the General Assembly on 07 July.

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## Further outlook

- Meetings
  - Hopefully a specific workshop for initiating the dams/levees comparison report writing phase before end of 2017
  - Perhaps, an additional formal meeting before the Vienna ICOLD congress
- Reflections on "moving on" from EurCOLD WG to ICOLD TC, or keeping the EurCOLD WG active (???)
- Key activities
  - During the Vienna congress:
    - We hope to present a final draft version of the "levee situation" report
    - We also hope to present a well advanced draft version of the "Comparison of Levees and Dams" report
    - We hope that Levees will be recognized in ICOLD as a permanent and visible topic
  - Keep on promoting the WG activities and levees CoP through our web site and newsletter

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