

**Initial Meeting Regarding 4-Lateral
Exploration of Risk-Based Approaches / Standards**

**March 20, 9 – 12 am
Hilton Istanbul, Istanbul, Turkey**

Minutes

Attendants (see Annex)

1) Welcome.

Mr Adachi (MLIT) appreciated this 4 lateral initiative to explore approaches to risk based flood management, particularly in view of climate change. He hoped that exchanging experiences is beneficial for all.

Mr. Stockton referred to a 4-lateral initiative within USA, in which USGS, NOAA, USACE and Bureau of Reclamation developed a Climate change adaptation strategy. The resulting report is available for the attendants.

2) Opening

All participants introduced themselves, Mr. Pietrowsky chaired the meeting.

3) ToR

The draft ToR was discussed; a revised version will be circulated. Remarks have to be send to Jos van Alphen before April 10.

It was agreed to establish a common “working site” on internet. Mr. Terakawa offered to make a project-site on the IFI (International Flood Initiative¹) portal, USACE offered assistance. Main purpose is to facilitate the exchange of documents and presentations..

Participants agreed to perform initial work as a group drawn from the participating countries; as work develops, later consideration can be given to whether or not the resulting document might be of interest for publication under other auspices (for example, through UNESCO or IFI.)"

4) Presentations and common themes

Mr. Okazumi, Van Alphen, Rooke and Stockton presented the status and developments of flood risk management in their countries. The presentations will be made available on the common working site. Common elements are:

- Demand for basic and common protection level for every citizen vs. demand for spatial differentiation because of economic values to be protected;
- How to make casualties, disruption, loss of cultural heritage explicit in risk based approach;
- Risk communication: be open without causing fear;

¹ In IFI participate WMO, UNESCO, UN University, ISDR, IAHS and IAHR..

- How to maintain structural attention and budget for flood risk management measures and maintenance;
- How to prioritize structural and non-structural measures in specific areas, considering differences in physical, social and economic setting;
- How to deal with uncertainties in data, knowledge, model computations and future developments in land use and climate.

5) Next steps and concluding remarks

It was concluded that this 4-lateral initiative may have added value to existing bilateral collaborations, should strengthen them, without interfering. The Netherlands will make a final decision regarding continued participation, based on the outcome of this meeting.

Japan/MLIT offered to organize an expert meeting in September 2009, USACE another one mid 2010 and UK/EA a third one. Maybe an additional meeting is necessary between September 2009 and mid 2010. The initiative should be finalized in 2011, results can be presented at ICFM, autumn 2011 in Japan.

The next meeting should focus on the, more in depth, exchange of background and experiences with the flood risk management approaches in the participating countries, highlighted by max. 2 case studies per country (one for coastal and one for riverine areas), and resulting in a long list of “best practices”.

Annex 1: Attendants

- Mr. Toshiyuki Adachi, director River Planning Division, River Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), Japan
- Mrs. Lisa Bourget, USACE (by telephone)
- Koh-ichi Fujita, Research Coordinator for Environmental Affairs, Environment Department, NILIM, Japan
- Mrs. Jeanne Major, US Bureau of Reclamation
- Mr. Toshio Okazumi, director International Water Management Coordination, River Bureau, MLIT, Japan
- Mr. Bob Pietrowsky, Director of the Institute for Water Resources, USACE, USA
- Mr. David Rooke, Head of Flood Risk Management, Environmental Agency, UK
- Mr. Steven Stockton, Director of Civil Works, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Mr. Akira Terakawa, deputy director ICHARM, Japan
- Mr. Hiroshi Tomari, Director for River Planning Coordination Office, River Bureau, MLIT, Japan
- Mr. Jos Van Alphen, Rijkswaterstaat Center for Water Management, Netherlands