

Hundred and seventy-first session

171 EX/11
PARIS, 17 March 2005
Original: English

Item 12 of the provisional agenda

**PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR WATER HAZARD AND
RISK MANAGEMENT (UNESCO-ICHARM) IN TSUKUBA, JAPAN
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO**

SUMMARY

As a response to the worldwide need to properly prepare for and react to water-related disasters, the Government of Japan announced at the 32nd session of the General Conference that it was studying the possibility of creating an international water-related risk mitigating centre under the auspices of UNESCO. After a number of preparatory activities in the ensuing two years, including the presentation of a proposal to UNESCO, the Government of Japan prepared a submission to the 16th session of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP, September 2004) which adopted a decision welcoming the proposal and requesting the IHP secretariat to lend assistance in the preparation of a submission to UNESCO.

The present document consists of a report by the Director-General assessing the proposal, supplemented by an annex containing IHP Intergovernmental Council Resolution XVI-4; an addendum to the present document will contain the draft agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Japan, and – for information purposes – the draft agreement between UNESCO and the Public Works Research Institute (PWRI) which will operate the Centre.

Decision proposed: paragraph 26.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Government of Japan has proposed the establishment of an International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) in Japan under the auspices of UNESCO (category II). This document outlines the background, nature of the proposal and foreseen consequences of the creation of the Centre, especially with regard to the benefits to Member States, the international community, and its relevance to UNESCO's programmes. A decision of the Executive Board at its 171st session is now sought concerning the proposed establishment of the Centre under the auspices of UNESCO based on the endorsement made by the 16th session of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) Intergovernmental Council (see Annex).

2. Water-related disasters such as floods, surges and landslides are major challenges that need to be overcome in order to realize sustainable development and alleviate poverty. Water-related disasters of devastating magnitude have been occurring in various locations of the world. It is not only their number that has been increasing, but also the extent of their damages and impact in recent years. This is due to highly concentrated populations and assets in urban areas and the higher value of assets, specifically those of high-tech nature.

3. Developing risk management measures against water-related disasters, especially those caused by the extreme water events, has been emphasized on numerous occasions at international conferences. Implementation plans highlighting the need to mitigate the effects of droughts and floods were adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) (Johannesburg, South Africa, 2002). In 2003, at the Third World Water Forum (WWF3) in Kyoto, Shiga, and Osaka, Japan, discussions were carried out focusing on how risk management measures must be in place in preparation for water-related disasters. A ministerial declaration was also presented on the need for comprehensive efforts to prevent water-related disasters.

4. IHP has been always at the forefront in addressing these issues in a coordinated manner. Recently, in the Strategic Plan for the 6th Phase of IHP (IHP-VI, 2002-2007), Focal Area 2.1 "Extreme event in land and water resources management" addresses developing a framework for reducing ecological and socio-economic vulnerability to hydrological extremes (floods, droughts, mud flows, ice jams). In the Strategic Planning of the 7th Phase of IHP (IHP-VII, 2008-2013), the proposed Focal Area 1.2 "Hydrological extremes in sensitive and stressed biomass and hydroclimatic zone" will encompass the risk management measures against the extreme hydrological events.

5. The launch of a joint UNESCO/World Meteorological Organization (WMO) International Initiative on Floods was recommended at the 15th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council (17-22 June 2002) with the aim of strengthening the United Nations system capacity to contribute to flood damage mitigation. Later, the United Nations University (UNU), the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), the International Association of Hydrological Science (IAHS), and others joined the programme and its name was changed to the International Flood Initiative/Programme (IFI/P). The programme intends to contribute greatly to meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

6. In this context, Japan, as the host of the Third World Water Forum, pledged to make tangible contributions to mitigate water-related disasters in the world and proposed the establishment of an international Centre under the auspices of UNESCO, with the mission to take on "water hazard and risk management measures", a key challenge that will require continuous efforts into the future. It is proposed that the Centre be hosted by the Public Works Research Institute (PWRI), (Tsukuba, Japan) that has distinguished itself by implementing multifaceted technology research and

development related to water management including water-related disaster countermeasures. The IHP Bureau at the 35th session suggested that the planned Centre should serve as the global facility responsible for the aforementioned IFI/P.

BACKGROUND

7. For the past two years, a considerable number of consultations have been carried out among the Government of Japan, PWRI and the IHP secretariat, the first of which was held in June 2003. These bodies have undertaken a number of preparatory activities in close collaboration with other related international institutes and organizations in order to understand international needs and reflect them in the proposed plan and activities of the Centre.

8. In July 2003, representatives of PWRI participated in the meeting on Strategies, Actions and Coalitions in Water Education and Capacity-building held in Delft, Netherlands, to discuss interlinkage with UNESCO-IHE and category II IHP centres. Around the same time, a PWRI internal preparatory task force as well as a decision-making organ inside the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MLIT) of the Government of Japan was established.

9. At the 32nd session of the UNESCO General Conference in October 2003, the Japanese delegation stated that they were studying the possibility of establishing a water-related risk mitigation centre at the PWRI under the auspices of UNESCO. This proposal was warmly welcomed by the UNESCO Secretariat. In October 2003, a second consultation meeting between the Government of Japan, PWRI and the IHP Secretariat was held in Tsukuba, Japan.

10. At the UNESCO-IHP Regional Steering Committees for South-East Asia and the Pacific meeting from 14 to 18 October 2002 and the regional IHP meeting in Latin America and the Caribbean held on 18 and 19 November 2003, resolutions were adopted calling for strong support to the establishment of the Centre.

11. From 20 to 22 January 2004, PWRI organized a technical workshop on water hazards and risk management, during which the scope of the proposed Centre and its activities were discussed. On 22 January 2004, a special brainstorming session was organized to ascertain the experts' vision on the direction of the Centre. The valuable comments and suggestions provided by the experts at the workshop were compiled as a summary report, which would provide a basis for the functioning of the centre. On 23 January 2004, an open international symposium, sponsored by PWRI, MLIT and UNESCO, was held to discuss approaches to carrying out water hazard and risk management. The role of Japan in that field was also discussed. The symposium attracted as many as 200 participants, including researchers from overseas, which demonstrated the high level of interest and expectations for the Centre.

12. In March 2004, a representative of PWRI participated in the risk management workshop of the World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) held in Geneva, and discussed a possible cooperation with WMO, ISDR and other United Nations entities stationed in Geneva.

13. At the 36th session of the IHP Bureau (Paris, 31 March-2 April 2004), the representatives of MLIT and PWRI made a presentation on the planning for the establishment of the Centre. The Bureau welcomed the proposal and recommended it for consideration by the forthcoming IHP Intergovernmental Council in September 2004. The IHP Bureau also endorsed the Centre as the global facility responsible for the IFI/P, as well as for other water-related natural hazards.

14. In April 2004, a secretariat for preparatory activities of the proposed Centre was established in PWRI. The construction of the office/facility whose expected space is 2,000 m² started in July 2004, and will be completed in autumn 2005.

15. The first preparatory meeting of the IFI/P was hosted by the ICHARM preparatory secretariat at PWRI, Tsukuba, Japan from 12 to 14 July 2004 and a concept paper was produced which later was submitted to the IHP Intergovernmental Council at its 16th session (Paris, 20-24 September 2004).

16. The Chief Executive of the PWRI submitted the proposal for the establishment of the Centre at the 16th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council (Paris, 20-24 September 2004). Many member states expressed strong support for this proposal and a resolution (IHP/XVI-4) to support the establishment of the Centre was adopted.

17. On 8 and 9 November 2004, the WWAP workshop “Drafting the Second World Water Development Report (WWDR-II)” was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. The PWRI contributed to the development of the indicator in the risk management chapter.

18. A great deal of preparatory activities to establish the Centre have been carried out and the planned start of the Centre in 2005 fits well within the first year of the United Nations Decade on Water for Life (2005-2014) as well as the United Nations Decade on Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014). Therefore, a decision of the UNESCO Executive Board at its 171st session is now requested, which will be forwarded as a recommendation to the General Conference of UNESCO which will consider the proposal at its 33rd session in October 2005.

CONSIDERATION OF THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROPOSED CENTRE

Overview of the proposal

19. The Government of Japan has endeavoured in its proposal to address in detail the requirements specified in document 21 C/36, “Principles and Guidelines for the Establishment of International and Regional Centres under UNESCO’s Auspices” as well as the criteria presented in document 167 EX/16 “Report by the Director-General on a Comprehensive Strategy for Relations with Institutes and Centres under the Auspices of UNESCO and Those Loosely Associated with UNESCO”.

- (a) Objectives: The objective of the Centre is to conduct research, capacity-building and information networking activities in the field of water-related hazard and risk management at the local, national, regional and global level in order to prevent and mitigate the impacts of such hazards and thus to achieve sustainable and integrated river basin management.
- (b) Functions: The functions of the Centre shall be:
 - (i) to promote scientific research and to undertake effective capacity-building activities at the institutional and professional levels;
 - (ii) to create and reinforce networks for the exchange of scientific, technical and policy information among institutions and individuals;
 - (iii) to develop and coordinate cooperative research activities, taking advantage particularly of the installed scientific and professional capacity of the International

Hydrological Programme (IHP) networks, World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP), the IFI/P, and the relevant programmes of non-governmental organizations, international institutions and networks;

- (iv) to conduct international training courses for practitioners and researchers on a global level;
 - (v) to organize knowledge and information transfer activities including international symposia or workshops, and to engage in appropriate awareness-raising activities targeted at various audiences including the general public;
 - (vi) to develop a strong programme of information and communication technology;
 - (vii) to provide technical consulting services;
 - (viii) to produce technical publications and other media items related to the activities of the Centre.
- (c) Structure and legal status: The Centre shall be established as a part of PWRI and be operated under the responsibility of its Chief Executive, with the support of an Advisory Board. PWRI is an Incorporated Administrative Agency established under Japanese law, which enjoys on the territory of Japan the personality and legal capacity to exercise its functions. The Centre will be established as a hub for research, capacity-building and information networking activities on water hazard and risk management at local, national, regional and global levels and will cooperate with universities, research centres and other governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to implement its activities. Its structure would involve:
- (i) Advisory Board: An Advisory Board for the Centre shall be established. Six members of the Advisory Board representing the six IHP regions shall be elected by the IHP Intergovernmental Council, while the other members shall be appointed by the Chief Executive of PWRI. The latter group will be limited to seven members selected in consultation with the Director-General of UNESCO from various stakeholder groups such as United Nations agencies, donors, scientific communities and other related bodies based on the mandate of the Centre and should include a representative of the Director-General of UNESCO. The functions of the Advisory Board shall be to advise on the draft plan and budget submitted by the Director of the Centre and to examine and advise on the reports submitted by the Director of the Centre. Final decision-making authority shall remain with the Chief Executive of PWRI. The Advisory Board shall meet once every two years and when necessary.
 - (ii) Director and staff: The Centre's staff consists of the Director and staff responsible for the research, the training and networking activities. PWRI will provide the necessary secretarial and administrative support to the Centre. The Director shall be appointed by the Chief Executive of PWRI in consultation with the Director-General of UNESCO and shall direct the work of the Centre, under the authority of the Chief Executive of PWRI. The Centre's staff will include the members employed by the Chief Executive of PWRI as well as researchers or professionals appointed and/or invited by the Chief Executive of PWRI to contribute to the Centre's activities. The number of research staff members at the initial stage of

the Centre is planned to be 20, about half of which would be internationally recruited.

(d) Financial matters:

- (i) The Government of Japan shall take appropriate measures so that the Centre may receive adequate financial contributions, in accordance with relevant and applicable laws and regulations.
- (ii) PWRI shall cover the core part of salaries and compensations of the staff including the Director, and the core part of the funds necessary for the implementation of studies, training and information networking activities. This will be complemented by contributions from other sources, including other governmental or intergovernmental organizations and international organizations or non-governmental organizations. The Centre's resources, which shall be managed through a separate account, shall be derived from amounts allotted by PWRI and from the contributions mentioned above. The Chief Executive of PWRI is responsible for making final decisions on the plan and budget based on the advice of the Advisory Board.
- (iii) PWRI will provide the Centre with appropriate office space, equipment and facilities and cover the communication, utilities and maintenance costs of the Centre, plus the expenses of holding the sessions of the Advisory Board.

(e) Areas of cooperation with UNESCO:

- (i) UNESCO shall provide technical and administrative assistance for the establishment and operation of the Centre, including assistance in the formulation of the short-term, mid-term and long-term programmes of the Centre.
- (ii) In conformity with the relevant policies of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP, UNESCO may contract out to the Centre the execution of water hazard and risk management activities and may provide support within the framework of each regular programme and budget, in particular to reinforce its start-up period. UNESCO may contribute financially to concrete activities/projects if those are deemed in line with UNESCO's programme priorities, although it should not provide financial support for administrative or institutional purposes.
- (iii) UNESCO will encourage international governmental and non-governmental financial entities, as well as Member States of the Organization to provide financial and technical assistance and to propose appropriate projects to the Centre. UNESCO will facilitate contacts with other international organizations relevant to the functions of the Centre.
- (iv) UNESCO will provide the Centre with IHP publications and other pertinent materials and shall disseminate information on the activities of the Centre via the IHP website and other mechanisms at its disposal.
- (v) UNESCO will participate, when appropriate, in the scientific, technical and training meetings held by the Centre.

20. Relationship between the activities of the Centre and UNESCO's objectives and programmes:

- (a) UNESCO's involvement at the forefront of fresh-water science, education and training for the benefit of its Member States represents a long-term commitment. UNESCO has provided, since 1975, the Secretariat for the IHP, the only water-related scientific and educational programme within the United Nations system.
- (b) UNESCO's Medium-Term Strategy for 2002-2007 establishes three strategic thrusts. One thrust is particularly pertinent to the present Japanese proposal, namely the promotion of participation in the knowledge society through capacity-building and the sharing of knowledge. Furthermore, UNESCO defines "water resources and ecosystems" as the principal priority of the Natural Sciences Sector for 2002-2007 which includes the objective of pursuing the promotion of scientifically sound policy-decisions for the sustainable use of fresh water and supporting ecosystems.
- (c) The Centre contributes to WWAP through the implementation of case studies, the development of indicators on risk management and the provision of inputs for the risk management chapter for WWDR-II.
- (d) The planned Centre is expected to serve as the global facility responsible for the IFI/P.

21. Regional and international impact of the Centre:

- (a) Coverage: The Centre plans to carry out international joint research projects on water hazard risk management in collaboration with organizations and research institutes outside of Japan. The Centre also plans to organize training courses for practitioners and researchers from developing countries, and to invite visiting lecturers from outside of Japan for these training courses. The Centre is ready to welcome involvement from all countries sharing concerns on water hazard and risk management issues and willing to contribute to and benefit from the Centre. Its activities will range from local to global scale. For example:
 - (i) As mentioned in the introduction, IFI/P is a programme that was launched in cooperation with WMO, UNU, UNISDR and IAHS. It is an activity which promotes an integrated approach to flood management in order to maximize the long-term net benefit of floods and minimize the loss of life, goods and other assets that result from floods. At the local level, a number of the countries are expected to join this activity through case studies in order to develop more effective and efficient flood management.
 - (ii) PWRI has contributed to the risk management chapter of the second issue of the *World Water Development Report* being prepared by WWAP and led by WMO and ISDR. Its results include developing indicators that will be applied throughout the countries and regions in WWAP's case studies.
 - (iii) PWRI is in the process of organizing a training course with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) on river management and dam construction. In addition to the course, starting in February 2005, hazard map training is planned. In the near future, a course for training experts who will contribute to the development of tsunami early warning systems in the Indian Ocean, is planned. Three hundred and fifty-five trainees from 62 nations from all over the world participated in PWRI's courses in 2002. These international

activities will be expanded in partnership with research institutes and universities inside and outside of Japan, such as UNESCO-IHE, and the expected involvement of international and regional donors.

- (iv) In the Mekong River basin and the Yangtze River basin, PWRI has been carrying out research projects on flood management in cooperation with riparian countries and institutes. These international joint research programmes will be expanded.
- (b) Potential impact: The research results from the Centre will be applied to capacity-building for researchers and professionals, mainly from developing countries. The human network formed through the training activities at the Centre will become a permanent hub of the future worldwide information networking. Thus, the potential impact of the Centre on regional and international scientific and technical cooperation is great. This expectation is reinforced by the fact that 24 countries expressed strong support to the Centre at the 16th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council (20-24 September 2004).
- (c) Technical cooperation: Cooperation in terms of research, capacity-building and information networking will be required at different scales between different communities. Cooperation especially with other IHP centres/chairs/courses, UNESCO-IHE, and other United Nations entities including UNU, is envisaged.

22. Results expected from UNESCO's contribution:

- (a) Role of the Centre in executing the Organization's programme: As pointed out in paragraph 21 of this document, the Centre fits well within UNESCO's objectives in general and the fresh-water programmes in particular. It can be an effective means of carrying out a great number of water activities specified in the IHP-VI and planned IHP-VII, particularly with regard to water hazard and risk management issues in developing countries.
- (b) Potential impact of UNESCO's contribution on the Centre's activities: UNESCO's role as a bridge to countries, international organizations and relevant NGOs sharing concern for water hazards and risk management is essential for the successful exposure of the Centre. It is unlikely that another international organization could be able to provide the range of support needed in order to maximize its viability. UNESCO has an international fresh-water scientific programme with a widely existing network, norms and practical experience of establishing regional centres and the necessary moral authority and convening power to make a difference on the international scene. Likewise, there would be a net gain in visibility for UNESCO internationally with respect to water hazard and risk management.

23. Summary evaluation of the proposal submitted:

- (a) From the previous paragraphs, it is clear that the establishment of the Centre is fully in line with UNESCO's objectives and programmes and that the Centre would contribute to the execution of UNESCO's fresh-water programme. Further, UNESCO's support is necessary for the Centre's regional and international development.
- (b) The strong support of the Government of Japan for the creation of the Centre is of great importance, in particular since the government has committed to supporting the setting-

up of the Centre and PWRI has committed to meeting the running and staffing costs of the Centre.

- (c) Water hazard and risk management measures relevant to water-related disasters have a strong link with the IHP-VI, IHP-VII, IFI/P, WWAP as well as with UNESCO's principal priority programme "water resources and associated ecosystems".
- (d) The proposed institutional structure of the Centre is compatible with the guidelines of document 21 C/36. Its character as an advisory and coordinating body will allow it to use the scientific and technical resources available in Japan and elsewhere.
- (e) UNESCO/IHP has lent its technical assistance during the preparatory stage for the creation of the Centre. Further, UNESCO is confident that it would be able to contract out to the Centre some of the activities of its programme and have the Centre contribute to the execution of IHP's programme.
- (f) The risk that UNESCO would incur in the establishment of the Centre would be low, due primarily to the strong support from the Government of Japan and PWRI, including providing an appropriate infrastructure, and the strength of the three pillars of the Centre's activity: research, capacity-building and information networking. The commitment of the Government of Japan is visible in its active support and contribution to UNESCO.

All conditions have been fulfilled and the establishment of the Centre is thus considered to be feasible.

24. An addendum to the present document, to be disseminated soon, will contain a draft agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Japan for the establishment of the proposed International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management under the auspices of UNESCO, which is being prepared through a process of consultation between the Japanese authorities and the UNESCO Secretariat. It would be finalized after the General Conference approves the establishment of the Centre. The addendum will also contain, for information purposes, a draft agreement between UNESCO and PWRI which stipulates the administrative and operational specifics of the Centre described in paragraph 19, which are under the purview of PWRI.

25. The Director-General strongly welcomes the establishment of the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk management in Japan under the auspices of UNESCO. He recognizes that the establishment of the Centre could only be of benefit to UNESCO, Japan and the international community.

Draft decision proposed

26. In the light of the above report, the Executive Board may wish to consider a decision along the following lines:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 21 C/Resolution 40.1 and 165 EX/Decision 5.4,
2. Further recalling the implementation plans highlighting the needs to mitigate the effects of drought and floods which were adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2002, and the ministerial declaration underlining the need for comprehensive efforts against water-related

disasters from the Third World Water Forum (WWF3) in Kyoto, Shiga, and Osaka, Japan in 2003, and Resolution XVI-4 adopted at the 16th session of the IHP Intergovernmental Council held from 20 to 24 September 2004 in Paris,

3. Having examined document 171 EX/11 and its addendum,
4. Welcomes the proposal of the Government of the Japan to establish the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) under the auspices of UNESCO, which is in line with the existing principles and guidelines (21 C/36) and the proposed strategy for this category of institutes and centres (165 EX/20 and 167 EX/16);
5. Recommends to the General Conference at its 33rd session that it approve the establishment of the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM), under the auspices of UNESCO, and authorize the Director-General to sign the agreement between the Government of Japan and UNESCO which is presented in the addendum to document 171 EX/11.

ANNEX

**IHP Intergovernmental Council Resolution XVI-4
Establishment of an International Centre for Water Hazard and
Risk Management (ICHARM) under the auspices of UNESCO
located in Japan**

The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO,

- Noting**
- (i) the growing impacts on human life and socio-economic systems due to intensifying and increasing water-related hazards, aggravated by population growth and rapid urbanization,
 - (ii) the future aggravation of extreme events caused by hydro-meteorological variability and climate change, and
 - (iii) the need for international collaboration for sharing knowledge and experience in this field,
- Recognizing** that adequate risk management for water-related hazards is a key factor for sustainable human and socio-economic development, and in particular for poverty alleviation,
- Recalling**
- (i) that the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation recognizes the need to develop programmes for preventing or mitigating the negative effects of extreme water-related events as described in the Plan of Implementation at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, 2002, and
 - (ii) the endorsement by the IHP Bureau at its 36th session of April 2004,
- Welcomes** the offer of the Public Works Research Institute (PWRI) of Japan to host a new International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management under the auspices of UNESCO, in collaboration with other organizations concerned, which will:
- (i) conduct scientific research;
 - (ii) undertake professional training and capacity-building for practitioners and researchers; and
 - (iii) create information networks for preventing or mitigating water-related hazards;
- Requests** UNESCO's assistance in preparing the documentation to be submitted to the governing bodies of UNESCO towards the creation of this centre according to 21 C/36 Section B (ii);
- Invites** Member States, and in particular the existing UNESCO network of centres and institutes which address relevant water issues, to lend active support to the proposed centre.

Hundred and seventy-first session

171 EX/11 Add.
PARIS, 13 April 2005
Original: English

Item 12 of the provisional agenda

**PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE
FOR WATER HAZARD AND RISK MANAGEMENT (UNESCO-ICHARM)
IN TSUKUBA, JAPAN, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO**

ADDENDUM

SUMMARY

This document is an addendum to document 171 EX/11. It contains the draft agreement between UNESCO and the Government of Japan. For information purposes, the draft agreement between UNESCO and the Public Works Research Institute (PWRI), which will operate the Centre, is annexed.

**Draft Agreement between the Government of Japan
and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
concerning the Establishment of the International Centre for Water Hazard
and Risk Management (ICHARM) under the auspices of UNESCO**

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (hereinafter referred to as “the Organization”) and the Government of Japan (hereinafter referred to as “the Government”),

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

**Article 1
Establishment**

The Government agrees to take appropriate measures, in accordance with laws and regulations of Japan, that may be required for the setting up of the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management in Japan (hereinafter referred to as “the Centre”) as provided for under this Agreement.

**Article 2
Participation**

1. The Government agrees to take appropriate measures, in accordance with its laws and regulations, which may be required for the Public Works Research Institute (hereinafter referred to as “the PWRI”) to operate the Centre under the Agreement between the PWRI and the Organization, as may be amended by mutual agreement.

2. The Centre shall be an integral part of the PWRI, which enjoys on the territory of Japan the personality and legal capacity necessary for the exercise of its functions, in accordance with laws and regulations of Japan, and shall serve Member States of the Organization that may, due to their problems on water-related hazards and their risk management, desire to cooperate with the Centre.

**Article 3
Objective and functions**

1. The objective of the Centre is to conduct research, capacity-building and information networking activities in the field of the water-related hazards and their risk management at the local, national, regional and global level in order to prevent and mitigate their impacts with a view of sustainable and integrated river basin management.

2. In order to achieve the above objective, the functions of the Centre shall be:

- (a) to promote scientific research and undertake effective capacity-building activities at institutional and professional levels;
- (b) to create and reinforce networks for the exchange of scientific, technical and policy information among institutions and individuals;
- (c) to develop and coordinate cooperative research activities, taking advantage particularly of the installed scientific and professional capacity of the relevant International Hydrological Programme (hereinafter referred to as “IHP”) networks, World Water Assessment Programme, International Flood Initiative/Programme and the relevant programmes of non-governmental organizations and involving international institutions and networks under those auspices;

- (d) to conduct international training courses especially for the practitioners and researchers of the world;
- (e) to organize knowledge and information transfer activities including international symposia or workshops, and to engage in appropriate awareness-raising activities targeted at various audiences including the general public;
- (f) to develop a strong programme of information and communication technology;
- (g) to provide technical consulting services;
- (h) to produce technical publications and other media items related to the activities of the Centre.

3. The Centre shall pursue the above objective and functions in close coordination with the IHP of the Organization.

Article 4

Advisory Board

The Government and the Organization recognize that the following provisions are included in the Agreement between the PWRI and the Organization:

1. The Advisory Board for the Centre shall be established. Six members of the Advisory Board shall be elected by the IHP Intergovernmental Council, while other members (no more than seven) shall be appointed by the Chief Executive of the PWRI. A representative of the Director-General of the Organization should be included in the Advisory Board as a full member.
2. The functions of the Advisory Board shall be:
 - (a) to advise on the draft work plan and budget submitted by the Director of the Centre;
 - (b) to examine and advise on the reports submitted by the Director of the Centre.
3. The Chief Executive of the PWRI is responsible for making a final decision on the work plan and budget based on the advice from the Advisory Board.
4. The Advisory Board shall meet once every two years and when necessary.
5. The Centre shall function as a secretariat of the Advisory Board.

Article 5

Staff

The Government and the Organization recognize that the following provisions are included in the Agreement between the PWRI and the Organization:

1. The Centre shall consist of a Director and staff necessary for the activities of the Centre.
2. The Director shall be appointed by the Chief Executive of the PWRI in consultation with the Director-General of the Organization and direct the work of the Centre.
3. The Centre's staff include:

- (a) the members employed by the Chief Executive of the PWRI;
- (b) researchers or professionals appointed and/or invited by the Chief Executive of the PWRI to contribute to the Centre's activities.

Article 6

Financial matters

1. The Government shall take appropriate measures, in accordance with its laws and regulations, which may be required for the Centre to receive adequate funds.
2. The Government and the Organization recognize that the following provision is included in the Agreement between the PWRI and the Organization:

The Centre's resources shall derive from sums allotted by the PWRI, from such contributions as it may receive from other governmental or intergovernmental organizations or any non-governmental organizations, and from payments for services rendered.

Article 7

Contribution of the Organization

1. The Organization shall provide technical and administrative assistance for the establishment and operation of the Centre, including assistance in the formulation of the short-term, mid-term and long-term programmes of the Centre.
2. In conformity with the relevant policies of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP, the Organization may delegate to the Centre the execution of water-related hazards and their risk-management activities and may provide support within the framework of each regular biennial programme and budget, particularly to reinforce its start-up period.
3. The Organization shall introduce the Centre to the international governmental and non-governmental financial entities, as well as Member States of the Organization and encourage them to provide financial and technical assistance and to propose applicable projects to the Centre and shall facilitate the contacts with other international organizations relevant to the functions of the Centre.
4. The Organization shall provide the Centre with IHP publications and other pertinent material and shall disseminate information on the activities of the Centre via the IHP website and other mechanisms at its disposal.
5. The Organization shall participate, when appropriate, in the scientific, technical and training meetings held by the Centre.

Article 8

Final clauses

1. The present Agreement shall enter into force upon its signature by the Government and the Organization. It shall remain in force until the end of the fifth year following the signature of the present Agreement and may be renewed for a similar period as agreed upon between the Government and the Organization.
2. The present Agreement may be revised by consent between the Government and the Organization.

3. Either party shall have the right to terminate the present Agreement by giving six months' prior written notice to the other party.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, the undersigned representatives, duly authorized, have signed the present Agreement in two copies.

ANNEX

**Draft Agreement between
the Incorporated Administrative Agency Public Works Research Institute (PWRI)
and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
concerning the Operation of the International Centre for Water Hazard
and Risk Management (ICHARM) under the auspices of UNESCO**

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (hereinafter referred to as “the Organization”) and the Incorporated Administrative Agency Public Works Research Institute (hereinafter referred to as “the PWRI”),

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1 Operation

The PWRI, which enjoys on the territory of Japan the personality and legal capacity for the exercise of its functions, shall take appropriate measures that may be required for the operation of the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (hereinafter referred to as “the Centre”), to be established as an integral part of the PWRI in Tsukuba City, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan as provided for under this Agreement.

Article 2 Advisory Board

1. The Advisory Board for the Centre shall be established. Six members of the Advisory Board shall be elected by the IHP Intergovernmental Council, while other members (no more than seven) shall be appointed by the Chief Executive of the PWRI. A representative of the Director-General of the Organization should be included in the Advisory Board as a full member.
2. The functions of the Advisory Board shall be:
 - (a) to advise on the draft work plan and budget submitted by the Director of the Centre;
 - (b) to examine and advise on the reports submitted by the Director of the Centre.
3. The Chief Executive of the PWRI is responsible for making a final decision on the work plan and budget based on the advice from the Advisory Board.
4. The Advisory Board shall meet once every two years and when necessary.
5. The Centre shall function as a secretariat of the Advisory Board.

Article 3 Staff

1. The Centre shall consist of a Director and staff necessary for the activities of the Centre.
2. The Director shall be appointed by the Chief Executive of the PWRI in consultation with the Director-General of the Organization and direct the work of the Centre.
3. The Centre’s staff include:

- (a) the members employed by the Chief Executive of the PWRI;
- (b) researchers or professionals appointed and/or invited by the Chief Executive of the PWRI to contribute to the Centre's activities.

Article 4

Financial arrangement

1. The Centre's resources shall derive from sums allotted by the PWRI, from such contributions as it may receive from other governmental or intergovernmental organizations or any non-governmental organization, and from payments for services rendered.
2. The Centre may receive gifts and legacies.

Article 5

Contribution of the PWRI

The PWRI shall:

- (a) cover the core part of salaries and compensations of the staff including the Director and the core part of funds necessary for the implementation of studies, training and information networking activities, complemented by the contributions from other sources, as mentioned in Article 4;
- (b) provide the Centre with appropriate office space, equipment and facilities;
- (c) cover the communication, utilities and maintenance costs of the Centre, plus the expenses of holding the sessions of the Advisory Board.

Article 6

Contribution of the Organization

1. The Organization shall provide technical and administrative assistance for the establishment and operation of the Centre, including assistance in the formulation of the short-term, mid-term and long-term programmes of the Centre.
2. In conformity with the relevant policies of the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP, the Organization may delegate to the Centre the execution of water-related hazards and its(/their) risk management activities and may provide support within the framework of each regular biennial programme and budget, particularly to reinforce its start-up period.
3. The Organization shall introduce the Centre to the international governmental and non-governmental financial entities, as well as Member States of the Organization and encourage them to provide financial and technical assistance and to propose applicable projects to the Centre and shall facilitate the contacts with other international organizations relevant to the functions of the Centre.
4. The Organization shall provide the Centre with IHP publications and other pertinent material and shall disseminate information on the activities of the Centre via the IHP website and other mechanisms at its disposal.
5. The Organization shall participate, when appropriate, in the scientific, technical and training meetings held by the Centre.

Article 7

Evaluation

1. The Organization may undertake an evaluation of the activities of the Centre after the decisions of the Executive Board of the Organization, in order to verify:
 - (i) whether the Centre contributes to the strategic objectives of the Organization;
 - (ii) whether the activities of the Centre are in conformity with those that are described in the present Agreement.
2. The Organization shall notify the PWRI of undertaking the evaluation at least one month in advance.
3. The Organization shall provide a copy of the evaluations undertaken to the PWRI within a reasonable period of time.

Article 8

Use of the name and logo of the Organization

The PWRI shall ensure that the Centre does not use the name and logo of the Organization except as authorized by the Executive Board of the Organization's decisions granting the Organization's auspices.

Article 9

Final clauses

1. The present Agreement shall enter into force upon its signature by the PWRI and the Organization. It shall remain in force until the end of the fifth year following the signature of the present Agreement and may be renewed for a similar period as agreed upon between the PWRI and the Organization.
2. The present Agreement may be revised by consent between the PWRI and the Organization, with the concurrence of the Government of Japan.
3. Either party shall have the right to terminate the present Agreement by giving six months' prior written notice to the other party.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, the undersigned representatives, duly authorized, have signed the present Agreement in two copies.

Hundred and seventy-first session

171 EX/11 Add. Corr.
PARIS, 21 April 2005
Original: English

Item 12 of the provisional agenda

**PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE
FOR WATER HAZARD AND RISK MANAGEMENT (UNESCO-ICHARM)
IN TSUKUBA, JAPAN, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO**

CORRIGENDUM

Draft Agreement between the Government of Japan and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) concerning the Establishment of the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) under the auspices of UNESCO

Article 3, paragraph 2(g): add the word “and” at the end of the sentence.

Article 4, paragraph 2(a): add the word “and” at the end of the sentence.

Article 5, paragraph 3(a): add the word “and” at the end of the sentence.

Article 8, paragraph 2: replace the word “consent” by the word “agreement”.

ANNEX: Draft Agreement between the Incorporated Administrative Agency Public Works Research Institute (PWRI) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) concerning the Operation of the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) under the auspices of UNESCO

Article 9, paragraph 2: replace the word “consent” by the word “agreement”.