

**Agenda of the Asia Water Cycle Initiative (AWCI) International Task Team (ITT) Working
Session
Monday 25 September 2006
Rama Gardens Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand**

The Asia Water Cycle Initiative had been proposed in recognition of the need for accurate, timely, long-term, water cycle information as a basis for sound and effective water resources and risk management in the Asian region and formally introduced at the Asia Water Cycle Symposium held in Tokyo, 2 - 4 November 2005. One of the outcomes of this Symposium was the establishing of the International Task Team as a leading body of the Asia Water Cycle Initiative that include scientists, application representatives and data management experts from participating countries.

As part of the Asia Water Cycle Initiative, the ITT working session is organized by the University of Tokyo and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and includes the support of Asia Institute of Technology.

The ITT working session will provide the participants an opportunity to communicate the existing capabilities of individual countries in terms of data access and tools for data integration and information fusion for application to address the water resources management issues. The goal of this working session is to identify possible strategy for cooperation through existing national or international projects and outline the next steps that need to be undertaken. This session has been intentionally scheduled at the eve of the capacity building workshop *Earth Observations in the Service of Water Management* as the workshop focus is closely related to the Asia Water Cycle Initiative interests.

The regional workshop is part of the capacity building activities framework of the Integrated Global Water Cycle Observations theme (IGWCO) which in turn is an important part of the Integrated Global Observing Strategy Partnership (IGOS-P). The Group on Earth Observations (GEO) also endorses this workshop as one of the GEO 2006 Work Plan Tasks. Organized by the IGWCO, JAXA, and the University of Tokyo, the workshop includes the support of Asia Institute of Technology (AIT).

This workshop will offer Asian water management decision-makers an overview of the existing Earth observation programs, their applications, and opportunities for data access. Toward this end, the program will include presentations from agencies that generate these data, as well as presentations on projects relating to application of Earth observation data for water management either at locations in the region or being successfully carried out in other parts of the world, with technologies that could be applied in the region. In addition, the workshop will also have working groups with special emphasis on three areas: flooding; drought; and, water quality. The goal of the workshop is to identify the potentials of Earth observation and needs for information in real-world applications in the region.

Monday 25 September 2006

08:00 – 08:30 Registration

08:30 – 09:00 Welcome Remarks, ITT members introduction

09:00 – 10:00 Introduction to the Asia Water Cycle Initiative and the International Integrated Water Data Access and Transfer in Asia (*Toshio Koike*)

10:00 – 10:30 BREAK

10:30 – 12:00 Country reports based on the questionnaire – 5 minutes for each country

12:00 – 13:30 LUNCH

13:30 – 14:30 Discussion – part 1: Demonstration project

14:30 – 14:45 BREAK

14:45 – 15:45 Discussion – part 2: Data policy

15:45 – 16:00 BREAK

16:00 – 17:00 Discussion – part 3: Inventory of available observations and data

17:00 – 17:30 BREAK

17:30 – 18:30 Summary discussion – basis for the AWCI Implementation Plan

18:30 ADJOURN

We suppose that during the following three days of the Capacity Building Workshop, there will be opportunities to further discuss the above issues and thus provide sufficient basis for the draft proposal of the core of the Implementation Plan that should be thence discussed in individual participating countries.