

Technical Workshop on “Water and Wastewater Technology”

(30th August – 3rd September, 2003)

The world we are living today has a rapidly increasing population and a relatively small land area. The effects of a growing population are threatening water and air quality. One of the effects of population increase is the higher demand for safety treat increasing volumes of wastewater and dispose of sewage sludge by treatment procedures.

Unfortunately, wastewater disposal is irregular in developing countries resulting in millions of litres of raw sewage polluting surface water everyday and as a result millions of people are living in non-sanitary conditions. In this regard the Regional Centre on Urban Water Management – Tehran (RCUWM-Tehran) has been successful in holding a Technical Workshop on “Water and Wastewater Technology” in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Education and Research of Germany (BMBF) in Tehran Water and Wastewater Company, Tehran – Iran from 30th August to 3rd September 2003. This workshop was highly received by 53 experienced experts from the I.R.I. Ministry of Energy (MOE), Tehran Water and Wastewater Company, Regional Water and Wastewater Companies, Regional Water Authorities, Consulting Engineering Companies, Environmental Conservation Organization and Water Research Centre (affiliated to Moe) and The Central Authority for Water Supply and Sewage (CAWSS) of Afghanistan. This workshop was organized in two parallel sessions entitled as “Drinking Water Supply” and “Wastewater Disposal” and the training program was conducted in English and consequently experts with high English abilities participated in this short training course.

24 scientists, university professors and experts who were all presented by the Ministry of Education and Research of Germany submitted their papers in the field of Water and Wastewater Technologies, during this 5-day workshop.

The objectives of this workshop were:

- To make the participants familiar with principles and concepts of water and wastewater utilization by presenting good practices and case studies in the region
- To transfer technologies from developing countries to the state in the region
- To strengthen national capabilities of the participating countries in the formulation and implementation activities related to wastewater reuse.

This workshop was held in 5 general and 18 technical sessions during 30th August to 3rd September, 2003.

The technical workshop was opened by Mr. Shafeiee the Deputy Minister of Energy for Water and Wastewater Affairs, Mr. Zietz Deputy Ambassador of German Embassy in Iran, Dr. Heidborn, Head of the German Delegation, Dr. Salih, the Director of UNESCO Regional office in Tehran, Mr. Mahmoudi, Managing Director of Tehran Water and Wastewater Company, Mr. Jahani, the representative of the Regional Centre on Urban Water Management – Tehran, and Prof. Cornel as the full Professor of Darmstadt University in Germany. The second and third session was allocated to an overview on water supply and an overview on wastewater disposal in Iran and Germany respectively.

The technical sessions on “Water” and “Wastewater” started from the second day by having various papers submitted by BMBF representatives on the following subjects:

- 1- Drinking Water Supply and Wastewater Disposal
- 2- Drinking Water Treatment
- 3- Wastewater Treatment
- 4- Sludge Treatment and Wastewater Reuse
- 5- Distribution Systems
- 6- Management and Financing

The technical papers were presented in the field of “Drinking Water Supply” by nine BMBF experts and eight technical Papers were submitted by ten German Scientists in the field of “Wastewater Reuse” in parallel sessions on “Water” and “Wastewater” respectively.

In the closing session, which was held on 3rd of September, the chairmen of the sessions on “Drinking Water” and “Wastewater” submitted a summary report on the papers, which were presented throughout the workshop. Statements and future prospects of Water and Wastewater Technologies was the final part of this technical workshop which was presented by Dr. Heidborn, the head of the German delegation and Dr. Reza Ardakanian, Director of RCUWM-Tehran.

According to the assessment forms, which had been distributed among the participants, this technical event has been one of the most successful workshops held in the field of Water and Wastewater in Iran. The German delegation appreciated the high potentiality of the students attending this course for learning.

On behalf of The Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Dr. Heidborn stated that this workshop would not be the first and last workshop on “Water and Wastewater” issues. BMBF will organize similar International Workshops in Germany in new future.

In addition, various tours were organized for the lecturers during the workshop, such as a visit to Water National Museum, Saad-Abad Palace and etc.

Technical visits from Tehran Water and Wastewater Laboratory and Jalalieh Water Treatment Plant were also organized to be visited by the lecturers and participants.