



World Water Congress XV

International Water Resources Association (IWRA)

Edinburgh, Scotland. 25th to 29th May 2015

**IWRA contributions
in the field of knowledge of Global Water**

Closing Plenary

Lilian del Castillo Laborde

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An assessment of IWRA's results

Has it contributed in the field of knowledge of Global Water?

A resource for :

Development

Opportunities

Challenges and

Constraints

How does it started

1969 - As Professor Asit Biswas recalls, Professor Ven Te Chow communicated to him his idea of creating a comprehensive water organization, with the unique purpose to overcome the sectoral approach to water resources: irrigation, energy, domestic ,and others.

Purpose

Together, with a few other water specialists, they shaped an organization which called the

International Water Resources Association - IWRA

Registered in 1971 in the United States

With the purpose to provide a comprehensive, **multidisciplinary,**

multisectoral forum,

to address **water as a whole** (Constitution Article II)

How to put IWRA in motion?

Water is at the same time, global in the water cycle and local in its uses

The first component of an Association is their members

A multidisciplinary, multisectorial and global membership was invited to join the Association

The avenues to spread the IWRA's purpose

-To convene international Congresses

The I World Water Congress took place in Chicago in 1973

The XV WWC at its Closing Plenary in Edinburgh

- To start the publication of an instrument for communication among the members

. [Newsletter](#) - later absorbed by the Journal

- To start the publication of an specialized and comprehensive [Journal](#)

. [Water International](#), the Journal starting in July 1975, (T % F)
now with 6 or 7 issues yearly.

. [IWRA Policy Briefings](#), starting March 2014 (Routledge). aiming to provide high quality analysis and practical recommendations for policy makers on important development issues.

All of them included in IWRA membership

- Establishing active cooperation with national and international organizations

Other avenues

- To point up outstanding water specialists
 - . Crystal Drop Award
 - . Ven Te Chow Memorial Lecture
 - . Best Paper Awards
 - To create a water forum, with greater visibility and policy driven,
 - . The idea started in 1991. and it was discussed in a Side event in the Dublin meeting in 1992.
 - In 1994, during the VIII WWC en Cairo, a group of specialized organizations authorized IWRA's President Mahmoud Abu-Zeid to explore the creation of a **World Water Council**
- Cooperation between both entities should continue for mutual benefits**

VIII WWC Cairo 1994



XV WWC in Edinburgh, Scotland

The remarkable intensity of this Congress, with its multiple

Panel Sessions

Special Sessions

Side Events (i.e. the OECD meeting)

Technical visits

Plenaries

Is the best evidence that IWRA's capacity is required by water specialists, experts in multiple fields, scientists, professors, policy-makers and all those working on water .

IWRA's contribution to water knowledge

IWRA's contribution to Global Water

It is at present not only a purpose with multiple objectives,

It is a reality that has fructified in the crowded International Water Fora, in the wealth of its qualified publications, in the outstanding contributions of its awards recipients to the development of water knowledge, in the remarkable quality of its World Water Congresses, the present Congress that we are closing the best example

To sum up

To condense all this activity, let's formulate another question:

If IWRA had not yet been created, would it be necessary to create such an organization for Global Water?

If so, does IWRA matter?

In my view, and I hope it would be a shared view, it does.

TO THE HYDRO-NATION

TO OUR EFFICIENT, QUALIFIED AND FRIENDLY
HOSTESSES, MANY THANKS FOR JOINING
IWRA IN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE
XV WORLD WATER CONGRESS

ON BEHALF OF ALL THE PARTICIPANTS,

WE APPRECIATE!