



Newsletter 5

THE DAMS NEWSLETTER

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ICOLD KNOWLEDGE FOR THE BENEFIT OF SOCIETY

President
Cesar B. Villar

ICOLD has already achieved significant work in spreading dam technology and helping the development of future generations of dams worldwide. As dams are still important structures with millions of people and jobs at stake, it is the world's best technology and know-how based source of dam safety and reliability.

We believe that there is an untapped role in improving the development of the dam industry through education, research and hydroelectricity. In many countries, there is a need for education and training. Taking into account that dam safety is an ever-evolving and dynamic industry, the management of ICOLD, one of the main objectives of our member countries in the European and Latin American ICOLD committees is to coordinate with the world dam safety education committee to apply the knowledge in the Dam Safety Education Working Group.

As dam safety is a global issue, it is important to have a global dam safety education center through ICOLD, in Geneva.

Moreover, the members of the technical bodies have often language barriers in the global dam safety field. It is important to have technical bodies that speak Spanish, Portuguese and Chinese. We are working to have committees that speak these languages. Moreover, we have the technical committee that speaks English, to help in creating a more large proportion of the population of the world. In a meeting with representatives of other member countries on improving dam safety, that is, to get the relevant contributions of several regional regions, ICOLD could help the organization of "The Dam Safety Education Center" that would provide the education of high level, as far as possible, related to the safety of dams.

You have not been too important to coordinate in capacity building in the developing countries.

I have visited several people and countries about creating a school in Brazil to train dam safety engineers. Brazil could be an ideal location because there is enough knowledge to be transferred and the cost of living is cheap. Many National Committees of ICOLD have been approached in providing training, especially from abroad. Representatives have already visited in agreement of ICOLD with the Turkish Committee (TICOLD) and the Chinese Committee (CICOLD) in terms of Dam Safety. Implementing education will certainly make ICOLD make a significant contribution to the well-being of the world and become an essential one in our world since it is needed.

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