

The IORA RCSTT's Coordination Centre on Desalination Technologies (CCDT)

The Coordination Centre on Desalination Technologies (CCDT) was established in Tianjin- China on the basis of an MOU signed between the Institute of Seawater Desalination and Multipurpose Utilization (ISDMU) of the State Oceanic Administration of the People's Republic of China (SOA) and IORA RCSTT in October 2014.

It took a long way from studying the existing conditions and providing necessary capabilities and facilities to signing related MOU and inauguration of the Coordination Centre. To mention a few, we can refer to the following milestones as follows:

- I. The 1st Regional Experts Meeting and Training Workshop on "Desalination of Brackish Sea Water and Wastewater Treatment"** jointly organized by Iranian Research Organization for Science and Technology (IROST), Abbaspour University of Technology, IORA Regional Centre for Science and Technology Transfer (IORA RCSTT) in Tehran, I.R. Iran on June 19-21, 2012.
- II. The "Second International Training Workshop, Conference and Exhibition on desalination, IORA Perspectives for Cooperation"** held in Tehran, I.R. Iran during 20-22 October, 2014. This meeting was jointly organized by the IORA Regional Centre for Science and Technology Transfer (RCSTT), the Iranian Research Organization for Science and Technology (IROST) and Regional Desalination and Environmental Center (RDEC) hosted by IROST.

Note 1: The meeting was attended by the participants, resource persons and private sector representatives from IORA region including Australia, Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Oman, Sri Lanka and Yemen and a few participants from other countries such as Canada, Italy, Korea and Spain.

Note 2: The participants at this Workshop recommended continuing the workshops, conferences and/or expert meetings on Desalination annually and each time hosted by one IORA country and China proposed to host the next upcoming event.

III. International Expert Meeting / Workshop cum Exhibition on Desalination Technologies, IORA Members Perspectives for Cooperation May 5-9, 2015, Tianjin, China

The meeting was attended by representatives from Bangladesh, China, Iran, Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Thailand.

The programme was mainly focused on helping the participants in forming deeper understanding of seawater technology and laying the foundation of technical cooperation and

transfer on seawater desalination among the member states through the region for the benefit of all the involved countries.

On the basis of the endorsement of IORA Council of Ministers for signing the MoU between the RCSTT and the Institution of Seawater Desalination and Multipurpose Utilization, SOA (Tianjin) (ISDMU) to establish the IORA RCSTT Coordination Center for Desalination Technologies, this Coordination Centre was inaugurated in the sideline of the above Workshop.

Note: At the end of the above Workshop, the participants expressed their support that a technical visit in countries with potential demands for desalination technologies should be annually arranged by IORA-RCSTT Coordination Center for Desalination Technologies to bring consultant service and solutions to relevant problems. It was proposed that the first such visit should take place to Sri Lanka to explore the possibility of installing the desalination unit for water purification for public use through support of Chinese government. However, in spite all the efforts done in this regard by RCSTT, IORA Secretariat and ISDMU, this proposal did not come to any result.

Upcoming programme of the Coordination Centre on Desalination Technologies:

The proposal to hold the Workshop on Salts and Chemicals Extraction from Saline Waters, Tehran, 2019 was presented by RCSTT to the 20th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO), Durban, South Africa, 31 October – 1 November 2018. RCSTT applied for a financial contribution from IORA Special Fund amounting at USD 25000/- to organize this Workshop in cooperation with Sharif University of Iran and RCSTT Coordination Centre on Desalination Technologies, ISDMU, China and consequently, the proposed was approved. According to its Concept Note, the Workshop on Salts and Chemicals Extraction from Saline Waters has been planned to be held during October 15-16, 2019 in Tehran.