

# OFFICE INTERNATIONAL DE L'EAU INTERNATIONAL OFFICE FOR WATER OFICINA INTERNACIONAL DEL AGUA

# News

*International Issue*

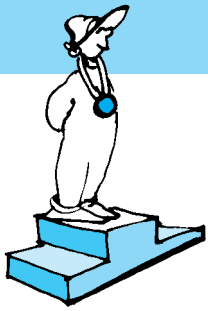


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**a 1994  
retrospective  
review**





## Nominations

### Mr. Jean RENARD, new President

Mr. Jean Renard, Vice-President of the General Council of "Génie Rural, des Eaux et Forêts" (Rural Engineering, Water and Forestry Corps) and President of the Board of Directors of Artois-Picardie Water Agency, was elected President of the International Office for Water during the General Assembly, held on 5 April 1994.

### Other nominations

Please be reminded that :

### Mr. Joël MANCEL

has been nominated Director of International Cooperation (Department of International Cooperation). He was previously working for the Land Development Company (Société du Canal de Provence).

### Mr. Jean-François TALEC

has joined the Department of International Cooperation as Manager of the "River Basin Management Programme". Originally from the Loire-Brittany Water Agency, he had just carried out a mission in Indonesia for setting up the Brantas Agency.

### Mr. Paul HAENER

has joined the team of the Department of International Cooperation as Databases Expert. He is also in charge of the internal computerization system and responsible for developing new multimedia products.

### Mr. François ARCANGELI

Administrative Officer, has been appointed Secretary General (a newly created position) to the International Office for Water.

### Mr. Jean-Antoine FABY

Engineer, is newly responsible for the National Information and Documentation Service on Water.

### Mrs. Marie-Hélène HUSSON-MAREUX

Engineer, has teamed up with Miss Katia Bittner at the Department of Training and Studies, in order to reinforce and intensify activities aimed at drawing the attention of elected municipal officials to water problems.

### Mr. Pierre POQUET

Computer Engineer, specialized in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), has joined the National Water-related Data Network (RNDE) team with the task of setting up the National Water-related Data Bank.

### Mr. Jean-Claude LECOMTE

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### Mr. François HARAMBAT

Engineer, graduate from the National Agronomic Institute, Paris-Grignon, has joined the Department of International Cooperation as Project Manager. He previously worked on a development project in Burundi, then became a member of the team for Technical and Scientific Cooperation, at the French Embassy in Hungary.

### Mr. Alain BERNARD

Engineer, has joined the River Basin Management Division as Project Manager in the Department of International Cooperation. He previously worked with the Regional Departments for Industry, Research and Environment before becoming a staff member of the Seine-Normandy Water Agency.

## International Network

### IOW EXPANDS ITS INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

Bi and multi-lateral cooperation agencies are members of the Office in their own right and sit in meetings of the International Orientation Committee. The Office's statutes also offer the possibility for public and semi-public organisms from various countries of the European Union, of Central and Eastern Europe and of other continents, to join as "International Associate Members".

23 organizations have already joined the Office in this quality and participate in joint activities as well as in the work of the Board of Directors, and of the Scientific and Technical Council.

### Associate international members :

- APELE ROMANE (Romania)
- Asociación Latino Americana y del Caribe de Empresas de Agua Potable y Alcantarillado - ALCEAPA
- Centro de Estudios y Experimentación de Obras Públicas - CEDEX (Spain)
- Comición Nacional del Agua (Mexico)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit - GTZ (Germany)
- Fresh Water Centre (Denmark)
- Hungarian Office for Water - OVF (Hungary)
- Hydrocontrol (Italy)
- HIDROVEN (Venezuela)
- Instituto Acqua (Brazil)
- Instituto Mexicano de Tecnología del Agua (Mexico)
- Inter-African Centre for Hydraulic Studies - CIEH
- Inter-States Institute for the Environment (Hungary)
- Mediterranean Institute for Water (France)
- Ministry of Energy, Water Resources and Postal Services (Mauritius)
- National Institute for Hydraulic Studies Masarik (Czech Republic)
- National Office for Sewerage - ONAS (Tunisia)
- National Water Resources Institute - NWRI (Nigeria)
- National Office for Potable Water - ONEP (Morocco)
- The Blue Plan for the Mediterranean (France)
- The International Secretariat for Water - ISW (Canada)
- Union of African Water Suppliers - UAWS
- Water Research Centre (United Kingdom)



## THE MUNICIPAL ELECTED OFFICIALS AND WATER

With the new European directives and the recent French Water Law of 1992, the responsibilities of the local elected officials in such matters as water resources management and efficient organization of municipal drinking water and sanitation services, have grown considerably.

It now appears absolutely necessary to provide these elected officials with tools for decision-making in those fields.

With this in mind, an experimental programme of "information days" was launched as from 1992, the success of which has paved the way to a more ambitious design.

42 sessions were implemented by the International Office for Water in 26 countries. In 3 years; these sessions have brought to the attention of more than 5000 local elected officials, the topics which today are a national priority that is resources management.

## Training

- the water law and its regulatory framework
- resources management and protection
- security of drinking water supply
- sanitation in rural areas
- commercial and industrial management of water and sanitation services.

Similar programmes are being developed in several countries, particularly in Hungary and Poland.

## DECONTAMINATION OF INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENTS

Following a joint study carried out by the International Office for Water and the Technical Centre for Mechanical Industries (CETIM); a new educational pilot station for industrial decontamination became operational in our centre at La Souterraine.

Built to deal with the daily problems encountered by operators, the centre integrates all types of standard treatments used in industry: chrome and cyanide removal, neutralization, flocculation, settling, sand filtration, ion exchange, sludge dewatering by filter press.

This unit thus provides for the practical training of agents who are in charge of operation and maintenance of water treatment installations in industries.

## Documentation



## A COMPLETE INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION SERVICE

With more than 160 000 available references, the majority of which are digitized on CD ROM, the documentation centre of IOW is one of the most important specialized libraries the world over.

## THREE TYPES OF SERVICES ARE OFFERED

- a general information telematic service: The WHO'S WHO in the water sector, describes public and private partners, their organizational charts and activities,
- a consolidated computerized documentary reference database, which makes it possible, through keywords and summaries to select articles, studies and books concerning each topic on water and wastes available through IOW, the Water Department of the French Ministry for Environment and the Water Agencies,
- a library which can supply copies of selected documents originating either from the original document, kept permanently in stock, or scanned copies stored on digital optical disks

Access to this reference database is made possible for foreign subscribers through a professional access to the European Space Agency Information Retrieval Service (ESA-IRS).

## IT ALSO OFFERS TAILORED DOCUMENTARY SERVICES

- adapted bibliographical searches to meet the needs of water professionals. They can also be used as educational support for Universities and Professional Schools,
- documentary synthesis or manuals presenting the "state of the art" on major specialized or general topics. They can be provided by subscription or upon order,
- documentary surveys covering new articles which have been published concerning a topic or a given keyword.





## Database

### RNDE - SANDRE : SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS

The National Water-related Data Network (RNDE) is an important project launched upon the initiative of the French Ministry for Environment, the six Water Agencies, the Higher Council for Fisheries and the French Institute for the Environment (IFEN). Their aim is to improve knowledge of water resources and aquatic environment at national level by standardizing the methods used for data production and management.

The International Office for Water has been responsible, since the beginning of 1993, for developing and coordinating the RNDE activities, for setting up and operating the National Water-related Data Bank (BNDE) and for organizing the National Administrative Secretariat for Water Resources Data (SANDRE).

RNDE is structured around three priority topics : information on surface water, quality of drinking water supply and wastewater discharges, which were subject to preliminary studies in order to identify information requirements and data processing to be developed.

RNDE development involved the publishing of three products which were presented to the Press on 7 February 1995 by the Water Department of the French Ministry for Environment.

It concerns a booklet prepared by the Higher Council for Fisheries, presenting the development of five fish species in French rivers and streams ; a catalogue of quality variations in rivers over a 10-year period on 150 sites ; an index card catalogue of flow rates measured in 200 hydrometric stations.

The last two products were implemented by BNDE from data collected by Water Agencies and the HYDRO bank.

SANDRE is responsible for elaborating a language common to all data producers and users.

### ITS OBJECTIVES ARE TO SET UP :

- a data dictionary : inventory of available information and definition of each element,
- national nomenclatures : codifications common to all users on such matters as water analysis parameters and methods, aquatic organisms, organizations in charge of sampling, registered laboratories, aquifers, waterways, etc.
- standards and exchange protocols : a neutral exchange format for all water professionals,
- geographic reference systems to be used by GIS : cartographic, hydrographic and hydrogeological reference systems.

## National Observatory for Groundwater Quality

The French Ministry for Environment decided, in 1984, to create a National Observatory for Groundwater Quality (ONQUES). The national geological service of the Geological and Mining Research Bureau (BRGM) were entrusted with the project.

The main function of this observatory is to "gather data relating to groundwater quality, with a view to bringing them nearer to the characteristics of corresponding aquifers and to follow up the development of this quality".

The International Office for Water -directed by a national piloting committee- was entrusted with an expertise of this observatory, dealing with :

- the available information in the databases,
- the quality of this information,
- the tools for retrieval, processing and analyses,
- the Observatory's aptitude to dialogue with other databanks and with the Ministry of Health's future system, in particular,
- the adequacy for future developments.

## THE RNDE : A SOLE FORMAT FOR EXCHANGES

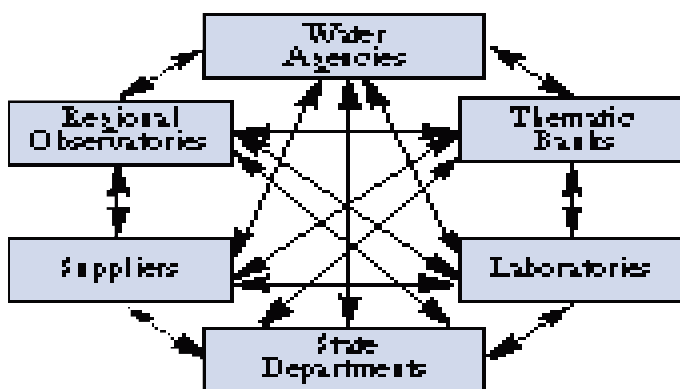


Figure 1 : As many exchange formats as users

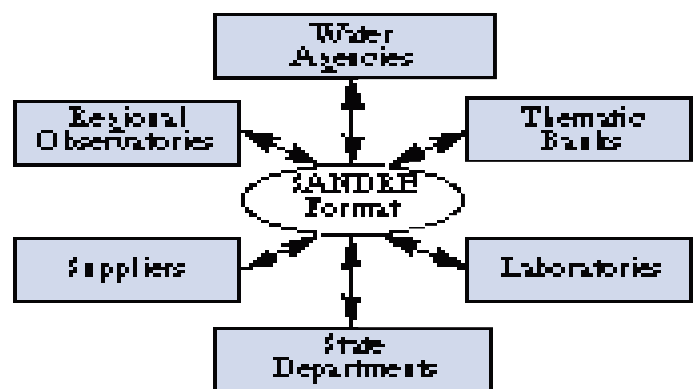


Figure 2 : A sole exchange format whatever the number of users

## International Network of Basin Organisations

### CONFERENCE FOR THE SETTING UP OF AN "INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BASIN ORGANIZATIONS"

AIX-LES-BAINS (SAVOY - FRANCE)

Control of water resources now requires a sound and integrated management, while protecting ecosystems and meeting the users' needs. The most appropriate unit is the hydrographical basin.

During the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), which was held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992, the French Government proposed the setting up of an International Network of Basin Organizations whose objectives would be :

- to facilitate the preparation of tools for institutional and financial management and planning.
- to help organize data banks and models adapted to the different needs,
- to disseminate results and exchange know-how,
- to promote training programmes.

The French Basin Organizations (Water Agencies, Basin Committees) took the initiative, upon the request of Mr. BARNIER, French Minister for Environment, in inviting their opposite numbers to a meeting for setting up this network. This meeting took place in Aix-les-Bains, Annecy and Chambéry on 4, 5 and 6 May 1994 and gathered delegates from 18 countries.

Basin organizations which have already been created in 5 countries (Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Poland and Venezuela) with French cooperation and based on the French experience, as well as 12 other countries (Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Hungary,

Ivory Coast, Morocco, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Spain and Ukraine) which are interested in doing the same, sent representatives.

This meeting was held in the presence of the Chairmen of the six French Basin Committees and Water Agency Management Boards.

Observers from important multilateral funding agencies (such as EBRD, the World Bank, EEC, UNDES and UNEP) also attended.

IOW was entrusted with the Network Secretariat.

The final recommendations of the meeting and the results of the work groups were presented, as planned, last June in New York, at the General Assembly of the Commission on Sustainable Development by Mr. MANCEL, IOW's Director of International Cooperation.

### THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BASIN ORGANIZATIONS (INBO)

The International Network of Basin Organizations is open to :

- organizations managing large national or even international river basins and the cooperation structures they have developed amongst them ;
- governmental administrations in charge of managing water resources in the countries interested in developing basin organizations ;
- bi and multi-lateral cooperation agencies supporting institution-building activities related to large catchment areas and aquifers.

#### The founding principles :

The Network members must apply or declare themselves ready to apply the following principles :

- organization of an integrated management of water resources at the hydrographical basin level ;
- setting up systems for funding pluriannual development and protection programmes

based on the "user-polluter-pays" principle and on solidarity within the basin ;

- looking for procedures involving the local administrations, water users, NGOs concerned as partners in river basin planning and management ;

- capacity-building for informing and training these partners' representatives to fulfil their responsibilities and carry out their missions.

The French Government and Water Agencies have accepted to financially support the secretariat of the Liaison Bureau. This task will be carried out by the International Office for Water (IOW).

Spain and Mexico have expressed the wish to host the next Network plenary meetings in 1995 and 1996.

### First meeting of the Liaison Bureau in Romania

The first meeting of INBO's Liaison Bureau was convened in PIETRA-NEAMT from 8 to 10 October 1994 at the Romanian Government's request. It was chaired by Mr. Gheorghe LASCU, General Manager of Apele Romane.

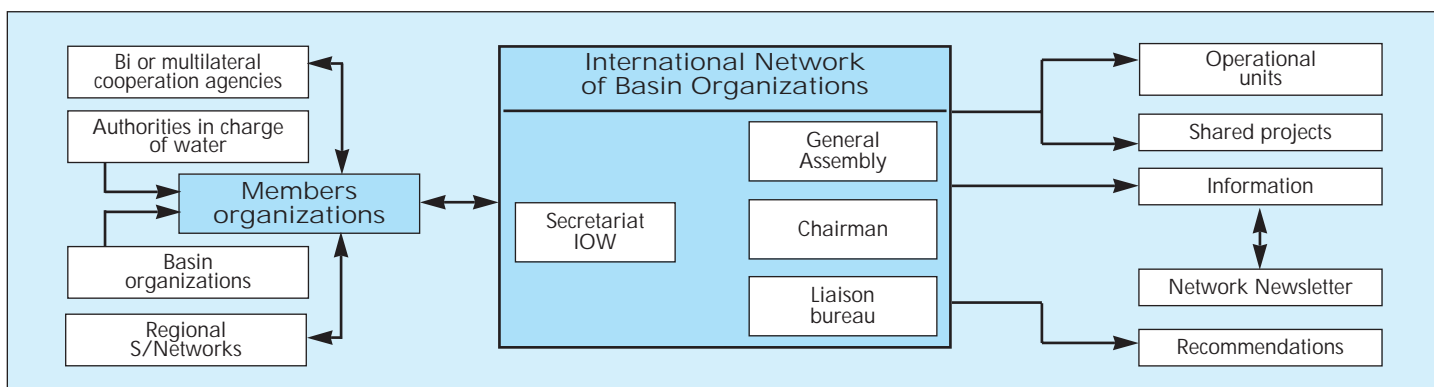
Mrs. SERBU (Romania) and Messrs BENEVIDES (Brazil), DUCHEIN (France), KOUADIO (Ivory Coast), MESTRE (Mexico), NOAIN (Spain) and WALCZYKIEWICZ (Poland) attended this meeting with Mr. DONZIER (IOW) as Secretary to the Network.

The Bureau adopted the principles for organizing the Network according to the chart below which is the Network "Charter".

It also launched two common priority projects :

- the publishing, three times a year, of the "Network Newsletter" which will gather articles written by the members themselves, on the one hand ;
- the implementation of a documentary cooperation programme intended to exchange publications on institutional issues within the Network, on the other hand.

The Bureau also proposed to cooperate in the fields of monitoring networks and data banks. The procedures will be studied during the next meeting which will take place in GDANSK (Poland) from 8 to 12 March, 1995.





## Water and Health

### ROUND TABLE ON "WATER AND HEALTH IN THE UNDERPRIVILEGED URBAN AREAS"

This round table, which was announced during the meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development in New York in June 1993, was held in Sophia Antipolis, France from 21 to 23 February 1994, and chaired by His Excellency, Mr Stéphane HESSEL, Ambassador of France. It gathered about a hundred international experts who participated in the works divided into four topics : institutional problems, health and community participation, appropriate technologies and know-how, and financial means.

These works led to a final declaration stressing the right to potable water for all the outskirts and underprivileged districts of large cities in developing countries and giving precise guidelines for the implementation of actions included in Agenda 21 (Rio, June 1992). The "Sophia Antipolis Recommendations" were presented at the Ministerial Conference on Water and Sanitation held in the Netherlands in March 1994 as well as at the meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development held in June 1994 in New York.

They will be collected in a book that will present successful and innovating experiments to be used by decision-makers and professionals in the field.

The meeting was supported by the French Ministries for Environment, Foreign Affairs, Cooperation, Health and Cities, and Public Works as well as by the General Council of Maritime Alps and Nice City : logistics were entrusted to the International Office for Water.

Mrs. VEIL, State Minister, Minister for Health and Cities and Mr. BARNIER, Minister for Environment have officially opened and closed the meeting.

## World Bank

### WORLD BANK WATER RESOURCES SEMINAR, DECEMBER 13-15, 1994, LANSDOWNE, VIRGINIA, USA

The International Office for Water, represented by Mr. MANCEL, Director of International Cooperation, participated in the World Bank annual seminar on Water Resources. The major topic of the seminar was "Implementing the World Bank's Water Resources Policy". This policy was articulated in the 1993 policy paper entitled Water Resources Management.

The seminar was attended by World Bank resource professionals from a wide variety of fields as well as officials from some of the borrowing countries and selected individuals from external support agencies. On the whole, 250 participants, out of which 85 external to the World Bank, attended.

After a general presentation followed by regional presentations by Mr. SERAGEL-DIN, Vice-President, works have been pursued through 2 parallel sessions :

- Water Supply and Sanitation (Sector Retrospective Review, Innovative Approaches, Efficient Delivery of Services, Financing of Water Supply & Sewerage Services, Private Sector Participation)
- Irrigation and Drainage (Modernization Aspects, Water Users' Associations - The Bank's Experience, Human Resources & Institutional Development).

## Collaborative Council

### COLLABORATIVE COUNCIL FOR WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION

Following the plenary meeting held in Rabat in September 1993, the French Government decided to particularly give attention to the group "Institutional Management Options" whose responsibility was entrusted to IOW.

Therefore, IOW participated in the meeting of the Collaborative Council which took place in Geneva from 20 to 22 October 1994.

## Monaco Conference

### PAN EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGIES 17 - 18 JUNE, 1994

This event, which was funded by the Monaco Authorities and organized by the Event Management Company, gathered about a hundred participants, mostly coming from Central Europe, Russia and Lithuania. They were mainly higher executives, General Directors from Ministries, Mayors of large towns, etc.

The external support agencies involved in this field (ERBD, EIB, the World Bank, the European Commission), as well as private banks (Paribas, Goldman Sachs International) and the main French (CGE, Lyonnaise des Eaux, SAUR) and English Water Suppliers significantly participated in the meeting.

Mr. DONZIER, General Manager of IOW, chaired the Conference Scientific Committee.

The Monaco Conference concretely dealt with issues related to municipal water and sanitation services. Various solutions were presented to improve their organization, management and funding. For instance, the case of leasing contracts used in the towns of Gdansk in Poland and Brno in the Czech Republic showed how beneficial it could be for municipalities to collaborate with private companies which would share their know-how.

It was clearly demonstrated that harmonizing standards among the countries of the European Union and Eastern and Central Europe would require several years and significant investments. The financing of these investments will be a major problem.

The main external support agencies presented the required procedures to improve project preparation. Therefore, it is of prime importance that the financial balance of water services should be reached through a better cost recovery from the users and pricing taking into account the real water cost.



## EUROPEAN NETWORK OF DG XI

### NATIONAL CORRESPONDENTS FOR WATER POLICY

The Network members met twice in Brussels in 1994, on April 12 and October 19-20.

The following issues were dealt with :

- ★ information on the setting up of the European Environmental Agency and on the progress of its work programme, concerning the Topic Centre on "INLAND WATERS" in particular,
- ★ future research requirements in the field of freshwater,
- ★ a classification of sludges which becomes necessary, due to the lack of comparability between data coming from the different States, to apply the Directive on urban wastewaters,
- ★ the Directive on pesticide marketing (91/414/EEC) and its related sub-directives (91/71/EEC - 94/37/EU, 94/43/EU),
- ★ the new proposition for a Directive on drinking water (88/778/EEC),
- ★ propositions for Directives on bathing waters presented by the Commission together with codes of good agricultural practices,
- ★ preparation of an Action Plan for groundwaters.

These meetings were aimed at exchanging information on the work in progress within the Commission and in Member States and at advising DGXI on scientific and technical matters to reinforce the quality of its propositions.

The next Network meeting will take place at the beginning of 1995. The main topics will be as follows :

- ★ action Plan for groundwaters,
- ★ directives on hazardous substances,
- ★ water and agriculture.

The members who represent France in the Network are Messrs. LEFROU (BRGM) and LE LOURD (IOW).



## EUROPEAN TOPIC CENTRE ON INLAND WATERS

L'Agence Européenne de l'Environnement a désigné, lors de son Conseil d'Administration de décembre 1994, les Centres Thématiques sur lesquels elle s'appuiera pour réaliser les études sectorielles nécessaires pour dresser régulièrement l'état de l'environnement dans l'union Européenne.

En ce qui concerne les eaux continentales, l'Agence a soutenu la fusion au sein d'un groupement unique des consortia qui s'étaient déclarés intéressés, conduits respectivement par le WRC (Grande-Bretagne), le CEDEX (Espagne), l'OIEau (France) ainsi que la NIVA (Norvège).

Ce groupement est chargé en 1995 de conduire les études d'identification des paramètres utiles pour suivre l'application des directives communautaires sur l'eau (NW1), d'expertiser les réseaux existant dans les Etats membres (NW2), de proposer le création d'un réseau européen des données sur les ressources en eau (NW3) et d'en engager la mise en place expérimentale dans le premier domaine du suivi des lacs et grands réservoirs (NW4).

## RIET

### REGIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES

The Singapore Regional Institute for Environmental Technologies (RIET) was created in 1993 with funding from the ECC and the Singapore Government.

The aim of this institute is to find environmental markets in south-east Asia and to meet needs, wherever possible using European technology. IOW was named as the RIET's French partner within a European network including the Kernforschungszentrum in Karlsruhe, Germany, The Danish Water Quality Institute, ISMES in Italy and AEA Technology in Great Britain.

## United Nations

### COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT UNO, NEW YORK, 16-27 MAY 1994

Water issues were largely discussed during the second meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development which was held in the United Nations Organization from 16 to 27 May 1994, especially among the working group in which Mr. MANCEL from IOW participated on behalf of the French Government.

The recommendations issued by the Commission emphasized the importance of strengthening programmes for developing institutional capacities and human resources. This is the necessary condition for the efficient development and protection of inland water resources.

In this respect, the Commission duly noted the importance of the meeting which created the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), convened in Chambéry (France) from 4 to 6 May 1994.

It also noted the recommendations of the Round Table on "Water and Health in the Underprivileged Urban Areas" which was held under the auspices of the French Government (Sophia Antipolis, 21 - 23 February, 1994).

### WORKING GROUP OF UNITED NATIONS/ ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Until the International Agreement for the Protection and Utilization of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, signed in Helsinki in March 1992, has legal force, IOW is organizing the work of the Special Task Force on prevention, control and reduction of point pollution, on behalf of the French Ministry for Environment.

Three meetings were hosted in France in 1993 and 1994 and managed by Messrs ENDERLEIN and DELAVALLE. They were attended by representatives from Croatia, Finland, Hungary, Poland, Czech and Slovak Republics and Slovenia. The Task Force's recommendations will be included into the report which will be presented to the Geneva meeting planned for the beginning of 1995.



## India

### THE FRANCO-INDIAN COOPERATION IS ABOUT TO BECOME EFFECTIVE

The 1994 Franco-Indian Cooperation programme in the field of integrated river basin management, implemented by the International Office for Water at the request of the French Embassy in New Delhi, consisted of 3 phases :

● a mission in France, from 26 May to 9 June 1994, with Mr. D. MOHILE, Chief Engineer in the Central Water Commission (CWC) and Mr. ILANGO VAN, Director of the Department "River Basin Management". This mission enabled them to study the possibility of setting up a decentralized river basin management policy by associating all the users to the decision-making process and by way of a water charge system for pollution discharges and water withdrawals and incentive financial aids.



## China

The State Planning Commission of the People's Republic of China, was invited to France by the French General Planning Commissioner, and came on November 24, 1994 to IOW Headquarters in Paris for a presentation on the expertise of the "French water professional system".

Our Chinese guests thus attended lectures on our operators' know-how, especially as

● a 2-week training course gathered 10 higher officials of the Central Water Commission or coming from various States of the Federation. This course which dealt with water policy in France and the detailed description of how the "Basin Committee-Water Agency" system operates, took place in Sophia Antipolis, Aix-en-Provence, Lyons, Orleans and Paris from 17 to 28 October.

● a 3-day Franco-Indian seminar on "Global River Basin Management" was held in New Delhi from 12 to 16 December. During this seminar, the participants were informed about the management systems of both countries, compared their experiences and discussed about numerous issues including water price, water charges recovery, the adaptability of the French system to the Indian context and the possible participation of the private sector in water supply.

In the seminar conclusions, the participants agreed to study the possibility of setting up a basin organization while taking into account the Indian context. This ambitious project is in line with a medium-term (5 years) prospect which would comprise 4 main components :

- the setting up of a pilot management organization in an experimental river basin to be chosen in 1995,
- the setting up of a coordinated information system on water resources,
- the definition of standards for industrial discharges,
- the strengthening of training capacities in the water field with the support of the existing Indian Institutes.

concerns leasing (DAEI - Ministry of Equipment), Water Agencies (Seine-Normandie), research (GIP Hydrosystems), large regional land developments (EDF, CNR and BRL) and municipal water supply (CGE, Degremont, SAUR).

At the end of the day, Mr. LAN SHI LIANG, Director General and Chairman of the delegation, praised the lecture quality and invited the French companies to be more in evidence on the Chinese water market where development needs are considerable.

## Japan

### THE 1994 FRANCO-JAPANESE SEMINAR ON "WATER AND SAFETY"

The Fifth Franco-Japanese seminar on "Water and Safety" which took place in Tokyo and Osaka from 10 on 14 January 1994, was convened by the Japanese Ministry of Public Works.

The French delegation, headed by Mr. LAURENT, Director of the Water Department at the Ministry for the Environment, was composed of Messrs COMPAS from the National Rhone Company (CNR), CHAMBOLE from the Lyonnaise des Eaux-Dumez, DEMAY from the Société du Canal de Provence, DONZIER from the International Office for Water, HENRY from the Department of Pollution and Risk Prevention, REDAUD from Adour-Garonne Water Agency, RIZZOLI from the Seine Dams Institute and Mrs PELARD from the General Directorate for Administration and Development at the Ministry for Environment.

The Japanese experts presented schemes for flood prevention and control, protection against high tidal water and typhoons in large cities and the construction of "super-embankments" on waterways, of retarding reservoirs and underground conduits in heavily urbanized sites.

The French experts focussed on issues such as floods, river pollution, pollution risks for drinking water. They gave institutional and technical mitigating measures while insisting on the function of Water Agencies and Basin Committees, on warning systems, on integrated watershed management and the training of decision-makers.

## Iran

Following the Franco-Iranian seminar on water resources management and river basin development, held in October 1993, Messrs GHARAVI ESFAHANI and OWSIA, Technical Advisers responsible for catchment areas in the DJAHAD Ministry, came to France from 6 to 12 December 1994 .

Their mission schedule was prepared by IOW in relation with the Ministries for Foreign Affairs and Environment, Agropolis, CIRAD, CEMAGREF, ENSAM, INRA, ONF, ORSTOM, SOGREAH and the Seine Dams Institute.

Then, Mr. LE LOURD went to Tehran from 17 to 22 December 1994 to follow up the progress of the cooperation programmes dealing with mapping of a pilot river basin with the assistance of CIRAD, snow survey with EDF, flood control with CNR, and the setting up of water-related data banks on a watershed scale with IOW.





## Mexico

### FRANCO-MEXICAN SEMINAR ON REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT GUADALAJARA, 4-7 JULY 1994

This seminar gathered more than 200 persons, especially future members of the basin committee in the process of being established in the Lerma-Chapala basin. It was organized by the Comisión Nacional del Agua (CNA) and the Instituto Mexicano de Tecnología del Agua (IMTA) (on the Mexican side) and by the Technical Cooperation Department of the French Embassy in Mexico (on the French side).

Coordination of the French experts' lectures was entrusted to the Department of International Cooperation of the International Office for Water.

This seminar emphasized the importance of a dialogue and participation approach to water resources management with the basin users.

### TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR THE MEXICAN EXECUTIVES OF "BASIN COMMITTEES"

A 5-week training programme, addressed to 14 Mexican executives who belong to the first "Basin Committees" being set up on the Lerma Chapala and Rio Bravo basins, was held in France from 5 September to 7 October 1994.

The first part of this programme consisted of theoretical lectures on the need for a water policy, the presentation of the French Water Law and institutional aspects. This programme which was carried out in the Centre of the International Office for Water located in Sophia Antipolis, also included field visits of treatment plants and water supply facilities.

The second part comprised meetings in several French Water Agencies (Rhône-Méditerranée-Corsica, Adour-Garonne, Rhine-Meuse and Seine-Normandie) and in the French Ministries for Environment and Foreign Affairs.

As this turned out to be a success, a second group of Mexican officials will come to France in 1995 to attend a similar training course.

## Brazil

### PIRACICABA CONSORTIUM

During a mission to France which was organized by Cités Unies Développement on 9 December 1994, a delegation of the PIRACICABA Consortium, composed of representatives from municipalities of three river basins

in Sao Paulo State, wished to be informed on the international cooperation activities developed by the International Office for Water.

Future prospects could be developed in the setting up of an appropriate basin organization in relation with the Seine-Normandie Water Agency as well as in professional training of agents of urban water supply and sanitation services and in exchanging documentation.

It should be remembered that the PIRACICABA Consortium is a member of the International Network of Basin Organizations.



## Algeria

### ANRH - NATIONAL AGENCY FOR WATER RESOURCES PROTECTION OF THE MITIDJA AQUIFER AGAINST POLLUTION

This project, which will last four years (1994 - 1997), is implemented within a Franco-Algerian cooperation programme which aims at monitoring and protecting the Mitidja waters.

This programme comprises an operational component which intends to improve the existing means of measurement, analysis and evaluation, and a "research" component which deals with perfecting and adapting the methods required for monitoring, analyses and pollution assessment.

The coordination was entrusted to IOW by the French Embassy in relation with the Rhône-Méditerranée-Corsica Water Agency, SAGEP, GEOLAB and Toulouse University.

## Kenya

A first mission headed by Mr. GARDIN from the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs with Mr. SAUVAGET, IOW's expert, went to Kenya from 19 to 25 June 1994. On this occasion, possible lines of cooperation in the "Water" sector were discussed with Mr. MWONGERA, Director of Water Development and Mr. JOUVE, Cultural Adviser to the French Embassy in Nairobi.

A second mission, led by Mr. SAUVAGET, took place from 3 to 15 October 1994. It enabled two projects identification : Human Resources Development and Integrated River Basin Management. Two Kenyan "Task Forces" immediately went to work to prepare an inventory and draft terms of references for each project.

## West Africa

### DEVELOPMENT OF THE SENEGAL RIVER

The Conference gathering the Heads of OMVS Member States, took place in Bamako (Mali) in June 1994. It recalled the institutional and national aspects of setting up the Agency for managing shared works (AGOC) on the Senegal River.

It approved the report from GIBB and Partners who reached the same conclusions as the International Office for Water in its 1993 expertise.

This being so, and due to the international organizations' consensus, the French assistance to be given by IOW to AGOC will begin in early 1995 with funds from the French Ministry of Cooperation.

It consists in helping with the Agency establishment and organization according to the management and operation tasks to be carried out (task definition, drawing out of final statutes ; defining the relations with OMVS (specifications), internal management structures, as well as establishing institutional and contractual relations between users and the new Agency).

## Mauritania

The French Cooperation Mission in Mauritania entrusted the International Office for Water with the task of organizing a training course on hydrology for executives from the Department of Environmental and Rural Development (DEAR).

The objectives were to strengthen the technical capacities of the DEAR's executives whose main mission is to design programmes for the rehabilitation and construction of small dams. Thus, a training on hydrological problems was deemed necessary in order to learn how to select the necessary data, to control information reliability, to choose adapted processes and analyse the results obtained, to understand the basis of the methods currently in use and the mechanisms needed to design better adapted approaches.



## Russia

### TRAINING OF RUSSIAN EXECUTIVES IN CHARGE OF THE TOM BASIN

The TOM Basin (Western Siberia) was chosen to experiment an integrated management system in Russia by setting up a pilot basin organization.

The TOM Basin Committee was created in November 1994.

A "Guide Blanc" (White Guide) must propose action guidelines efficient enough to be conclusive, and simple enough to be compatible with the available financial resources.

The training programme, which was carried out in France from 28 November to 9 December 1994 and coordinated by IOW, fitted into this plan and aimed at providing the TOM Basin managing team with precise information on 3 components :

- 1 Technical : network maintenance and control, leak detection, metering, purifying treatment in particular ;
- 2 Economic : a first financial simulation was made by the "WATER" model with Russian executives ;
- 3 Institutional : presentation of the French institutional context of water management and missions of the various organizations and partners to achieve an integrated river basin management.

This training did present the inter-relations necessary to operate a "Water Agency" and to sustainably develop the resources.

## Ukraine

### ACTIM'S RECEPTION OF A DELEGATION

On 5 December 1994, Mr. DONZIER welcomed a delegation led by Messrs TKATCHIOV and KRIVIENKO, Directors at the Ukrainian Ministry for Environment, during their visit in France organized by ACTIM. The Director of Khrakov Water Protection Centre and the three Regional Directors of Environment for Vinnitsa, Nikolaïev and Kirovograd regions were also present.

## Romania

### SEMINAR ON RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT

A seminar was organized by IOW in Bucharest on 10 and 11 February, 1994, within the framework of the bilateral cooperation between the French and Rumanian Ministries for Environment. It was addressed to about forty delegates from "Apele Romane"

Agency and the Romanian Ministry for Environment, with the participation of :

- Mrs MONGELLAZ and Mr. DONZIER of the International Office for Water,
- Mr THIEN DUC of Seine-Normandy Water Agency.

During Mr. DONZIER's mission to Bucharest in August 1994, the bases of a cooperation project for 1995 were defined and discussed as a follow-up of the seminar. This project would deal with the preparation of a national plan for forecasting and warning against flood and accidental pollution. A request for funding has been made to the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the European Commission (PHARE Programme).

## Hungary

### FRANCO- HUNGARIAN SEMINAR IN BUDAPEST

This seminar on water cycle management was organized by ACTIM. It took place in Budapest on 22 and 23 September 1994. Representatives of the French and Hungarian Ministries for Environment, Transport, Telecommunications and Water Management and OVF, and numerous personalities from French and Hungarian municipalities and water corporations attended.

On this occasion, the bilateral Franco-Hungarian cooperation programme was presented. In 1994, it dealt with the following aspects :

- institutional organization of river basin management,
- management of municipal water and sanitation services.

The International Office for Water presented, with the executives in charge of Water and Environment departments in the Southern Trans-Danube region, the simulation which was carried out in the BARANYA Department. It consisted of the following steps :

- a first identification of the potential basis for pollution charges (for discharged pollution loads) by reconstituting the main withdrawals and discharges,
- an analysis of the Hungarian water charge system, its pricing method and the importance of its financial development,
- the definition of a possible pricing system for new charges,
- an estimate of the financial package to be allocated to the Regional Action Fund, as well as an assessment of the investments required by a Water Development and Management Scheme.

### HUNGARIAN DELEGATION

The delegation from the Hungarian Ministry of Transport, Communications and Water Management led by Mr. HAJOS, State Secretary in charge of Water Management, was invited to IOW Headquarters by our President Mr. RENARD on November 14, 1994. Mr. REMAI, Director General of Water Management and Mr. HOLLO, Deputy Director General also belonged to the delegation.

This visit followed the various activities implemented by IOW in Hungary, such as :

- pilot actions carried out in Baranya dealing with integrated management of water resources and the application of the "polluter-pays" principle,
- the expertise carried out by Ms. BITTNER in order to prepare an awareness campaign intended for the Hungarian elected officials on the management of municipal water services,
- the Franco-Hungarian seminar organized in Budapest by ACTIM in September 1994 in the presence of Mr. BARNIER.

This meeting enabled to discuss the approach for a cooperation programme with the Hungarian Authorities for the coming years, in the following fields :

- an awareness campaign for local elected officials, in a first phase during the first semester of 1995, on the training in France of Hungarian trainers,
- the setting up of a quantitative and qualitative data base on groundwater,
- the establishment of pilot "Basin committees",
- the audit of regional water companies,
- flood protection.

The coming vote of the Hungarian Water Law under preparation, should speed up the implementation of these projects in 1995.

## Bulgaria

### PROSPECTS FOR A FRANCO-BULGARIAN COOPERATION

A delegation of Bulgarian experts, led by Mr. KARAGUIOZOV, Director of Water Management at the Ministry for Environment, came to France from 14 to 18 November 1994. They were concerned with the organization of water management and with the Basin Agency system in particular.

This visit was organized within the framework of the PHARE programme of European Commission.

When the meetings and visits ended, IOW organized a meeting with the participation of Mr. CARBONNEL, Coordinator of the Franco-Bulgarian Environmental Cooperation, to discuss the pluriannual cooperation prospects in the water sector.

The first field of cooperation will concern the follow-up of the river basin management system initiated by the Bulgarian Authorities after the missions of representatives from French Water Agencies in 1993.

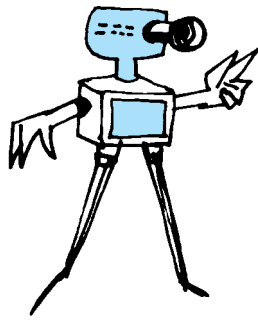
This system is already planned in the new Bulgarian Water Law to be passed.

In the first phase, work will be undertaken in the Yantra pilot river basin, the results thus obtained will be taken into account in a second phase to prepare a national institutional and legislative system for water management.

The activities included in the first phase are as follows :

- an information sharing programme on modern practices in river basin management for municipalities, users, and local technical administrations,
- an assistance to the pilot basin committee comprising the definition of operation procedures, the financial feasibility and assessment of the programme, a first analysis of the existing water-related data, and the procedure for setting up a basin data bank,
- the preparation of an educational programme for schools,
- the establishing of a small local documentation and training centre.

The second line of cooperation will concern an information exchange on the best available techniques, research-development results, water management methods and tools.



### A MULTIMEDIA TOOL FOR FLOOD PREVENTION AND CONTROL

The French Ministry for Environment (DGAD - General Directorate for Administration and Development) requested IOW to prepare a demonstration model on new educational technologies (such as multimedia in particular) for starting an awareness campaign on the best practices in basin development and management, intended for local developers and decision-makers.

The work will deal with flood prevention and control in a first phase ; the model will display a case study of a real river basin and the phenomena which occur with different time patterns and development options.

Mr. LILIN, Department of Nature and Landscape, is supervising this project which is being carried out with the help of Nice University, in relation with the (RMC) Water agency, the Regional Department of Environment (DIREN) and the Administrations of Provence-Alps-Riviera Region (PACA).

### A MULTIMEDIA TRAINING MODULE

The training module implemented by IOW upon the request of UNEP and the French Ministries for Environment and Cooperation, aimed at giving relevant answers to practical issues by presenting an integrated and coherent approach to river basin management.

The CD-ROM technique has been used because of its adaptability to the different uses required by the trainer. The participant's and trainer's handbooks have been completed with case studies on international watercourses and national cases based on river basin management as adopted in some countries.

This module has been implemented in three languages : French, English and Spanish.

Three regional training courses were undertaken by IOW and based on this training support.

The first training course in French was held in Dakar (Senegal) from 14 to 25 March, 1994, in collaboration with the Organization for the Development of the Senegal River Basin. It gathered 19 participants coming from 12 countries of Francophone Africa.

The second training course, conducted in English, took place in Jakarta (Indonesia) from 18 to 29 April, 1994 and was organized with the collaboration of the Directorate General of Water Resources Development. It was attended by 20 participants coming from 8 Asian countries.

The third course was held in Caracas (Venezuela) from 6 to 17 June, 1994 and organized with the help of the Venezuelan Ministry for Environment and Renewable Natural Resources. This regional training course conducted in Spanish was attended by 19 participants from 10 countries of the region.

Another training course took place in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) from 30 January to 10 February, 1995.





## Burkina Faso

The International Office for Water was entrusted with the evaluation of sectoral water policy by the French Ministry of Cooperation.

Two experts, Mr. ARCANGELI, IOW's Secretary General, for institutional aspects, and Mr. PREVOT, Consultant, for technical aspects, carried out the following tasks :

- inventory of the sector (recent evolution of legal and regulatory institutions, of sectoral policy ; impact of the new monetary situation, ...), with the help of the Burkinabe administration, progress report on the reflection under way, and examination of the lines of action to be considered.

- assessment of the reliability of the current assistance system and proposition for its possible extension.

The mission was undertaken, from 7 to 15 May 1994, on this basis and in compliance with the general orientations defined by the Ministry of Cooperation. It proposed a medium-term programme (1995-1998) defining the conditions of assistance from the French Ministry of Cooperation (assistance principles and priorities, types of action, appropriate operators, ...).

## Senegal

### COOPERATION WITH THE SONEES

Last Summer, the International Office for Water organized several training courses in Senegal, for the National Water and Electricity Company of Senegal (SONEES) executives and technicians, on the following topics ; operation of borehole pumping, chlorinator maintenance, technical management of water supply networks, training of trainers, pipe cathodic protection.

Following the discussions with Mr. DIENG, SONEES's Technical Director, which took place when he visited our facilities in Limoges, new actions were planned in the field of drinking and wastewater treatment to be carried out on SONEES premises in Dakar.

IOW will supply SONEES with educational materials such as meter testing benches, piezometer table, technical documents for a pilot drinking water supply network... in order to equip its Water Training Centre.

This beneficial collaboration is supported by the French Development Bank (CFD).

## Cape Verde

IOW was charged, at the request of the French Ministry of Cooperation, with the evaluation of the activities undertaken in this country with the support of the French Assistance and Cooperation Fund in the water sector.

A mission comprising an hydrogeologist, Mr. PREVOT, and an institutional specialist, Mr. ARCANGELI, thus went to Cape Verde from 4 to 18 April 1994 to examine :

- technical aspects : assessment of the equipments implemented (boreholes, springs, galleries), present maintenance quality, operation conditions, utilization level, management procedures, impacts...

- institutional aspects : decentralization of resources management, legal framework (Water Law, regulations pertaining facilities, ...)

According to the results obtained, the mission prepared a medium-term programme (1995-1998) defining the conditions of assistance from the French Ministry of Cooperation to Cape Verde.

## Botswana

The identification of cooperation projects in the "water" sector in Botswana, was carried out by IOW at the request of the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Messrs CASIMIR and SAUVAGET, IOW's experts, focussed on training needs for the drinking water supply in urban settlements and main villages. The on-going investment "North-South Carrier", will significantly change the conditions of water supply in the main urban centres of the country. By strengthening the infrastructures, it will increasingly require operational know-how.

On the occasion of a mission to France, organized by ACTIM in December 1994, Messrs MPHÖ and KHUPE, respectively Chief Executive of Water Utilities Corporation and Director of Water Affairs, visited IOW's facilities in Limoges and La Souterraine.

Two lines of cooperation were retained as a follow-up of these missions and visits : the organization of a technical training programme in French Companies and the strengthening of local training capacities in Botswana.

## Union of African Water Suppliers

### 7TH UAWS CONGRESS

The 7th Congress of UAWS was held in Dakar from 31 December to 4 January 1994. IOW was involved in two topics :

#### Delegation of public water supply services

Mr. MANCÉL led the information sharing session on this topic, the objectives of which were :

- to present a detailed and critical analysis of French experience on the various delegated management processes and the legal, administrative and financial aspects of contractual relations between administration and private operators,

- to present African experiences in delegated management of services : SODECI, SEEG in Guinea,

- to discuss the different methods of water supply management.

#### Urban sanitation in Africa

The results of the project "Urban Environmental Sanitation in Africa" were discussed. The project, launched in 1992 and financed by the French Ministry of Cooperation, was jointly implemented by the International Office for Water and UAWS. It was completed at the end of 1993. Its objective was to analyse urban sanitation problems in Africa and to propose useful recommendations to guide Africans in charge of sanitation and Funding and Cooperation Organizations.

The recommendations presented at the Congress, particularly emphasized :

- the responsibility of urban municipalities and population in defining and implementing sanitation policies,
- the development of the sector capabilities by

training agents of municipal services, community associations and NGOs and the staff of local enterprises,

- information and health education for populations,

- research for low-cost appropriate technologies.

### SEMINAR ON THE DEVALUATION OF CFA FRANC

A seminar on "Devaluation of CFA Franc : Constraints and Opportunities for water supply and sanitation companies" was held in Abidjan from 10 to 14 October 1994.

The representatives (water suppliers and their supervisory Ministries) from the following countries : Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoro Islands, Congo, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo, participated in the seminar.

The seminar was jointly organized by UAWS, the Economic Development Institute of the World Bank and the International Office for Water with the financial support of the French Development Bank (CFD) and the Government of the Netherlands.

In the recommendations, the participants requested the organization of another seminar which would be particularly devoted to the delegated management of water supply and sanitation services.

They also wanted to rely, as far as possible, on local or regional industries in order to decrease foreign imports and therefore urged these industries to become more competitive.

Finally, particular attention should be given to financial/accounting problems and especially to tariffing aspects.

# Municipal Water Supply Services



## Peru

The International Office for Water was charged, by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, with the organization of a mission composed of three French experts to present the French experience on Water Agencies and the International Network of Basin Organizations, in a meeting organized by the Peruvian Authorities in Huaraz from 1 to 3 September 1994.

These experts, Messrs BERNARD (Seine-Normandy Water Agency), BERTHON (DBE) and ROUANET (Marseilles Water Company) also conducted a technical seminar on "management of pollution hazards, data bases" which took place in Lima from 5 to 7 September 1994.

## Venezuela

### MANAGEMENT OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Mr. DONZIER presented the French municipal organization of water supply to a delegation composed of 19 executives in charge of water management in Venezuela, at ACTIM on 29 November 1994.

The Venezuelan delegates were particularly interested in the French practices for leasing (affermage, concession) services to private enterprises, in the industrial and commercial management of water supply and sanitation, and in water pricing.

## Mexico

### "LEAK DETECTION"

In 1994, the International Office for Water, supported by the French Embassy in Mexico and the French Ministries for Foreign Affairs and Equipment, initiated a cooperation with its Mexican partners on such a priority topic as leak detection in drinking water supply networks.

#### Instituto Mexicano de Tecnología de Agua (IMTA)

Last May, fifteen trainers from the Instituto Mexicano de Tecnología de Agua (IMTA) came to Limoges for a fortnight to attend a theoretical training course, and operate the equipment of a pilot training network.

The International Office for Water made a proposal to IMTA for a technical and educational project in Cuernavaca which would consist in setting up a pilot operating floor for leak detection, similar to the one we operate in France.

#### Dirección General de Construcción y Operación Hidráulica del Distrito Federal de Mexico (DGCOH)

A first practical course, addressed to 15 agents, was organized in Mexico City from 21 November to 1 December, 1994.

All these courses are now directly conducted in Spanish by IOW's trainers.

Due to the very low pressures recorded in some water supply systems in Mexico, new appropriate techniques for leak detection are being tested to better meet the local requirements.

In addition to leak detection, remote control of facilities and networks, operation of sewerage

systems, also seem priorities to be considered in the next IOW's activities in Mexico.

### Water Supply and Sanitation Services in the City of San Luis Potosi (SIAPAS)

At the request of Mr. GARZA BLANC, Director of the SIAPAS, who came to Limoges in October, IOW organized last August, an 8-day training course intended for 18 trainers.

A high quality leak detection equipment was provided for practical work in Mexico.

## Gaza Strip

### EXPERTS' MISSION ON DRINKING WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION

The Department of Foreign Economic Relations of the French Ministry of Economy entrusted the International Office for Water with an expertise on the drinking water supply and sanitation facilities in the Gaza Strip.

This expertise, carried out by Messrs FOULQUIER and SELIER of Marseilles Water Company, aimed at defining the emergency measures that France could finance to quickly improve population coverage (network rehabilitation), and at issuing recommendations on the type of assistance that France could provide for setting up a Palestinian Water Authority (technical assistance, support to management, training, and implementation of a masterplan).

# Training and Documentation Centres

## Nigeria

### TWINNING WITH THE NWRI (NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES INSTITUTE)

The joint work of IOW and NWRI is growing thanks to the backing of the French Embassy.

#### DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

A documentation specialist from IOW went to Nigeria to offer technical assistance in documentation skills to help set up a Centre.

The objectives were :

- the assessment of needs,
- the inventory of documentation and computer equipment,
- the organization of a course on documentation tasks and computer utilization.

The documentary assistance is going on with the supply of additional documents and materials to the documentation centre.

#### TRAINING CENTRE

Training courses and supply of equipment have been planned :

- May 1994 : commissioning of a pilot drinking water treatment unit in Kaduna,
- June 1994 : training of two trainers on the topic of "water reuse" in Limoges,

● November 1994 : international seminar in Kaduna on the topic "industrial wastewater treatment", expertise and technical assistance mission for a study "drinking water treatment reactive and energetic economies",

● January 1995 : experts' mission to Kaduna - strategic development of NWRI, training of two Nigerian librarians in Limoges,

● February 1995 : dispatch of materials, handbooks and computer equipment for the library, expert advice on how to install the equipment in the library in Kaduna.

Heavy educational equipments similar to these used at La Souterraine, a pilot wastewater treatment unit will be delivered in April/May and collected by the IOW in situ.

Experts missions are also planned on irrigation.



## Russia

### PROJECT TO SET UP A TRAINING CENTRE FOR WATER PROFESSIONALS

As part of the bilateral Franco-Russian cooperation project to set up a pilot River Basin Committee for the river TOM in Western Siberia, it became clear that Russia needed a large stock of water management training tools for both top civil servants and for the heads of water departments in municipalities and industries.

The experience acquired by IOW in its Limoges and La Souterraine training centres interested our Russian partners.

For the location of the training centre, the Federal Authorities chose the town of YEKATERINEMBOURG in the Urals where it could benefit from the backing of the Russian Institute for Research into Integrated Management and the Protection of Water Resources (ROSNIIVE).

Mr. DONZIER, General Manager of the Office and Mr. YATCHINOVSKI, responsible for the CIS at the French Ministry for Environment visited Yekaterinembourg from 13 to 16 November 1994, where they established very fruitful contacts with Mr. CHERNYAEV, Science Academician and Director of the ROSNIIVE Institute, and the municipality itself. Hopefully, once the feasibility studies have been carried out, work can start at the beginning of 1995.

## Slovak Republic

Discussions are underway with the Ministry for Environment and the Slovak Environmental Agency to set up a Regional Institute for Environmental Techniques for Central Europe in Bratislava.

The European Community has already expressed an interest in this project. The Slovak Authorities presented it at the annual meeting (September 1994) of the Environmental Liaison Committee in charge of preparing regional PHARE programmes. A final decision will be taken in Autumn 1995.

## Poland

### OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE "FUNDACJA WODY"

The Polish Water Foundation was officially set up in Gdansk on 23 September 1994. It will receive financial backing of 11,400 million French francs over 30 months as part of a contract signed with the International Office for Water. The money will come from the European Community LIFE programme and the Polish, French and Danish authorities.

Under the patronage of Mr. ZELICHOWSKI, Polish Environment Minister, the Foundation was officially opened during the visit to Gdansk on 24 September of Mr. BARNIER, his French counterpart.

At its first meeting, the Board elected Mr. PLAZYNSKI, Voivode of Gdansk as President of the Foundation and decided to continue renovation work on the administration building that will house offices and the library and to begin work on the Training Centre which will contain training equipment for the operation of drinking water supply systems and wastewater treatment plants.

The Foundation will move to its new premises during the first quarter of 1995 and begin its technical training programme next Spring.

In the meantime, a priority programme is underway. Its aim is to help local elected and other public officials with decision-making on water-related issues.

Last July, trainers from the River Basin Agencies of various regions (Gdansk, Krakow, Katowice, Wroclaw) took part in a training course at the IOW centres in Limoges and Sophia Antipolis. They helped prepare the first awareness-raising activities for local councilors which focus on a better management of water and sanitation services.

It provided the perfect opportunity to recall the importance of information and training at all hierarchical levels and to publicize the activities of the Polish Water Foundation.

The first two courses took place at the beginning of December 1994 ; one for the local authorities in the region supervised by Krakow Water Agency, the other for that of Katowice Agency.

The administrative and managerial training is aimed at Civil Servants from central and provincial (voivodal) government, from the seven newly created "River Basin Agencies" and local authorities.

The technical training is intended for technicians responsible for operation and maintenance of municipal drinking water and sanitation services.

The Foundation's documentation centre will be organized along the lines of the SNIDE (National Information and Documentation Service on Water) at the Office in Limoges.

## Czech Republic

Mr. DONZIER and Mrs. MONGELLAZ visited Prague from 13 to 15 September 1994 at the invitation of the T.G. Masaryk Institute, designated an associate member of IOW by the Czech Authorities.

Meetings were held with Mr. NOVOTNY, Vice-Minister for the Environment and with those responsible for water at the Ministries for Environment and Agriculture on the following points :

- a request for assistance in the preparation of the new Water Law through discussion in a Franco-Czech working group,
- the details of a project to set up a training and documentation unit within the Institute. This is currently seeking finance from the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the European Commission (PHARE).

In the current context of change from the previously centralized organization towards a more "entrepreneurial" approach, this unit will offer in-service training for Public Servants of local administrations and communities on improving technical, administrative and financial management practice for the water services.

## Morocco

### Training for trainers at ONEP (National Office for Drinking Water Supply)

Last June, in close liaison with the NANCIE, the International Office for Water carried out a technical assistance and educational training for trainers at the BOU REGREG Training Centre in Rabat. Together they put together a technical and teaching file on their pilot drinking water supply system.

### Practical work on pressure loss, flow rate distribution and pump

This work was a follow-up to that already carried out last summer with the trainers from the sanitation department of ONEP.

## Vietnam

Upon the request of the DREE (Department for Foreign Economic Relations) of the French Ministry of Economy, a technical and economic evaluation of the need to reinforce the training of Vietnamese water professionals is being carried out by IOW. A working group has been set up locally by the Ministry of Construction, Ministry of Education and Professional Training.

A pre-project was presented to the State Planning Committee.

The aim of this work is to reach an agreement between France and its Vietnamese partners on the description of the project, the guarantees necessary for lasting quality and the conditions that need to be fulfilled for the system, thus reinforced, to be economically viable.



## Middle East Peace Process

### MULTILATERAL WORKING GROUP ON WATER RESOURCES

The activities of the Multilateral Working Group on Water Resources, initiated during the meeting held in Beijing in October 1993, continued in 1994.

➔ A mission composed of 2 experts from the European Union including Mr. HAENER of the International Office for Water, 2 experts from the United States and Canada, has carried out investigations in Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Gaza and Cisjordan from 4 to 19 January 1994.

The research undertaken by this mission mainly dealt with :

- data acquisition and collection (monitoring network, measure types and frequency, data quality)
- the existing data bases and processing systems
- the necessary conditions for setting up a specific data bank for the "Palestinian Territories"

➔ A study tour of Israelian, Palestinian, Jordanian and Egyptian experts was organized in France from 7 to 9 February 1994. It mainly dealt with :

- the French organization of the water sector, the Water Agencies' role and missions, - National thematic banks related to water resources,
- the activities of various Consultant Firms, companies and organizations involved in related-water data management.

This study tour also comprised visits of installations (centres of remote control, hydro-metric equipment, management of hydroelectric systems), presentation of data bases (water-related data base, surface water quality monitoring) and finally meetings in the French Ministries for Foreign Affairs and Environment.

➔ A seminar was organized in Atlanta (USA) from 19 to 24 March in order to propose and discuss a methodology to standardize monitoring networks and data in the region. The expert from the International Office for Water, Mr. MANLEY, represented the European Union.

➔ The meeting of the Multilateral Working Group on Water Resources was held in Mascate (Sultanate of Oman) from 17 to 20 April 1994. Mr. MANCEL, Director of International Cooperation of the International Office for Water, participated with the French delegation. This meeting approved the proposition that the European Union and the United States, with the assistance of France and Canada, work with the concerned parties to develop a plan for implementing the recommendations of the Atlanta seminar, including the setting up of a Palestinian data base.

This mission was composed of three experts from the United States, one expert from the European Union, a representative from France, one from Canada and Mr. HAENER from the International Office for Water who represented the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

➔ The new plenary session of the Multilateral Working Group on Water Resources was held in Athens from 7 to 9 November. It gathered 46 delegations. The French delegation was composed of Messrs PELBOIS, French Ministry for Foreign Affairs, OLIVER, representing DREE, MANCEL, Director of International Cooperation of IOW, OSPITAL, Adviser to the French Embassy in Amman.

Four topics were discussed :

- ① the setting up of the water data bank
- ② practices for water management and resources conservation
- ③ the improvement of water supply
- ④ concepts for water management and international cooperation.

The first step which is the setting up of a Middle East Water Data Bank, will consist in creating an adhoc committee whose meeting will be held at the beginning of 1995 in the region.

In addition, IOW will organize a regional training course on water supply network rehabilitation in Spring 1995, with the financial support of the French Government.

➔ An Action Plan, the "Middle East Water Data Bank Implementation Plan", was developed and presented to the Israelian, Palestinian and Jordanian representatives.

➔ A new mission of experts carried out investigations in Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Territories from 9 to 21 September 1994. Its aim was to gather the comments of the various parties concerned in order to have this document approved at the Athens meeting of November 1994.



## Djibouti

### ASSIGNMENT TO ASSESS COMPUTER SYSTEMS USED FOR WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

18-28 OCTOBER 1994.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Djibouti Republic has requested the French Ministry of Cooperation to carry out an expert assessment of the "water resource" database of its Hydraulics Department.

The French Ministry of Cooperation entrusted this mission to the International Office for Water and it was carried out by Mr. HAENER between 18-28 October 1994.

As laid down in the terms of reference, the assignment involved the evaluation of the computer systems currently in use and the presentation of concrete proposals for their future development.

This inventory of existing materials was concurrently carried out with the analysis of the requirements of potential users of the information system. This study notably brought to the fore :

- A need to reinforce coordination between the various institutional partners, in particular at the data collection, acquisition and checking stages ;
- Numerous deficiencies causing the current information system to run poorly ;
- Difficulties at the data collection stage.

The report recommended the creation and implementation of a real data management tool, precise definition of responsibilities and data collection, acquisition and checking procedures, an updating of computer hardware and software and further training for the computer department executives.

The International Office for Water is a State approved and non-profit making association created in 1991.

It is entrusted with **3** missions :

## ① GATHER WATER-RELATED PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS

Today 136 organizations, 23 of which are foreign, are members of the Office

## ② ORGANIZE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### ➔ To assist in the setting up or the modernization of :

- Training centre
- Documentation centres
- Information systems and data banks upon the request of interested countries

### ➔ To give institutional advice to local public authorities in order to improve :

- The development and management of large watersheds and aquifers
- The organization of urban water supply and sanitation services
- The control of industrial discharges
- The coherent development of irrigation and rural water supply

## ③ MANAGE FOUR COLLECTIVE SERVICES

### ➔ The National Training Centre for water professions :

- 5,000 local elected officials in 3 years
- 3,200 professionals/year

### ➔ The National Information and Documentation Centre on water (SNIDE) :

- Telematic : 36-17 EAU.DOC
- Library with 160,000 references

### ➔ The National Bank on Water-related Data (BNDE) :

- Management of the National Network on Water-related Data (RNDE)
- National Secretariat on Water Resources Data (SANDRE)

### ➔ Permanent survey of studies and research on water :

- Scientific and Technical Council
- Management of FNDAE, Inter-Agencies and Water-Detergents programmes

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