ICOLD groups around 100 countries members.

You want your country to become a new ICOLD member?

You will find everything you need here!
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PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION FOR ICOLD MEMBERSHIP

The first step is to set up a National Committee on Large Dams of your country with:
- Constitution (see an example of the Constitution later in this document)
- Committee Officers
- Members.

The National Committee on Large Dams should include the widest possible range of people:
- Government officials (especially those in charge of dams’ security)
- Utilities using hydroelectric dams to produce power
- Public works companies engaged in dam construction
- Engineering offices specialized in Civil works
- Scientists and senior engineers, etc.

When a National Committee has been set up, it should write (see an example of letter later in this document) to the Secretary General stating:
- that a National Committee on Large Dams has been set up in the applicant country with:
  - name of the new National Committee (ex ANGOCOLD for ANGOLA)
  - names of Committee Officers (Chairman, Secretary, Vice-Chairman ..)
  - full address of the Committee to which correspondence has to be directed with telephone and e-mail
- that it wishes to become an ICOLD member
- that it is acquainted with the Constitution and By-Laws of ICOLD
- that it is prepared to adhere to this Constitution and collaborate fully with ICOLD
- that it is in readiness to compile as soon as possible, after election, a Register of the large dams in its country.

On receipt of this letter, and if the Secretary General is satisfied that the application is in order, he will include the application on the Agenda of the next General Assembly for consideration.

After the acceptation of the General Assembly, the new National Committee is allowed to participate to all ICOLD activities and General Assemblies as ICOLD country member.
Zagreb, (date)  
CROATIAN COMMITTEE ON LARGE DAMS  
Secretary General, ICOLD

Dear Mr.,

We have pleasure in notifying you that a Croatian Committee on Large Dams (CROCOLD) has been formed in the Republic of Croatia and that CROCOLD wishes to apply for membership of the International Commission on Large Dams.

We have read the ICOLD Constitution and By-Laws and fully accept the provisions therein. We would be most pleased to work with ICOLD.

On election to ICOLD, we should prepare the Register of Large Dams in the Croatian Republic for inclusion in the World Register. We enclose a short list of our dams as Appendix 1.

The particulars of our National Committee Officers are as follows:

Chairman: Mr.XXXXX  
Title

Secretary: Mr.YYYYY  
Title

Address:  
Tel.:  
Fax:  
E-mail:  
Website:

The list of Committee members appears in Appendix 2.

We trust you will treat this letter as our official application for membership of ICOLD and include our application on the Agenda of the ZZth General Assembly in XXXXXXXXX.

A copy of the Constitution of the Croatian Committee on Large Dams is enclosed. Please accept our sincere thanks for your support for CROCOLD’s membership of ICOLD.

Sincerely,
(Signature)
EXAMPLE OF A CONSTITUTION (VIETNAM)

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

Independence - Freedom - Happiness

RULES OF VIETNAM NATIONAL COMMITTEE
ON LARGE DAMS

(Promulgated following Decision No. 73/2004/QD-BNN
dated November 1, 2004 by the Ministry of Home Affairs)

CHAPTER I

NAME, PRINCIPLE AND OBJECTIVE

Article 1: Name:

Name of the organization in Vietnam:

HỘI ĐẢP LỚN VIỆT NAM

International transaction name:

VIETNAME NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON LARGE DAMS

Abbreviation in English:

VNCOLD

Article 2: Principle and objective

Vietnam National Committee on Larger Dams, or Committee for short, is a professional organization assembling organizations and individuals, who are interested in such fields of activity in connection with the development of large dams as research, planning, surveying, designing, building, manufacturing equipment and materials, information technology, environment, management, business etc., and who voluntarily join it for the purpose of:

- enhancing professional enthusiasm and sense of responsibility;
- exchanging professional information and experience, and improvement of occupation;
- making professional consultation and social examination;
- enlarging scientific and technological cooperation and investment collaboration,

for the development of safe, sustainable and effective large dams in Vietnam.

Article 3: Relationship

Vietnam National Committee on Large Dams cooperates with and joints other scientific and technological organizations in Vietnam, in the
region and in the world in accordance with legal regulations of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and with international practice.

**Article 4: Scope of operation**

Vietnam National Committee on Large Dams operates nation-wide, has its legal status and is based in Hanoi.

It has its own publications, i.e. Bulletin and Review.

It has its own logo, seal, property finance and bank account (in Vietnamese and foreign currencies).

**CHAPTER II**

**TASK AND AUTHORITY**

**Article 5: Task of the Committee**

1. Encouraging the enthusiasm and creative ability of its member's enhancing their sense of responsibility in order to develop large dams with high effectiveness in investment, safe exploitation in comprehensive use and sustainable ecology.

2. Encouraging and helping its members to improve their professional qualifications (techniques, management, etc.) in order to contribute to the training of a high quality human source for the development of large dams in Vietnam.

3. Informing propagating and popularizing the knowledge in scientific and technological fields relating to the development of large dams.

4. Effecting consultancy, anti-thesis and contribution of remarks to State agencies on the lines, structures, policies, project planning, building and managing the operation of large dams in accordance with legal regulations.

5. Implementing full responsibility toward the Union of Scientific and Technical Associations of Vietnam and other social organizations of which the Committee is a member, and collaborating with other professional associations and organizations.

6. Strengthening its relationship with the International Commission on Large Dams - ICOLD - and other international organizations in accordance with State regulations.

7. Protecting the legitimate rights of its member organizations and members in their professional activities.

**Article 6: Authority of the Committee**

1. Convening congress and conference, and establishing its member organizations.
2. Conducting seminars for experience exchange and popularization, and for presenting research results and new achievements in the development of large dams.

3. Appointing its members to take part in conferences, seminars and working groups inside and outside the country on large dams in accordance with current regulations.

4. Conducting professional crash courses and training for its members and people who have a need, in the fields relating to the development of large dams.

5. Making remarks on the policies, programmers, projects as well as petitions for solutions to the State on the development of large dams to serve socio-economic objectives.

6. To perform consultation, counter-argument, appraisal and technical control projects for large dams socially or professionally.

7. To co-ordinate its activities with organizations and individuals, domestic and foreign, in order to exchange information and to do research together and invest for large dams.

8. To carry out economic activities in conformity with the stipulations of the law by means of consultations, information, productive and managerial services (planning, design, application and transfer of technical achievements and advanced technologies etc., co-operation and co-investment for large dams.)

9. To publish printed matters, research works, consultative documents, and to popularize professional knowledge in conformity with the stipulations of the law on publication.

10. To use legal sources of income.

11. To issue cards and professional certificates for the members.

12. To commend or penalize members and its affiliate organizations.

CHAPTER 3
MEMBERSHIP

Article 7: Members

Vietnamese organizations and individuals as Vietnamese citizens taking part in or concern the fields relating to large dams in Vietnam or approving the regulations of the VNCOLD and voluntarily register to join the VNCOLD might become its member.

1. Collective members are collectives or organizations doing research training, consultative and constructional works, manufacturing equipment and carrying out managerial or business activities in various economic sectors.
Individual members are managers, scientists, specialists, technologists, businessmen or social activists.

2. Collective or individual members of other associations, if they approve VNCCOLD's regulations and voluntarily join VNCCOLD may become admitted into VNCCOLD.

3. Members (collective and individual) may be classified as follows

* Official member are domestic ones eligible for fully taking part in activities of and in decisions for the VNCCOLD's issues.

* Associate members are those who live outside the country in the main, have enthusiasm to contribute to the Committee but are unable to join VNCCOLD's activities fully.

* Honorary members are prestigious and highly professional individuals but are unable to directly take part in VNCCOLD's activities. These people’s might become VNCCOLD's honorary members.

These two last categories have neither rights to join the elections to or stand for its executive board or the main posts of the Committee, nor rights to vote for its important matters.

Article 8: Member’s tasks

1. To observe VNCCOLD’s regulations, to carry out its directives or decisions and to actively take part in activities of the Committee according to their capacities and to the appointment of the Committee. To join common activities and pay their dues.

2. To incessantly cultivate their professional knowledge and honor the moral quality of their profession.

3. To defend the honor and legal interest of the Committee, to encourage everybody to respond to the Committee’s activities and pay attention to recruiting new members.

4. + For associate members, when they want to withdraw their membership they should send their application to the Committee.

+ Collective and individual members might be expelled from the Committee when they infringe upon the law or upon the Committee’s regulations, or when their membership is in abeyance, their assets are liquidated or their business go into bankruptcy.

Article 9: Member's rights

1. To join the activities of the Committee, to discuss its work, to vote or nominate leading organs of the Committee.

2. Top material or spiritual rights corresponding to their contribution to the Committee.
3. To obtain the Committee's assistance, supply of information and to be improved in terms of professional level towards the development of large dams.

4. To enjoy the Committee's sponsorship and assistance to carry out their initiatives, inventions or research works in line with the Committee's capacity.

5. To get the Committee's legal patronage in their professional activities within the Committee's competence.

6. To put forward their petitions to functional State agencies in the matters about to the policies and regimes relating to their professional activities through various organizations of the Committee.

CHAPTER 4

THE COMMITTEE'S STRUCTURE

Article 10: Principles of Organization

VNOCLD is established on the principles of voluntary, democratic concentration and self-support in terms of financial matters. The Committee and its organs operate in compliance with the State's stipulations relating to the Committee and with these regulations.

Article 11: National Congress of Representatives

The plenum congress is convened every five years after the summons of its Central Executive Committee. An ordinary congress is convened only when two-thirds of Central Committee members or one-third of the number of official members request.

The congress discusses and passes the Central Committee's reports during the past term, amends its regulations (if necessary) and decides the personnel issue for the forthcoming congress.

Article 12: The Central Executive Board

The Central Executive Board is the highest leading organ of the Committee between the two terms of the National Congress. It holds a meeting once every year. The number of Central Executive Board members is decided by the National Congress of representatives. The Central Executive Board has the following tasks:

1. Implementing the Resolution of the National Congress of representatives and the Rules of the Committee;

2. Deciding on the programme of action, budget and organization of the Committee;

3. Making personnel decisions for such positions as: President, Vice-President, Member of the Presidium, General Secretary, Inspection Board.
Article 13: The Presidium of the Central Executive Board

The Presidium is a permanent organ of the Central Executive Board, endowed with the task of implementing the Resolution of the Congress of the Central Executive Board. The Presidium includes the President, Vice-Presidents, General Secretary and Members.

The Presidium meets once every six months and can hold extraordinary sessions convened by the President or demanded by the majority of members.

Article 14: The Secretariat and Office of the Committee

The Secretariat is a permanent section of the Committee for information reception and summarization, and for management of the Committee Office. The Secretariat includes the General Secretary, Deputy General Secretaries and Member appointed by the Presidium.

The Committee Office is the work place of the Secretariat consisting of such sections as documents and letters, organization, finance, etc.

Article 15: The Central Inspection Board of the Committee.

The Central Inspection Board has the task of inspecting the implementation of the Rules of the Central Executive Board, of sub-committees and members; inspecting the finance of the Committee and reporting them at Congresses, sessions of the Executive Central Board and of the Presidium.

The Central Inspection Board is headed by a Vice-President. Its deputy - heads and members are appointed by the Central Executive Board.

Article 16: Special sections and affiliated organizations of the Committee.

The President considers and decides on establishing Special Sections and economic organizations (centres, enterprises, services, etc.) to serve the various activities of the Committee. Their establishment and operation are subject to legal regulations.

Article 17: Sub-committees of the Committee

Sub-committees are organized in areas having from 10 official members upward in accordance with the decision of the Presidium. Sub-committees conduct periodical congress of their members once every two years and half (30 months) in order to:

a. Discuss and approve the report on their activities.

b. Discuss the reports of the Committee.

c. Make personnel decision on the executive board of sub-committees and send representatives to attend the National Congress of the Committee. The number of members of the executive board of sub-committees is decided by the congress of sub-committees.
CHAPTER V
FINANCE OF THE COMMITTEE

Article 18: Revenues and expenses of the Committee

The Fund of the Committee is made up from various sources: committee fees and financial support of members (mainly from collective members), economic activities (economic organizations, services, etc.) financial aids and other legitimate sources.

Committee's expenses:

a. Spending on professional development (information, training, etc.) and administration;
b. Spending on salaries, allowances, travel allowances, insurance, welfare benefits for specialized staff of the committee.
c. Paying annual committee fee to the International Commission on Large Dams and realizing its obligations toward organizations of which it is a member.
d. Paying other legal expenses in accordance with legal regulations.

Article 19: Financial and accounting management

The Committee’s finance and accounting is managed under the financial and accounting statute of Professional Associations in accordance with legal regulations.

If the Committee is dissolved, its property and finance shall be settled in accordance with legal regulations. The Committee makes reports to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Ministry of Home Affairs.

CHAPTER VI
REWARD AND DISCIPLINE

Article 20: Reward

Organizations and members with outstanding achievements in the work of the Committee or in the field of activities of large dams shall be rewarded by the Committee or proposed to competent State organ for reward.

Article 21: Discipline

Organizations and members having activities detrimental to the prestige and honor of the Committee or acting in contravention of the Rules of the Committee shall, depending on the every of the damage, be subject to a form of discipline. Those who cause material damage must pay a compensation according to law.
3. To obtain the Committee’s assistance, supply of information and to be improved in terms of professional level towards the development of large dams.

4. To enjoy the Committee’s sponsorship and assistance to carry out their initiatives, inventions or research works in line with the Committee’s capacity.

5. To get the Committee’s legal patronage in their professional activities within the Committee’s competence.

6. To put forward their petitions to functional State agencies in the matters about the policies and regimes relating to their professional activities through various organizations of the Committee.

CHAPTER 4
THE COMMITTEE’S STRUCTURE

Article 10: Principles of Organization

VNCCOLD is established on the principles of voluntariness, democratic concentration and self-support in terms of financial matters. The Committee and its organs operate in compliance with the State’s stipulations relating to the Committee and with these regulations.

Article 11: National Congress of Representatives

The plenum congress is convened every five years after the summons of its Central Executive Committee. Unordinary congress is convened only when two-thirds of Central Committee members or one-third of the number of official members request.

The congress discusses and passes the Central Committee’s reports during the past term, amends it regulations (if necessary) and decides the personnel issue for the forth coming congress.

Article 12: The Central Executive Board

The Central Executive Board is the highest leading organ of the Committee between the two terms of the National Congress. It holds a meeting once every year. The number of Central Executive Board members is decided by the National Congress of representatives. The Central Executive Board has the following tasks:

1. Implementing the Resolution of the National Congress of representatives and the Rules of the Committee;

2. Deciding on the programme of action, budget and organization of the Committee;

3. Making personnel decision for such positions as: President, Vice-President, Member of the Presidium, General Secretary, Inspection Board.
CHAPTER VII

PROVISIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Article 22: Modification and amendment to the Rules of the Committees

The modification and amendment the Rules of the Committee are under the competence of the National Congress of representatives, who unanimously approved and then submitted them to the Ministry of Home Affairs for ratification before they come into effect.

Article 23: Effectiveness for implementation

The Rules consist of 7 chapters and 23 articles, were approved by the First National Congress of representatives of the Vietnam National Committee of Large Dams on July 11, 2004 and becomes effective by a decision of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

VIETNAM NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON LARGE DAMS
NOTE ON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON LARGE DAMS

CENTRAL OFFICE

Secretary General   Michel de VIVO                secretaire.general@icold-cigb.org
Assistant           Nathalie SCHAUNER           nathalie.schauner@icold-cigb.org
Digital Manager     Daniel COVIDAT            daniel.couvidat@icold-cigb.org
Media Manager       Emmanuel GRENIER           emmanuel.grenier@icold-cigb.org

Address             61, Avenue Kléber           75116 PARIS
Phone                +33 1 47 04 17 80
Website              www.icold-cigb.org
E-mail               contact@icold-cigb.org

BOARD MEMBERS

See list and contacts on ICOLD website: http://www.icold-cigb.org/GB/icold/board.asp

MEMBER COUNTRIES

See list and contacts on ICOLD website: http://www.icold-cigb.org/GB/icold/member_countries.asp

ICOLD VISION

To be the world’s leading professional organization “dedicated to advancing the technology of dam engineering and supporting the socially and environmentally responsible development and management of water resources to meet the worldwide demand”

WHO IS ICOLD?

ICOLD is a non-governmental International Organization which provides a forum for the exchange of knowledge and experience in dam engineering.
ICOLD leads the profession in setting standards and guidelines to ensure that dams are built safely and economically, and in an environmentally and socially sustainable manner.
THOSE GOALS ARE ACCOMPLISHED BY

- Providing an international forum for the “exchange of knowledge and experiences” in the planning, design, construction, operation, maintenance and dam safety.
- Technical committees that address emerging issues and publish technical bulletins on issues such as monitoring performance of dams, reanalysis of older dams and spillways, environmental and social impacts and mitigation, the effects of aging and decommissioning of dams.
- Promoting public awareness of the beneficial role of dams in the sustainable development and management of the world’s water resources.

ICOLD’S ORIGINAL FOCUS

Original aim of ICOLD was to encourage advances in dam engineering in the areas of:
- Planning
- Design
- Construction
- Operation and Maintenance

ICOLD IS CHANGING

Since 1960s emphasis has been placed on:
- Dam Safety
- Monitoring of Performance
- Reanalysis of Older Dams & effects of Aging
- Environmental Impacts

Recently, new areas of focus include:
- Cost Analysis
- Sharing International Rivers
- River Basin Development
- Water Management
- Social Impacts
- Providing Information for the Public
- Financing

ICOLD IN THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM

In addition to its contribution to engineering, social and environmental issues relating to dams, ICOLD also seen as offering its members a place among equals in the international community. By talking and working together on shared problems ICOLD members develop a better understanding and more tolerance of each other.
PROMOTING GOOD PRACTICE

ICOLD promotes transparency and assessment of both the negative and positive impacts of dam projects. We would also support the analysis of alternative options to dam projects as long as there is an objective assessment of the positive and negative impacts of these options. While promoting good practice, we also respect the sovereignty of our members and the decision making processes and structures that exist in individual countries. By promoting good practice in all aspects of water resource development especially those involving dams, ICOLD strives to provide effective economic, sociologically and environmentally sustainable solutions to meet the needs of both current and future generations.

MAIN BENEFITS FOR ICOLD MEMBERS

- To belong to a widely recognized international organization, which brings the members the possibility to deliver their message and to be listened globally.

- To share a one century-old experience and knowledge, in every field associated with dams, water and hydroelectricity, with engineers, operators and stakeholders from about 100 countries.

- To meet potential partners for elaborating and developing projects in any areas: engineering, financing, environment, social...

- To get logistical support from ICOLD Central Office for documentation and contacts.

- To access to the richest library in the world in the field of dams.

- To have the ability, through participation in one of the 25 Technical Committees, to contribute to the evolution of knowledge in the field of dams, water and hydroelectricity, and thus to be an actor of the improvement of the well-being of the world population.

OBJECTIVES

To encourage improvements in the design, construction, maintenance and operation of dams by bringing together information thereon and by studying technical questions relating thereto.
ORGANIZATION

- **Board of Officers** elected for a three-years term of office (President, 6 Vice-Presidents, Secretary General-Treasurer)

- **National Committees** (about 100-member countries) which compose the General Assembly

- **Technical and Special Committees** (about 25 TC & SC)

- **Central Office** in Paris (Secretary General and staff)

- **Official Languages**: English and French

- **Financial incomes**: Membership fees, Annual Meetings & Congresses and Publications

- **Relationship with UNESCO**: NGO (non-governmental organisations) - Category A.

ACTIVITIES

The Commission accomplishes its objects by:

- Exchanging information among its several National Committees (by correspondence or on the ICOLD website).

- Holding Annual Meetings or Congresses hosted by National Committees and enriched by pre and post study tours where design and construction of dams are discussed.

- Organising and co-ordinating studies and research for advancing Science & technology.

- Publicising proceedings, reports and other technical documents.

The ways and means are as follows:

- **Annual Meeting** (800-1500 delegates – one week), meets annually

- **Congress** (1000-2000 delegates – one week), meets every three years

- During Annual Meeting or Congress:
  - General Assembly, with representatives of all National Committees
  - Technical and Special Committees (25 x 20 members about 500 members)
  - Technical Symposium (all delegates)
PUBLICATIONS

- Congress Proceedings,
- Technical Bulletins,
- Technical Dictionary,
- Pamphlet,
- Word Register on Dams etc...

See ICOLD Catalogue available on the ICOLD website:
http://www.icold-cigb.org/GB/publications/publications.asp
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The idea for an International Commission on Large Dams was first mooted by a group of engineers attending the 5th Conference on Hydro-Electric Power and the Conference on the Development of Science that were both being held in Grenoble, France, in 1925.

The purpose was to provide an international forum for discussion devoted exclusively to large dam engineering issues.

The French delegation to a Sectional Meeting of the World Power Conference in Basle (Switzerland) in 1926 tabled a proposal for setting up an International Commission on Large Dams, together with a draft Constitution of the new organisation. The conference voted in favour and accepted the French Government's offer to take the necessary action.

The proposal was again supported in much the same terms by the World Power Conference Executive Council at its meeting in Cernobbio in 1927 but even earlier than this, in December 1926, the 14th International Navigation Congress meeting in Cairo had decided that it would be useful to set up an International Commission on Large Dams.

A French Committee on Large Dams was accordingly created near the close of 1926 under the aegis of the Société Hydrotechnique de France, with Government support. It proceeded to draw up proposals and a draft Constitution, dated 22 December 1927, for circulation through diplomatic channels to interested Governments.

The constitutive meeting of the International Commission on Large Dams was held in Paris on 6 July 1928. The closing session of the International Congress of Electricity Producers and Distributors, on being so informed on 10 July 1928, approved a resolution moved by the new Commission to give moral support. G.G. Ponti, from Idroelettrica Piemonte, Turin, was appointed President of the Interim Executive Council, with G. Mercier as Vice-President and A. Genthial as Secretary.

Six nations attended this first meeting: USA, France, Italy, Romania, United Kingdom and Switzerland, although not all as members.

The French Government notified countries likely to show interest through diplomatic channels.

The 3rd October 1928, the Executive Council of the World Power Conference in London voted unanimously to recognize the International Commission on Large Dams.

The first meeting of the ICOLD Executive Committee (as opposed to the acting committee that had been operating previously) was held in Paris on 20 February 1929.

A cloud appeared on the horizon at the World Power Conference Executive Council Meeting in September 1929 when a controversy arose over relations between these two organisations; the terms of the Constitution, tentatively adopted on 20 February 1929, was questioned.
In order to overcome these difficulties, which prevented countries like the USA and Italy from becoming full members of ICOLD, a meeting of the ICOLD Executive Committee was arranged for June 1930 in Berlin, where the Second World Power Conference Congress was being held; the Constitution was reviewed, and the name was changed to the "International Commission on Large Dams of the World Power Conference". It had only borne its independent title for a matter of two years (July 1928/June 1930).

The first Executive Meeting was held in London on Monday 1st June 1931.

G. Mercier, formerly Vice-President, Chairman of the Permanent Office and Chairman of the French National Committee was elected President of the International Commission on Large Dams of the World Power Conference in recognition of his unceasing efforts to establish the Commission over the previous five years.

The meeting was attended by Germany, Austria, France, British India, Norway, United Kingdom, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia; five other member countries: Dutch India, Japan, Morocco, Romania and Sweden were prevented from attending. The USA and Italy were present as observers. By June 1931, therefore ICOLD of World Power Conference boasted thirteen members.

An Executive Meeting was held every year thereafter except during the war years from 1940 to 1944. Two meetings were held in 1933, 1936 and 1963.

As for the Congresses, the first was in Stockholm in 1933, together with a Sectional Meeting of World Power Conference. Since that time, there has been a Congress every three years, except in 1939, 1942 and 1945.

At the 35th Executive Meeting in Istanbul in 1967, under the Presidency of J. Guthrie Brown, just before the 9th Congress, it was decided that the Commission had grown to the point where it should become an independent association. J. Guthrie Brown had formed a special Committee on Relations between World Power Conference and ICOLD, under G. Drouhin in 1965, and this decision was based on the report from that Committee, with full and friendly support from World Power Conference. ICOLD had at least reverted to its short title.

It was Volume VI of the Proceedings of the 1967 Istanbul Congress that was the first to make no reference to World Power Conference, even though it had appeared on the five other Volumes.

Yet even now, not all formal ties have been severed because some countries like Malaysia share their National Committees with ICOLD and World Power Conference. In Germany, the ICOLD Committee is in fact a section of the German World Power Conference Committee.

ICOLD's title, particularly the word "Commission" has been open to debate because for some, it recalled the earlier dependence on World Power Conference. At the 39th Executive Meeting

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1 The World Power Conference Executive Council Meeting in Accra (Ghana) in August 1967, having been advised by J. Guthrie Brown in July 1967, voted a resolution encouraging the split.
in 1971, President José Toran formed an ad hoc Committee, under J. Cabanius, to report to the 40th Executive Meeting in Canberra in 1972, which they did, in these terms:

"... ICOLD should conserve its present denomination of "International Commission on Large Dams" considering that the word "Commission" refers to the mandate received from National Committees to fulfil the mission defined in Section 2 of the Constitution. Such an announcement does not involve any modification of the Constitution".

This clever move was unanimously welcomed and the attempt to change the name to "International Conference on Large Dams" was side-stepped.

The bulk of the present Constitution and By-Laws were adopted by the 31st Executive Meeting in Paris in 1963, which had been specially convened by President Claudio Marcello (Italy) to discuss the new wording. The 30th Executive Meeting had been held earlier in the year in Cairo.

Amendments to the Constitution and the drafting of the By-Laws were the work of a sub-Committee\(^2\) on Constitution and By-Laws, chaired by J. Guthrie Brown that had been formed by the 29th Executive Meeting in Moscow, June 1962. It was in fact an amalgamation of three existing sub-Committees:

- sub-Committee on Papers and Communications set up under G. Drouhin (France), by the 22nd Executive Meeting, Paris, 1955
- sub-Committee on the Constitution and By-Laws set up under M. Mary (France), by the 24th Executive Meeting, Istanbul, 1957
- sub-Committee on Subscriptions set up under J. Guthrie Brown (U.K.), by the 22nd Executive Meeting, Paris, 1955.

This last sub-Committee was not merged until the 30th Executive Meeting in Cairo in 1963.

The By-Laws provisions on Congress arrangement were dealt with at the 34th Executive Meeting in Rio in 1966, when J. Guthrie Brown was still President, on proposals put forward by the sub-Committee on Constitution and By-Laws, after M. Mary had succeeded J. Guthrie Brown as Chairman.

Frequent changes have been made to the Constitution and By-Laws since that time, although without adding any new issues.

Since the seventies and even before, however, more emphasis has come to be put on certain aspects whose importance has appeared with time. Thus, dam safety focuses on monitoring

\(^2\) at that time, the word "Committee" was still not used.
methods and systems, re-analysis of old dams and spillways on the basis of modern criteria and methods, and ageing effects. Environmental impact is now also an important preoccupation.

More recently, new subjects of study have appeared: cost savings accruing to better constructional approaches, the harnessing of rivers forming international boundaries, information for the public at large, optimization of costs.

After a twelve-year re-organisation effort following on from the post-war reconstruction (1955-1967), ICOLD had been growing fast. The membership rose 61 to 92 countries. The number of papers has also been rising and proceedings intended for the Congress Participants are in addition sold to an ever-increasing number of customers; they are now found on the selves of most Universities, Contractors and Consultancy firms engaged in dam engineering. The Technical Committees had issued an average of 3 to 4 Bulletins per year, with a concentration of almost 6 and even 9.

The high technical standards of its Congresses and its Publications, the efficiency of its operation due to its outstanding Constitution and By-Laws, the vitality of its National Committees and the skill and experience of their members have all contributed to making ICOLD a leader in the community of international technical associations.

In addition to its engineering importance, ICOLD has come to be a medium for international entente. Membership is seen offering a place among equals in the international community, and individuals, by talking and working together on shared problems, develop a better understanding and more tolerance of each other.