

# WRIC News Letter Feb. 2005

Some topics and activities of WRIC are introduced in this corner.

## ① Promotion Workshop for Water Resources Report

'Promotion Workshop for Water Resources Report' was held on Feb.16, 2005 at Charm Palace Hotel in Damascus. The purpose of this workshop is to present and share the outputs of WRIC and to encourage the preparation of Water Resources Report which should be made annually by Syrian C/P of WRIC project.

About 70 people from WRIC, MOI, Ministry of Agriculture, JICA and the other European donors attended the workshop. Almost all of the presentations were made not by main center staff but by basin center staff in order to enhance the equal achievement in 3 centers. Although the contents of presentations have not fully gotten to satisfactory level, it is important to continue to develop and brush up them in future.

We will prepare the 1st edition of Water Resources Report by June 2005 based on the materials which were presented in this



Presentation of Mr.Bassem Jammaz



Presentation of Mr.MazenNaaman

## ② Visit Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Jordan

4 Japanese Experts and 4 Syrian C/Ps visited Jordan from Jan.31 to Feb.2, 2005. The main purpose of this visit was to see the Jordanian Water Information System which was established recently with the cooperation of GTZ, Germany etc and to discuss the utilization of Water Information System in Jordan. Water Information System in Jordan is more advanced and sophisticated than the system in Syria, therefore the experience and knowledge in Jordan will be useful for Syrian C/Ps. We promised to keep contact and exchange the experience and knowledge in future.



Discussion with Mr.Edward Qunqar, Director of Water Resources and Planning, MOWI Jordan



Site visit to Zai water supply plant

## ③ JICA official supporter mission visited WRIC

JICA supporter mission visited WRIC main center on Feb.23,2005. Mr.Tsuyoshi Kitazawa, JICA supporter and the former member of Japanese soccer national team, and the other officials visited Syria in order to make bridge between Syrian and Japanese people mainly through the soccer sport. During their stay in Syria, they visited WRIC and view our activities. We hope they get good idea about our project and bring it to Japanese people after they go back to Japan.





Mr.Kitazawa (right side) and Mr.Leinard (left side)



View actual activities of our project

**④ Mr. Kato and Mr. Umeda arrived and Mr. Sanematsu left Syria**

Mr.Kato and Mr.Umeda, Japanese Experts for Database and GIS system arrived in Syria on Feb.8 and will do their activities until March 7. Their main task in this period is to determine the data format of Database which is adapted to the continuous data from automatic observation stations newly installed in both basins ,and to conduct the technical transfer for utilization of Database and GIS system.

Mr.Sanematsu finished his assignment and left Syria on Feb.23. He supported Syrian C/P to prepare Water Resources Report during his stay. Due to his contribution, above mentioned 'Promotion Workshop for Water Resources Report' was conducted. We deeply appreciate his effort in Syria.



Mr.Kato in office



Mr.Umeda in office



Mr.Sanematsu in lecture

**[Topics of Next Month]**

**① Handing over ceremony of Grant Aid Project will be held on March 3.**

Installation of total 248 of observation stations granted by Japan was finished and handing over ceremony will be held on March 3, 2005. The Minister of Irrigation and Ambassador of Japan will attend the ceremony. Following the ceremony, the site visit and demonstration of observation equipment is planned.

**② Visit Egypt from March 6 to March 9.**

3 Japanese experts and 4 Syrian C/P will visit Egypt to view the Egyptian activities in water resources management and to discuss the feasibility of Syrian C/P's training in Regional Center of Training and Water Study which was established in Cairo, Egypt with the cooperation of UNESCO.

