

## Report of the 10<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE OECD WATER GOVERNANCE INITIATIVE

20-21 November 2017, City Hall of Vienna, Austria

The [OECD Water Governance Initiative](#) (WGI) is an international multi-stakeholder network of around 130 members from public, private and not-for-profit sectors of the world gathering twice a year in a Policy Forum to share on-going policy reforms, projects, lessons learnt and good practices in support of better governance in the water sector. NARBO is contributing to WGI since 2013 by offering NARBO member's and NARBO's experiences on IWRM and telling voices from Asian stakeholders and users of water resources.

The 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of WGI was held from 20 to 21 November, 2017 at the City Hall of Vienna, Austria. The meeting gathered more than 70 practitioners, policymakers and representatives from major stakeholder groups within and outside the water sector. Main objectives of the meeting were to discuss Global Agenda including SDGs and COP 23 and 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of pilot-test of water governance indicators and case studies which were to be launched at the 8<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in Brasilia in March 2018 and to share knowledge and experience on recent water governance reforms and researches and recent events. Program and presentation materials are available at the following OECD's website:

<http://www.oecd.org/regional/regional-policy/10th-meeting-of-the-oecd-water-governance-initiative.htm>



Nor Zamri Bin Sondor, Principal Assistant Director, Selangore Water Management Authority (SWMA), Malaysia and Mr. Tadashige KAWASAKI, secretariat of NARBO joined the meeting as representatives of NARBO. SWMA is one of the contributors to WGI and only one contributor from Asia as a pilot-test organization of water governance and has been contributing on a voluntarily basis since May 2017. Mr. Sondor shared the feedback of the two-time pilot testing for improvement and told the effectiveness of experience of NARBO's RBO Performance Benchmarking. Mr. Sondor also offered the comments on the actions to develop water governance indicator to measure effectiveness of using Webchart for evaluation

based on the experiences of NARBO. Mr. Sondor's comments were well received and incorporated into the highlights of the meeting.

Mr. Kawasaki emphasized that too rapid and excessive decentralization could be a problem rather than a solution at the plenary discussion as one of the lessons learnt of Asia, and it was also mentioned in the highlights of the meeting. Mr. Kawasaki introduced the 3<sup>rd</sup> Asia-Pacific Water Summit and outlined the 'Better Governance Session<sup>1</sup>' which was held jointly by NARBO, OECD and UNESCO.

WGI secretariat appreciated NARBO's continuous supports to WGI in dissemination of OECD Principles on Water Governance<sup>2</sup> in the region as a mentor. In this way, NARBO contributed to the discussion and development of OECD's water governance indicators. Developed OECD water governance indicator together with good practices will be shared at the 8<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum as the report of "OECD Water Governance at a glance".



Photo of the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting



Photo of the field visit to a public sewerage treatment plant of Vienna City

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.narbo.jp/event/3rdAPWS2017.html>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.oecd.org/governance/oecd-principles-on-water-governance.htm>