



Minutes of REACT Meeting 7 November 2012

Crisis Management Center of the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense

Chair: Col -General Khairiddin Abdurahimov, Chairman of the Committee of

Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES)

Participants: REACT partners (<u>Annex IV - attached</u>)

1. Introduction:

The Chairman welcomed the participants informing them that in December the last REACT meeting is going to be held and all REACT members are expected to deliver annual report on their projects related with Disaster Risk Reduction.

2. Weather overview for October and forecasts for November 2012, Jamila Baidullaeva, Hydromet

The presentation provided brief account of weather in October stating that the month was relevantly dry in comparison to last year. Such weather will continue until 12th November 2012 after which rains are expected in various parts of the country. Monthly precipitations in most parts of the country were very low except in Shaymak and Murgab where the precipitations were higher than normal climatic indications (140-364 % above norm). As for November, temperatures in the lower elevation are expected between 0-5 degree during night time and 15-20 during day time. Temperatures during precipitations are expected 5-10 degree. In the mountain areas temperatures during night time are between -3+2, during day time between 10-15 degree, in the East of GBAO 13-18 snowing, and temperatures during day time -3+2 degree.

3. Health system preparedness for winter and winter health issues, Craig Hampton, WHO

Craig Hampton from WHO informed the participants that Ibragimov Saidnavar from the Ministry of Health who was suppose to present the health system preparedness is in field trip and could not attend the meeting. Craig stated that based on the report from the Ministry of Health, preparedness for winter season is going according to plan and one of the main problems which the government is addressing at the moment is provision of hospitals and clinics around the country with necessary amount of fuel. Craig also highlighted that use of coal as fuel is quite hazardous as it produces carbon monoxide which can lead to death immediately therefore development of awareness campaign in terms of appropriated use of coal and energy efficient stoves is very important during this period of year.

4. Preparedness for winter season of 2012 – 2013, Abdullo Ismatov, MEDT

Abdullo Ismatov informed the participants that based on the government decision a special Head Quarter has been established this year chaired by the 1st Deputy Prime Minister and





comprising of representative of several state agencies to deal with the process of preparation for winter season. The group prepared an Action Plan the primary focus of which are sectors such as education, health, energy supply, food security, and migration. The presenter stated that since the hydropower produced in the country is not sufficient to supply the total population, the government is looking at other alternatives such as provision of gas and coal to all public facilities. Due to lack of sufficient water at Nurek dam limits were introduced in terms of supply of electricity to rural areas and instead the government is focusing on establishment of centers of selling of coal. Mr Ismatov then provided details on how much reserves of coal has been provided to each region stating that this initiative is still in progress. Coal and wood is mainly provided to public schools around the country and to all health facilities and selling points are established around the country for those who wish to buy it. Finally details were provided on state efforts to ensure food security around the country by establishment of food stocks which is mainly done by Consumers Union.

- To the question raised by the Chairman that why the price of wheat flower rising continuously despite increase of wheat production within the country, Mr Ismatov replied that increase of prices of wheat flower is linked with the increase of prices among the countries which export this product and in case of Tajikistan these are Kazakhstan and Russia.
- To the question raised by Madina Aliberdieva that which are the less prepared territories in Tajiksitan for winterization Ismatov replied that due to remoteness of some locations and road conditions provision of coal and food stocks have not been completed in Khatlon region and GBAO. Therefore this areas can be considered more vulnerable.

5. Rasht earthquake: assessment of winterization, gender and conflict situations, Maruf Kandikov, REACT Secretariat

The presentation of REACT Secretariat was summary of winterization, gender and conflict assessment conducted by REACT Secretariat in Rasht Valley and Kumsangir and Panj districts chosen as relocation sites for 45 affected families. Kandikov explained the methodology used during the assessment, listed REACT partners which supported the initiative and number of respondents and areas covered during the assessment.

The presentation highlighted the main challenges faced by the affected population which can lead to further complication such as conflict situations and gender issues. In terms of winterization the presentation revealed that a large number of affected families are not prepared for winter season due to number of reasons. Taking into account the emerging needs of the relocated earthquake survivors as well as those living in affected areas, the assessment team recommended number of measures to address the emerging needs and assist the population at least to overcome the winter season.

It was suggested that, REACT clusters will develop sector response plans based on the results of the assessment, which then would be consolidated into one appeal/plan and presented to possible donors. It was further proposed that appeal/plan to be provided to DCC members through UN RC (co-chair of REACT). In addition, Vadim Nigmatov OCHA representative in Tajikistan, suggested that appeal/plan can be shared among regional donors, through OCHA regional office in Almaty.

At the end of the presentation Kandikov announced that following REACT meeting, REACT Secretariat will disseminate a report providing full update on the assessment, as well as more detailed suggestions to Cluster Coordinator agencies.





Central Asian Regional Risk Assessment conference, Charles Kelly, DRMP

CARRA Meeting was facilitated by UNDP/BCPR and OCHA Regional Center for Central Asia and Caucasus. This meeting was attended by around 30 senior and mid-level/technical staff of relevant international organizations, as well as by representatives of the Organizing Committee of the Central Asian Center for Disaster Response and Risk Reduction and the Executive Committee of the International Fund for the Aral Sea.

One of the main focus areas of CARRA has been monitoring and assessing risks, as well as early warning. As the frequency and severity of disasters and other crises have risen in Central Asia, national governments and donors have accorded a growing amount of attention to this area, launching in 2009-11 a considerable number of initiatives designed to operate at the regional as well as national levels. UNDP and OCHA have engaged in mapping and analyzing national and donor capacities in these areas.

The overall objective of the mission at CARRA Meeting was: to present Monitoring and Early Warning System activity in Tajikistan, and to make a presentation on winter preparedness in Tajikistan.





Annexes







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