



Committee of Emergency Situations & Civil Defense, ECHO and UNDP Tajikistan  
Project "Strengthened Disaster Risk Management in Tajikistan"

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**Minutes of REACT Meeting**  
**5 May 2011, UN Conference Hall**

Chair: Mr. Alisho Shomahmadov, Head of IMAC, Head of Staff, Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES)

Participants: REACT partners (Annex IV - attached)

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**1. Introduction:**

Chairman of the meeting, Colonel Shomahmadov opened the meeting and welcomed all the participants.

**2. Training Programme for CoES Staff in Tajikistan**

Colonel Ibrohimov Muhabbat, from CoES informed the participants about the process of development of the Training Programmes for the staff of CoES. He briefed the participants about the background of the development process, indicating that necessity of having a specific Training Programme focusing mainly on DRM issues has been identified back in 2008 among the key officers of the CoES. Currently initiative is being implemented by CoES with the support of UNDP DRMP and financial support of SDC. In frames of the given initiative training needs of CoES has been conducted through round of consultations with CoES officers, other relevant stakeholders (UN, NGO's, IOs and etc) as well as a special survey among a large number of CoES officers. Mr. Ibrohimov presented the major findings of the training needs assessment. Basing on the identified needs, it is currently agreed to develop two training programmes: 1. Basic level DRM course (Course I) and, 2. Advance level DRM course (Course II). The Basic Level DRM course will be trained to newly recruited staff members of CoES, while the advance level course will target the CoES staff members, who have over 3 years of experience within CoES. Mr. Ibrohimov also provided brief outline of both programmes and next steps planned by CoES. For more details, please refer to **Annex I**.

Mr. Ubaydullov from UNICEF noted that programme will cover all CoES staff members including regional CoES branches and inquired whether the programme considers the specificity of different locations of the country?

Mr. Ibrohimov, replied that programme will consider all the types of the disasters existing within the country, however, when the programme will be applied at local level, definitely the specificity of the local areas will be considered.

Mr. Mustafa Karim, from FOCUS informed the participants that currently FOCUS is closely negotiating with CoES on possibilities of enhancing the Search and Rescue capacities of the regional CoES in GBAO, which will require additional funding. Currently initiative is at proposal stage and subject to funding.

**3. Presentation of the project: "Strengthening Disaster Response Capacities of the Government of Tajikistan":**

Mr. Ganjibek Akramov from International Organization of Migration provided a brief overview of the project currently implemented by IOM in partnership with the CoES in Tajikistan and which aims at establishing an Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This nine-month project is designed to support the Government of Tajikistan (GoT) to found a robust disaster response coordination mechanism by a) establishing an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) under the CoES and b) strengthen capacities for education and training of concerned state structures. This project will help the GoT enhance intra-service and inter-agency coordination mechanisms for disaster response. It also envisages provision of necessary equipment and infrastructure improvement support for the EOC.

The project objectives will be achieved through: a) interagency meetings for strengthening coordination mechanism, workshops with government technical experts leading to the commission of a comprehensive needs assessment and development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs); b) a series of customized trainings and joint field exercises with international agencies, a study tour to a country with a well-established disaster management and response system, and development of up-to-date training manuals; c) strengthening the capacity of the CoES through renovating, equipping and furnishing of an EOC. Further on, Mr. Akramov briefed the participants about the activities implemented and planned under the given component of the project. For more details please refer to **Annex II**.

Mr. Ghazi Kellani from Oxfam GB proposed to join the efforts in organizing the Study Tours for the employees of the CoES, since Oxfam has similar Study Tours planned.

Colonel Pilkevich, from CoES informed the participants that he is the Head of Working Group within CoES established specifically established for implantation of the given project. He added that project is implemented in several phases. As an initial phase of the project a Study Tour was organized to Kazakhstan, because the context of the country and DRM system is similar to one in Tajikistan. The set up of Kazakhs EOC was learned as well as the set up of communication system, which will be replicated in Tajikistan. It is also planned to conduct similar Study Tour to Turkey, Ankara EOC, which is comparably more advanced than Kazakh EOC. Learning of the Turkish experience will allow Tajik CoES to plan further improvement of the EOC to be established.

Mr. Ubaydullov from UNICEF asked what kind of goals and objectives are set for the legislation review component of the project.

Colonel Pilkevich replied that overall DRM legislation of the country has been on-going with the support of different organizations, such as UNDP DRMP. So, given legislation review will be the logical continuation of the previous reviews, however it will mainly target the development of legal base for the EOC to be established as well as SOPs for its further functioning.

Mr. Usmanov from UNDP DRMP, added that all the priorities in the field of DRM legislation review of the Government are outlined and recorded in the National Disaster Risk Management Strategy 2009-2015.

#### **4. Development of the National Risk Assessment methodology in Tajikistan:**

Mr. Oleg Zerkal, an UNDP international consultant briefed the participants about the development process of the Unified National Risk Assessment Methodology. He informed the participants that the process has been initiated in November 2010 and currently the methodology has been developed through round of consultations with all the relevant stakeholders (local and international) and tested in Kulyab zone. In his presentation, Mr. Zerkal described the methodology step by step. He also, presented the process of testing the methodology in Kulyab zone with the preliminary findings of the risk assessment. For more information please refer to **Annex III**.

Mr. Usmanov from UNDP DRMP inquired whether the developed methodology considers the existing capacities and data within the country.

Mr. Zerkal replied that proposed methodology was fully developed basing on the existing capacity and data within the country, since all the analysis were undertaken by the local experts using local data, skills and technical possibilities.

Mr. Bakhtiyor Ashurov from Mission East asked about the timeframes required to conduct the risk assessment using the proposed methodology.

Mr. Zerkal replied that timeframes fully rely on the availability of the data.

Mr. Rustam Ubaydullov from UNICEF mentioned that number of different agencies have developed different methodologies for risk assessment up to date and inquired if there are any synergies among those developed and currently proposed methodology.

Mr. Alisho Shomahmadov from CoES replied that currently existing methodologies are mainly intended for local level, while given methodology is for regional or national level. Mr. Zerkal added that proposed methodology considers all the existing methodology and currently they are in line with each other. Therefore, the results of received by both methodologies can be matched and fulfill each other.

Mr. Zerkal announced that on May 11-12, 2011 it is planned to present the results of the application of the methodology in Kulyab zone to the field experts. On May 17, 2011 it is planned to present the final version of the methodology.

#### **5. News from partners:**

##### *- IMAC updates:*

Mr. Alisho Shomahmadov announced that on May 27, 2011 Information Management and Analytical Center and Training Center, Chemical and radiological Center of CoES will present their main services/products to all the interested partners.

Mr. Alisho Shomahmadov also added that IMAC CoES is currently preparing information packages for local authorities (district level). Developed information packages will include different maps, information on damages caused by disasters, risk maps and etc. Taking into account that REACT partners have done numerous projects in different districts and produced various DRM related materials, Mr. Shomahmadov requested partners to share those materials to be included further in the information packages. More detailed information will be provided through REACT Secretariat.

##### *- Development of Training Package for trainers of CoES*

Ms. Svetlana Jumaeva, director of NGO CCDR informed the participants that NGO CCDR has re-activated its activities and expanded its portfolio to Climate Change related issues/projects. Ms. Svetlana Jumaeva informed the participants that currently NGO CCDR has been contracted by UNDP to support CoES in development of training packages to be used by CoES trainers in training the population. The training packages will be developed based on existing training modules, however will include different modern and upgraded training materials, included lessons learned and best practices materials. Ms. Jumaeva requested partners to share mentioned materials, which will be included in the training packages to be developed.

- *Community based disaster risk management course*

Ms. Jumaeva also announced that with the financial support of OSCE, NGO CCDR is planning to hold Community Based Disaster Risk Management Training for all the interested partners. However, considering that the funding is limited, Ms. Jumaeva requested all REACT partners to support the interested individuals from regions to participate in the training, which will be held in Dushanbe.

- *REACT Technical Working Group Climate Change*

Mr. Anvar Sabzaliev from UNDP DRMP informed the participants that as it was agreed during the previous REACT meeting first meeting of REACT Technical Working Group on Climate Change on May 4, 2011. The first meeting, mainly focused on identifying the scope of tasks, goals and objectives of the Group. Currently the minutes are being finalized and will be posted to UNTJ website soon. The next meeting of the group will be held in next month (to be announced separately) and all the interested partners are welcome to join.

- *Simulation exercise in Kulyab, May 30, 2011*

Colonel Pilkevich informed the participants that on May 30, 2011 a simulation exercise with the involvement of all the relevant civil services, CoES rescue services, volunteer rescue groups.

**6. Any other business:**

Colonel Pilkevich, raised the concern about the communication and information sharing among national and regional REACT groups. He pointed that in some cases, agreements reached and agreed on national level is not passed to regional level or vice versa.

Ms. Malika Baimatova from ECHO highlighted that different partners report that REACT in Zeravshan has been inactive or very weak lately. She assumed that this happens, due to weak or unavailability of leadership from international organizations in the region. She grounded her assumptions by mentioning that opposite to Zeravshan valley, strong leadership of OXFAM GB in Kulyab region, keeps regional REACT in Kulyab very strong and active.

Mr. Alisho Shomahmadov from CoES, replied that all the REACT groups in the country (national or regional) are led by CoES and not international organizations. Also, he reminded that currently there is an evaluation of REACT in the country is on-going, results of which will provide clarity to the raised concerns.

**Annexes:**

**Annex I:** Power Point Presentation: "Training Programme for CoES Staff in Tajikistan"



**Annex II:** Power Point Presentation: "IOM Project summary"



**Annex III:** Power Point Presentation: "National Risk Assessment Methodology"



**Annex IV:** List of participants, REACT Meeting, May 6, 2011

#	Name ФИО	Organization Организация	Contact details Контактная информация
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19.	Zebo nazhmiddinova	The Emergence Group	

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21.	Ron Teachman	TEG	
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