



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

Minutes of the special REACT Meeting
10th of September 2008, UNDP Conference Hall

Chair: Mr. Haibullo Latipov, Head of CoES

Participants: REACT partners (Annex 1 - attached)

1. Introduction

Mr. Haibullo Latipov, Head of CoES, welcomed the meeting participants. He highlighted that this meeting is devoted to a very important event. Today, participants of this special REACT meeting have gathered to vote on whether to accept or reject REACT Statement of Common Understanding. Mr. Latipov mentioned that REACT had been functioning during 4 years, but didn't have any official status, as there was no accepted and approved document describing its role and functions. Following the agenda, Mr. Latipov requested Mr. Charles Kelly from UNDP DRMP to present the voting procedure and start with voting process.

2. Voting procedure

Mr. Charles Kelly presented the participants with the following voting procedure:

1. First step was to establish the number and names of organizations present to establish quorum;
2. Mr. Kelly further continued in explaining the voting procedures:
 - a. Majority vote of the organizations present (one vote per organization)
 - b. Voting will be yes or no. An abstention is considered a no vote.
 - c. Voting will be yes or no, by each organization, in order around the table.
 - d. The votes will be recorded on the screen.
 - e. If the vote is in favor of the Statement, the organizations who do not accept it can decide to not participate in REACT and not be bound by the majority vote.
 - f. The results of the vote will be incorporated into the minutes of the meeting.
 - g. Organizations not present can join REACT by sending a letter (or an email) to the REACT Secretariat indicating their acceptance of the Statement of Common Understanding.

3. Comments

The Statement of Common Understanding is up for a vote in its entirety. No changes can be made at this meeting.

A total to 15 minutes is provided for comments.

Comments can be made on whether to vote for or against the Statement and whether you would like REACT to consider other issues once REACT comes into existence through the acceptance of the Statement of Common Understanding.

Ms. Marydean Purves from Mission East, highlighted that this voting is very important to every participating organization and it should be clearly reminded to all participants, that they are representing the whole agency and will be voting on behalf of the whole agency.

Mr. Charles Kelly, reminded to the participants, that if any participant is not eligible to vote on behalf of their organization, they should step out of voting process.

According to procedures, a quorum of organization was established. A total of 30 organizations, namely: FAO, ACT CA, ECHO, SDC, ACTED, Mission East, FOCUS, Global Partners, NGO Zumrad, FSD, Caritas International, GTZ, IEES Academy of Science, RCST, Save the Children, Habitat for Humanity-Tajikistan, CAMP Kuhiston, UNHCR, UNISDR, UNICEF, CARITAS Switzerland, CoES, UNDP, Counterpart

International, CARE Tajikistan, GAA, UNIFEM, Medical Teams International and OXFAM, created the quorum.

4. Comments:

Mr. Ghazi Kellani from OXFAM, commented that Statement of Common Understanding doesn't have a mechanism of incorporating the feedbacks from the field.

Ms. Marydean Purves from Mission East mentioned that several groups were listed in the Statement of Common Understanding such as Technical working groups, Sectoral groups and Clusters and this may create confusion. She suggested to make these sections of the document more clear once accepted.

Mr. Matthias Anderegg from SDC, asked if REACT can help in establishing National Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction in Tajikistan and if REACT can be considered as a lobbying mechanism to decision making bodies in the country?

Mr. Khusrav Sharifov from UNDP DRMP, mentioned that during the International Disaster and Risk Conference, in Davos, Switzerland, a workshop on National Platforms was conducted with the support of SDC. During the workshop a common action plan for Tajikistan on creating National Platform was developed. This action plan as well as results of the workshop will be presented at the next REACT meeting. This way, all REACT partners will have a chance to have their inputs integrated in the action plan.

Mr. Abdurahim Muhidov from UN ISDR, mentioned that REACT can be a part of expanded National Platform, but can not be considered as a national Platform itself. He clarified that National Platform is a nationally owned coordinating mechanism.

Mr. Nurul Islam from UNICEF, asked about the membership of other line ministries of the country, such as: Ministry of Health, Education and others.

Mr. Charles Kelly replied that CoES is a representative of the Government of Tajikistan. This document can be used as an official tool to approach other Government bodies.

Mr. Latipov reminded that document has been revised several times, according to the comments provided by all the interested REACT partners and all the suggestions have been incorporated to the document. Also, he highlighted that CoES is the main Government body dealing with DRM issues in the country. As soon as the document will be accepted, then it will be further submitted to Government of Tajikistan for approval.

5. Results of voting on REACT Statement of Common Understanding:

#	Name of Organization	Yes	N	Abstained
1	FAO	X		
2	ACT CA	X		
3	ECHO	X		
4	SDC	X		
5	ACTED	X		
6	Mission East	X		
7	FOCUS	X		
8	Global Partners	X		
9	NGO Zumrad			X
10	FSD	X		
11	Caritas International	X		
12	GTZ	X		
13	IEES Academy of Science	X		
14	RCST	X		
15	Save the Children	X		
16	Habitat for Humanity – Tajikistan	X		
17	CAMP Kuhiston	X		
18	UNHCR	X		
19	UNISDR	X		
20	UNICEF	X		
21	CARITAS Switzerland	X		

22	CoES	X		
23	UNDP	X		
24	Counterpart International	X		
25	CARE Tajikistan	X		
26	GAA	X		
27	UNIFEM	X		
28	Medical Teams International	X		
29	WHO	X		
30	OXFAM	X		
	TOTAL	29	0	1

With the majority of 29 out of 30 votes the REACT Statement of Common Understanding was accepted by the voting organizations.

Mr. Charles Kelly reminded all the participants that those organizations which did not participate in the voting but accept the REACT Statement of Common Understanding and wish to become a REACT member can send a letter (or an email) to the REACT Secretariat indicating they accept the Statement.

6. Any other business:

Mr. Latipov proposed to all REACT partners to start the review of the draft of Memorandum of Understanding between Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil defense and NGO's in Tajikistan. He proposed to include this issue in the agenda of next REACT meeting.

Annex 1: List of participants, REACT meeting dated 15th of August 2008

#	Name ФИО	Organization Организация	Contact details Контактная информация
1	Haibullo Latipov	CoES	
2	Alisho Shomahmadov	CoES	Alisho.shomahmadov@mchs.tj
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4	Nicole Stolz	Caritas CH	caritas@caritas-ch.tj
5	Sobik Kurbanov	UNICEF	skurbanov@unicef.org
6	Nurul Islam	UNICEF	nislam@unicef.org
7	Abdurahim Muhidov	UN ISDR	Abdurahim.muhidov@undp.org
8	Gulnora Ibragimova	UNHCR	ibragimova@unhcr.org
9	Habibullo Abdulloev	HFHT	habibullo@habitat.tj
10	Sitora Khakimova	Save the Children	sitora@savechildren.tj
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15	Matthias Anderegg	SDC	Matthias.anderegg@sdc.net
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17	Farshed Karimov	IEES Academy of Science	Farshed_karimov@rambler.ru
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28	Alinazarov Davlatbek	RCST	
29	Mustafa Karim	FOCUS	
30	Rahim Balsara	FOCUS	
31	Mack Turnner	Global Partners	
32	Yormahmad Kholov	Caritas International	yormahmad@gmail.com

33	Asror Juraev	FSD	Tajikistan@fsd.ch
34		MTI	
35		CARE Tajikistan	
36	Khusrav Sharifov	UNDP DRMP	Khusrav.sharifov@undp.org
37	Shahlo Rahimova	UNDP DRMP	Shahlo.rahimova@undp.org