



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

Minutes of REACT Meeting
March 2, 2011, UN Conference Hall

Chair: Mr. Abdusattor Khushvaqto, Deputy Chairman, Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES)

Participants: REACT partners (Annex VII - attached)

1. Introduction:

Chairman of the meeting, Colonel Khushvaqto, the first Deputy Chairman of the CoES opened the meeting and welcomed all the participants. The chairman introduced and welcomed the representatives of the Organizational Committee of Central Asian Disaster Response and Risk Reduction Center (CACDRRR), to be established in Almaaty, Kazakhstan, participating at the meeting:

- Bahrom Dodov – representative of Tajikistan within the Organizational Committee of CACDRR;
- Jirgalbek Ukashev – representative of Kyrgyzstan within the Organization Committee of CACDRR;
- Kravchuk Aleksey – representative of UNDP Kazakhstan.

He also, introduces Mr. Ganiev, head of State Republican Unitary Enterprise: “Locust Control” of the Ministry of Agriculture and passed the floor for the presentation of the agenda point.

2. Locust control in Tajikistan

Mr. Ganiev highlighted that locust control remains as one of the priority issues of the agricultural sector of the country. He mentioned that currently over 100 types of the locusts exist in the country, while the most widespread types of the locusts are: Morocco and Italian. This year, due to weather conditions, locust movement is expected in early March.

Mr. Ganiev briefly informed the participants about the history of establishment of the “Locust Control” enterprise and its tasks. Also, he provided general information about the usual locations affected by locusts and current egg-laying locations within the country. He highlighted that except of the existing areas of locust in the country, there are other locusts coming from other countries. Due to difficult trans-boundary situation, it is difficult to control the situation in the neighboring countries.

He summarized the preparedness measures and activities undertaken in 2011 and listed the challenges and constraints currently faced.

Mr. Ganiev emphasized the important and great cooperation and assistance of the local representatives of CoES in implementation of the locust control measures. For more details, please refer to **Annex I**.

3. Central Asian Disaster Preparedness and Risk reduction center:

Mr. Jirgalbek Ukashev, Kyrgyzstan delegate within the Organizational Committee of the CACDRRR, provided the participants with background information on the CACDRRR and the main stages passed in the process of establishment of the CACDRRR at this point. He highlighted that currently only three countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are involved in the process, while participation of other Central Asian countries and especially Uzbekistan is very important and will directly impact the effectiveness and efficiency of the Center. Therefore, Mr. Ukashev appealed to all the participants to support representatives of the Organizational Committee in advocating for the involvement of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan in the activities of the Center.

Mr. Ukashev, summarized the activities undertaken so far by the member-states in the direction of establishment of the Center and briefly mentioned about the proposed aims, objectives, tasks, organizational structures and etc. He mentioned that currently representatives of the Organizational Committee are undertaking business trips to Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan and meeting TJK CoES and KYR MoES. The first meeting with the Chairman of the CoES in Tajikistan went very successfully and some agreements have been achieved.

As an outlook for further activities of the Center, Mr. Ukashev said that it is anticipated that Center will develop major trans-boundary projects, expecting that 40-50% of the input will be provided by the member-countries, which will attract external donors to co-fund. Taking into account the capacity of Kazakhstan MoES it is expected that larger contribution will be provided by Kazakh MoES. For more details, please refer to **Annex II**.

Mr. Andy Baker inquired considering the importance of Uzbekistan’s membership in the Center, is there any outlook or plans for Uzbekistan’s involvement?

Mr. Ukashev recalled the previous remark, that currently it is not clear, but all the possible efforts are being undertaken to provide Uzbekistan’s membership in the Center.

Mrs. Goulsara Pulatova, regional UNICEF DIPECHO project manager, added that she has been involved in the process from the initial stages (with her previous employment with ISDR in Central Asia) and noted that Uzbekistan has been interested in the Center initially and even have signed the first protocol, which was on intention on establishment. Nevertheless, at later stages they stopped their involvement and one of the concerns raised by Uzbek side was location of the Center. Uzbekistan was interested in locating the Center in Uzbekistan. She also added, that it is expected that once the Center will be established and will start functioning, the membership can be expanded to other countries despite the geographical limitations, meaning including countries outside the Central Asia.

4. Outcomes of the workshop: “Integration of the DRR into education system”

Mr. Rustam Ubayduloev from UNICEF briefed the participants about the objectives, participants and main agenda points of the joint UNICEF, CoES, MoE workshop on “Integration of the DRR into education system” held on February 18, in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. Mr. Ubayduloev, informed the participants about the main 3 approaches of DRR education discussed during the workshop. Further on, he listed the strengths and weaknesses of each approach and the main results achieved during the workshop. For more details, please refer to **Annex III**.

The Chairman of the meeting, Mr. Khushvaqtoev added that it would be good to have representatives of the Ministry of Education present at the meeting.

Mr. Ubayduloev replied that during the week there were several meetings, planned presenting given results and next meeting, which is Education Cluster meeting, is planned for tomorrow, March 3, and representatives of the MoE participated at all the meetings. It is also, expected that representatives of the MoE and CoES will participate at the Education cluster meeting as well.

Annexes:

Annex I: Power Point Presentation: “Locust control”



Annex II: Power Point Presentation: “CACDRRR”



Annex III: Power Point Presentation: “DRR integration into education”



Annex IV: Power Point Presentation: "Establishment of REACT Working Group on "Safe Housing""

Annex VII: List of participants, REACT Meeting, March 2, 2011

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