



Minutes of REACT Meeting 04 April 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 (Annex VII - attached)

1. Introduction:

The chairman of the meeting welcomed the participants and opened the meeting after which the participants introduced each other and the meeting was convened.

2. Disaster Updates:

- *Emergency Update for January – March 2012:*

Mr. Jamshed Kamolov, the head of CoES Department for Protection of Population and Territory briefed the participants about the over view of the disasters occurred for the past three months of the year. He mentioned that during the first quarter of the year, 155 natural disasters occurred with the total number of 14 people killed. Mr. Kamolov presented a table with the indications of disasters and their type that occurred in the country for different regions. According to the presentation, number of natural disasters that occurred in GBAO region of Tajikista exceeds the average compared to other regions. Mainly, heavy snowfalls have been registered which resulted in numerous avalanches not only GABO, but also many other mountainous districts of the country including Sughd and Khtalon. The presentation provided detailed information on each disaster registered in the country in different regions and areas with the clear indications of damages it had made. For more detailed information on the presentation and the disasters for the first quarter of the year, please refer to **Annex I**.

- *Flooding in Temurmalik district:*

Mr. Valijon Ranoev, UNDP DRMP Project Assistant briefed the participants about the river bank erosion that happened in Qiblai village of Temurmalik district on April 2nd of 2012. Water level has increased in Surkhob river of the which led to river bank erosion of the village where 32 households have been located. According to preliminary assessment made by the REACT Rapid Response Team on April 3rd 2012, 4 houses have been fully washed away and other 28 are at risk. Local Khukumat allocated an area to set up tent camps as well as it is proving food and drinking water supplies. The presentation included a table of needs of the affected people where it included additional tents, NFI and food. For more details, please refer to **Annex II**.



- *Avalanches in GBAO:*

Mr. Nashir Karmali has briefed the participants about the disasters that occurred in the territory of GBAO region from 16 – 20 March of 2012. According to the presentation, total number of 55 avalanches occurred in the region for the period mentioned above, out of which 19 were registered in residential areas. The presentation also included the impact that the avalanches made to local population including social infrastructure. Avalanches resulted in road blocks main villages and jamoats from and to Khorug. According to presentation, FOCUS and CoES in GBAO has responded to the avalanches and provided assistance needed. For more detailed information on the presentation, please refer to **Annex III**.

3. Weather overview for March and weather forecast for April 2012:

Mr. Abdurashid Tagoybekov, a representative of Tajik Hydromet Center provided a detailed overview of the weather conditions for the month of March and forecast for April. He mentioned that in March monthly average temperatures were 1-3°C below long term averages in all the regions including the lowest temperature registered between March 11 – 13 and 19- 20 where the temperature did not reach above +5 degrees. He noted that the monthly precipitation was above long term averages and heavy snowfalls were recorded in the ranges of Hissar valleys. Intense precipitation has resulted in avalanches and road blocks in most regions of the country. He also provided a brief information about the forecast for the foist decade of April which mentions little precipitation and temperature being within the average. For more information, please see **Annex IV**.

4. Forecast of possible spring floods and mudflows:

Mrs. Mirzohonova Natalia, a representative of Information Management and Analytical Center of CoES provided the participants with the tentative forecast for possible spring floods of the main river basins in Tajikistan. The presentation provided a detailed information about each river basin which poses threat of possible flooding with the map of indication of population and infrastructure of the area. Concluding the presentation, Mrs. Mirzohonova mentioned that the risk of flooding and mudflow for the period of spring to summer is higher than long term average. The presentation provided details about levels of water in each basin as well as the risk they carry which can be found as **Annex V**.

5. Information on spring sowing:

Mr. Fayzov Akram, a representative of Ministry of Agriculture briefed the participants about crop production for the period of spring and mentioned that adverse weather condition caused significant damage to the agriculture sector of Tajikistan, including the sector of crop production (670 ha for a total of 4.4million tajik somoni) and animal husbandry (3700 000 tajik somoni). He provided detailed information about the sowing timeframe of the all regions in the country. He mentioned that the crop sowing for the period of spring of 2012 has been delayed due to severe weather conditions of autumn 2011 and 2012. Presentation provided detailed information on loss and damage made by severe weather conditions to the sector of agriculture in general as well as



needs that are required at the moment. For detailed information about the presentation, please see **Annex VI**.

Mr. Nashir Karmali enquired the timeframes of crop sowing for GBAO region as it stated during the presentation that sowing season for GBAO has not started. Mr. Fayzov mentioned that the period for sowing crops in GBAO are later comparing to the rest of the territory of the country due to lengthy period of severe weather. However, mentioned that the season for cropping in GBAO will start from early May 2012.

Mrs. Shahlo Rahimova, UNDP DRM Programme Manager asked if the crops were sufficient for sowing for the period of spring. Mr. Fayzov mentioned that crops are sufficient for spring sowing and the only deficiency Ministry of Agriculture is having is the shortage of diesel fuel for heavy machinery. He also mentioned that more tractors are required in order to be able to accelerate the process of sowing. It is noteworthy to mention that 99% of the sowing was accomplished by late October of 2011.

6. Any other business:

Mr. Marcel Vaessen, Head of UNOCHA for Caucasus and Central Asia informed the participants about the workshop that would be held on April 6th on updating the REACT Inter-Agency Contingency Planning. He mentioned that the plan was last updated in May of 2010 and invited interested partners to take in the workshop.

Mr. Alexander Zuev, UN Resident Representative and UNDP Resident Coordinator also reiterated Mr. Vaessen's point on the importance of the workshop and introduced the new representative of OCHA in Tajikistan who is the National Disaster Response Advisor based in Dushanbe. He also noted that the issues related to DRR in the country are handled at highest level and has mentioned that the issue with the railway road communication with Uzbekistan has been also viewed by UN in New York. H stated that the wagons directed to Khatlon region of Tajikistan through Uzbekistan can be a biggest threat to food insecurity and economic instability as many of the wagons contain food and gas.

Col – General Hayriddin Abdurahimov, Chairman of CoES concluded the meeting by stating that the importance of REACT partnership and REACT meetings are not only to discuss and inform each other about the events that had happened, but also to take appropriate actions. He had given an example of maintaining stocks of relief items in each organization in case a large scale emergency happens in Tajikistan. He mentioned about the Emergency Reserve Stock of UN in Kurgan –Tyube as one example and mentioned the importance of releasing stand by items in case the government's ability to cope will be insufficient.



Annexes:

<h3>I - Emergency Overview:</h3> 	<h3>II - Flooding in Temurmalik district:</h3> 
<h3>III - Avalanches in GBAO:</h3> 	<h3>IV - Weather overview for March and weather forecast for April 2012:</h3> 
<h3>V - Forecast of possible spring floods and mudflows:</h3> 	<h3>VI - Information on spring sowing:</h3> 



Annex VII – List of Participants:

#	Name ФИО	Organization Организация	Contact details Контактная информация
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