



Minutes of REACT Meeting

4 July 2012

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

Chair: Abdusattor Khushvakhtov, Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense under the Government of Tajikistan

Participants: REACT partners (Annex IV - attached)

1. Introduction:

The participants were welcomed by the Chairman requesting all to introduce themselves. Mr Khusvakhtov briefly introduced the agenda of the meeting allowing the first presenter to begin.

2. *Overview of disaster during the first half of 2012*, Colonel Jamshed Kamolov, Department of Protection of Population and Territories, CoES

The presentation offered some comparative analyses of disasters during the first half of 2012 with the same period as in 2011. Over 280 disasters are recorded during the first half of the year leading to 25 casualties throughout the country and damage reaching the amount of over 57 million somoni which is a decrease of more than 2 million somoni in comparison with the previous year. The nature of the damages is similar as in previous years, mainly avalanches and mudslides caused by snow during the first quarter and landslides and floods caused by high level of precipitations during second quarter of the year. Mr Kamolov then presented each region individually with the focus on number of houses affected and casualties followed.

The earthquake on 13th of May 2012 was discussed at the end, confirming that the government allocated 5 million somoni for recovery operations and sites in Kumsangir and Pyanj districts have been allocated for relocation of 150 families. Construction materials as cement, armature and beams will also be provided to the relocated families. Mr Kamolov pointed out that the relocation scheme also included other families which were not affected by the earthquake however these families are willing to migrate to the new areas.

3. *Weather overview for June and forecast for July 2012*; Jamila Baidullaeva, Head of Hydro Meteorological Center of Tajikistan.

Rapid increase of temperatures was not observed during June therefore no major emergency situations linked with over flooding of rivers were reported during the month which was the case in previous years. Extensive melting of glaciers at the beginning of summer in Tajikistan usually poses threats of flooding however so far such tendency is not observed and according to information available, no increase of temperatures is forecasted during July either. Level of precipitations is increasing and in many areas this level is much higher than usual. For example precipitation in Dushanbe is usual 6 millimeters whereas this spring-summer 80 millimeters of raining was observed which is abnormal and causes disasters. Such tendency was also observed in Fayzobod, on Shar-shar pass and in Murghab. The period of monsoon in Indian subcontinent usually impacts Tajikistan during June-July months, however during July this year low



precipitations are expected and 36°C will remain throughout the month in Dushanbe and surrounding areas.

4. “Aviculture as warranty of food security in Tajikistan. Problems and perspectives”,
Professor Komilzoda Davlatov, Main Secretary at the Academy of Agricultural Science.

The presenter provided an account of aviculture development in Tajikistan emphasizing that this industry enjoyed prosperity during the soviet time and according to statistics annually 570 million eggs and 20 tons of meat was produced in Tajikistan. This progress according to the presenter was linked with the fact that there was a centralized system and 700 000 tons of food was prepared for all type of birds (chicken, ducks, turkey and etc). There were 21 poultry factories in the country and Tajikistan was one of the leading Central Asian soviet republics in terms of aviculture.

The period of unrest in the 90-ties and economic hardship posed some real challenges and despite the fact that all these 21 factories are operating again with the support of the government, the level of production is far below in comparison to the soviet time. Some serious challenges in this industry are lack of qualified specialists, high prices of vaccinations and necessary medications, lack of funding to cover the energy costs (heating and cooling systems), mobile laboratories and so on.

At the end of presentation Professor Davlatov stressed that most of REACT partners are involved in poverty reduction and therefore by extending their support to develop aviculture in the country significant achievements can be made to supply poor population with meat and eggs. He also provided recommendations on how to develop the industry and what type of support is required. Mr Khamroev, from FAO pointed that with contribution from FAO a central laboratory has been established in Tajikistan to assess the quality of food productions and this service can be used by “Ptizprom” as well to which Professor Davlatov replied that this service is used by the agency already, however since most of the poultry factories are in rural parts of the country, therefore there is a need for mobile laboratories to monitor quality assurance.

5. WHO, Mehri Shoismatulloeva, Health cluster

Ms Shoismatulloeva informed that as part of the Education Cluster, Save the Children did the psychosocial assessment of children affected by the earthquake on 13th May in Rasht Valley. The assessment covered 11 villages in 3 districts. The assessment revealed that children and adults are experiencing high levels of stress and psychosocial interventions should be introduced such as child friendly trainings, parental awareness sessions, group counseling sessions, etc. The detailed report has been shared among Health Cluster partners.

Following the Health Cluster meeting a technical group conducted one day training for 15 participants in Dushanbe on 3rd of July. The training included representatives from Tavildara including Hospital and Primary Health Care, RCST and Education to establish a consensus on the needs and a short-term strategy in the affected area. After the training in Dushanbe, 5 teams are created to cascade more in-depth training in districts of Nurabad and Tavildara (July 5-19). WHO will coordinate with MoH and Tajik National University (TNU) on venue and materials of the trainings and WHO will also provide technical and financial support to conduct trainings. Also WHO in collaboration with the TNU is working on establishment of department of psychiatry as in Tajikistan there is shortage of specialists-psychologists.



6. Progress with prevention of brucellosis in Tajikistan, Karomatullo Khamroev, FAO

Mr Khamroev provided a brief account of project implemented by FAO in Tajikistan to eliminate brucellosis. Quoting data from Ministry of Health he stated that there are 200-250 people annually infected with brucellosis and the outcomes of those infected are very tragic since this disease leads to abortion, pain in the muscles and paralysis in human beings. During the project initiation there was 10% increase of spread of brucellosis in Rasht which was reduced to 1.5% in 2009 after the project implementation. The lack of a proper system of monitoring of the spread of brucellosis is the primary reason for absence of exact number of animals and people infected by the disease. One of the main challenges is that animals infected with brucellosis must be destroyed which has a negative impact on peoples live from economic point of view. In Tajikistan there is no formal compensation for those whose livestock is destroyed because of the infection. Another challenge is lack of information regarding the primary cause of the disease, its symptoms and methods of transmission among rural population who are in direct contact with livestock on daily basis. Currently proposals have been submitted to World Bank to support the process of elimination of brucellosis and discussions are ongoing with Kirgizstan, Pakistan and Afghanistan to initiate joint efforts to eliminate the disease on regional level.

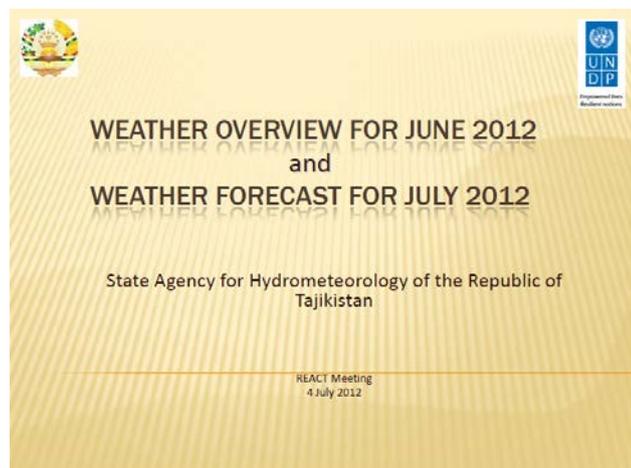
7. Elimination of locust spread, Akram Fayzov, Ministry of Agriculture

The presenter highlighted that the spread of locust for the last few years is causing great challenges in agricultural sector and substantial damages are caused to farmers. This is a seasonal problem which starts during spring time and the spread of locust is a serious problem in districts bordering with Kirgizstan and Afghanistan. Khatlon region and Sughd province are main areas in Tajiksitan where spread of locust is causing loss of production among farmers. This year the government of Tajikistan allocated 5 million somoni to prevent spread of locust and tender process was announced for selection of appropriate company to lead the campaign. The area of spread of locust this year was 68.3 thousand hectares which is less than 50 thousand hectares in comparison to last year. The financial support of the government was used for procurement of necessary vehicles, special uniform for teams working at the field, mechanical and automated spraying machines and fuel. Overall the project has been rated as successful minimizing the volume of damage caused by locust.

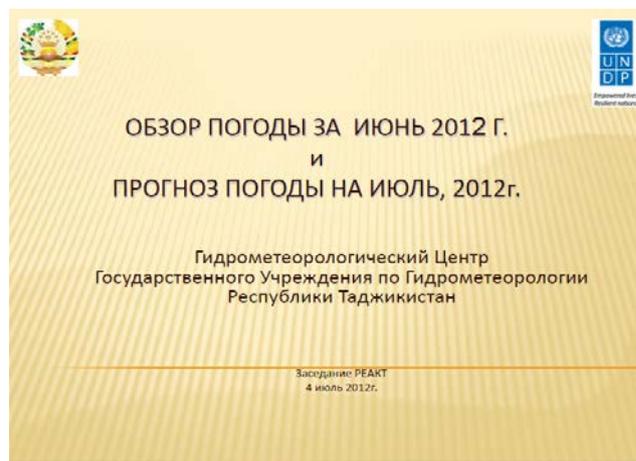


Annexes:

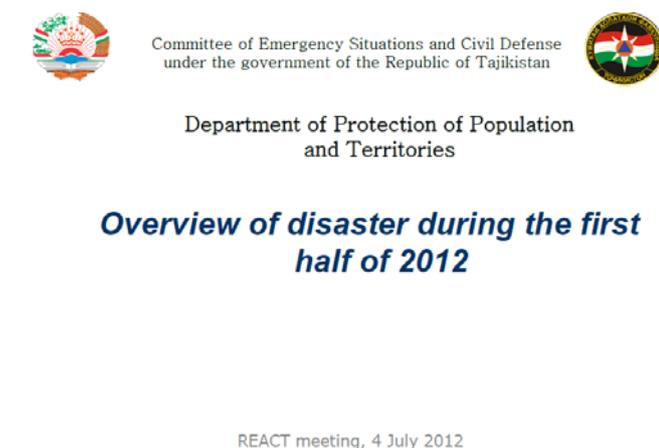
I. Weather overview for June 2012 and weather forecast for July 2012



II. Обзор погоды за июнь 2012 года и прогноз погоды на июль, 2012г.



III. Overview of disaster during the first half of 2012



IV. Зарари расида бар асари офатҳои табиӣ дар думоҳаи соли 2012





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