

# Development Coordination Council Tajikistan

## Minutes

Meeting of 14 December 2011

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### Participants

Munir Merali, AKDN

Bijan Teja, AKDN

Shuhrat Rajabov, DFID

Ulf Hindstrom, EBRD

Ovidiu Mic, EU

Nassim Jawad, FAO

Stefan Erber, GIZ

Zainab Kenjaeva, IFAD

Ari Aisen, IMF

Jiro Iida, JICA

Farukh Kasymov, KfW

Zahira Virani, UNDP

Laylee Moshiri, UNICEF

Chuck Specht, USAID

Marsha McGraw Olive, WB

Alzira Ferreira, WFP

Husniya Dorgabekova, WHO

David Pearce, DCC Secretariat

Rosa Charpentier, DCC Secretariat

Sitora Shokamolova, DCC Secretariat

Tahmina Rahmatova, DCC Secretariat

**Chair:** Joji Tokeshi, ADB

**Next meeting:** TBD

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1. The Chair thanked Munir Merali, AKDN for hosting the last DCC meeting of the year and the luncheon that followed at the Dushanbe Serena Hotel.

### Agenda item 1 – 5 and 12 December DCC-GoT meetings

#### 5 December technical meeting of the DCC and the National Development Council Secretariat (MEDT)

2. Members discussed the outcomes of the recent meeting:
  - a. The five cluster sessions on 5 December – and the process of preparing for the sessions – were for the most part useful in assessing progress made to date and remaining challenges to be tackled in 2012 and beyond.
  - b. Based on the 2010 Development Forum Action Plan (DFAP) progress report and 5 December cluster discussions, there has been action taken towards most of the 40 DFAP objectives. For continued reforms, implementation and enforcement of strategies, plans and legislation, as well as capacity-building, remain key.
  - a. Lessons learned include ensuring the right level of GoT participation (deputy ministers were cited as having a combination of technical knowledge and decision-making

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- authority), and that issues are raised in appropriate settings (e.g. public finance management and budget support are sensitive topics better suited to bilateral or smaller meetings).
- b. At each ministry, focal points involved in DFAP implementation and have access to the minister should be identified and kept involved throughout the Development Forum process.

#### 12 December meeting of the DCC and National Development Council

3. In the absence of the President, the meeting was chaired by Prime Minister Akil Akilov and attended by about 50 participants from both the government and the DCC. The Council agreed that:
  - a. The key proposal is that the 2012 Development Forum, with possible participation of principals from headquarters, will take place in Dushanbe in November. The medium-term development strategy (PRS-4) will be a focus of discussions. Moreover, to highlight the role of private sector development, an Investors' Forum will be scheduled immediately before or after the Development Forum.
  - b. To review the balance of the 2010 Development Forum Action Plan and prepare the ground for the two meetings in November, a working-level technical meeting will take place in April or May 2012.
  - c. The objective of institutionalizing annual Development Fora is to foster open and constructive dialogue and reinforce mutual accountability between development partners and the government.
  - d. Concept notes will be developed for the Development and Investors' Fora for the consideration of the core group. The Chair will also informally consult with Farrukh Hamraliev, Minister of Economic Development and Trade and Davlatali Saidov, Chairman of the State Committee on Investment and State Property Management, regarding the events. **Follow-up: Chair to follow up with core group and GoT**
  - e. The summary of proceedings, with relevant annexes, will be circulated for review shortly. Once finalized, the document will be shared with MEDT.
4. For both events, members observed that the physical environment affects the level of discussion, i.e. smaller meeting rooms may help promote more open and free exchange.

#### **Agenda item 2 – Busan High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness**

5. The Chair briefed members on the recent 4<sup>th</sup> High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Busan HLF-4), which took place from 29 November to 1 December 2011 in Busan, Korea and was attended by close to 3,000 delegates:
  - a. The Tajik delegation was led by Davlatali Saidov, Chairman of the State Committee for Investments and State Property Management (SCISPM) and National Coordinator of the Paris Declaration monitoring survey process in Tajikistan. Other members included representatives from the Parliament, Academy of Science, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Ministry of Finance, and 2 staff from the DFID-financed UNDP

- Support to Aid Coordination and Investment Promotion (ACIP) project. The Chair represented development partners at the meeting.
- b. While there was no formal platform to deliver a joint message regarding the aid effectiveness experience to date in the country, the Chair informally shared Tajikistan's experience in development coordination during thematic sessions. The high level of coordination among development partners present in Tajikistan prompted requests for a short note on DCC history and activities to date, for external dissemination. **Follow-up: DCC Secretariat to draft note in 2012**
  - c. The key outcome document from HLF-4 in Busan was the agreement on the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation. Marking a significant milestone, the document establishes an inclusive framework encompassing donors, South-South cooperation partners, developing countries, civil society organisations (CSOs) and the private sector, based on the following building blocks: results, transparency, fragmentation, fragile states, climate change, South-South co-operation, effective institutions and the private sector.
  - a. UNICEF informed the DCC of a recently completed risk assessment of government partners for direct cash transfers, which will be shared with the Council. Similarly, ADB will make available its risk assessment relating to energy, transport and procurement issues. **Follow-up: DCC Secretariat**

### **Agenda item 3 – Draft 2012 DCC work program**

- 6. Feedback from members is being sought on the draft DCC work plan for next year. The proposed work plan outlines key objectives, outstanding JCPS commitments (for the last year of implementation), specific agenda items for monthly meetings and joint events with the government.
- 7. The Chair thanked GIZ for generously providing a two-year contract for Sitara Shokamolova, national coordinator, from 2012 to 2014, helping to ensure continuity in secretariat functions. The DCC will also be supported by a junior national for administrative and financial issues; recruitment will soon be underway.
- 8. The Chair also acknowledged the efforts of departing consultants David Pearce and Rosa Charpentier to institutionalize the DCC and make substantive gains towards aid effectiveness and coordination over the past 15 months. They may continue to provide support to the DCC in 2012.

### **Agenda item 4 – Other business**

- 9. Members were thanked for their hard work and cooperation in 2011.