

Development Coordination Council Tajikistan

Minutes

Meeting of 28 February 2011

Participants

Asel Chyngysheva, ADB
Laila Kanji, AKDN
Yodgor Fayzov, AKDN/AKF
Desmond Curran, DFID
E. R. Galiev, EDB
Ulf Hindstrom, EBRD
Boris Filipov, EC
Christian Ben Hell, EC
Eduard Auer, EC
Ovidiu Mic, EC
Robert Brudzynski, EC
Zara Makhmudova, FAO
Christoph Baumann, German Embassy
Bernd Benning, GIZ
L. Ramesh Babu, Indian Embassy
M. B. Estehadian, Iranian Embassy
Kaiho Seiji, JICA
Masayo Murakami, JICA

Kasymov Farrukh, KfW
Stefan Lutz, KfW
Daler Dododjonov, Kazakh Embassy
D. Bander M. Jamil, Saudi Arabian Embassy
Nicolas Guigas, SCO
Mustafa Turker Yilmaz, Turkish Embassy
Fatih Yilmaz, TICA
Hongwei Gao, UNICEF
Malika Makhkambaeva, USAID
Suhrob Tursunov, USAID
Zainiddin Karaev, WB
Husniya Dorgabekova, WHO
Jurabek Sattorov, GoT/MEDT
Artemy Izmetiev, UNDP/ACIP
Vali Musaev, UNDP/ACIP
Rosa Charpentier, DCC Secretariat
Tahmina Rahmatova, DCC Secretariat

Chair: Rastislav Vrbensky, UNDP

Next meeting: TBD

Agenda item 1 – Update on progress of working groups, particularly on Development Forum implementation plans

1. After welcoming DCC members and nontraditional partners to the meeting, Rastislav Vrbensky, DCC Deputy Chair, made the following remarks:
 - a. The day's agenda focuses on reviewing progress made to date on Development Forum implementation plans. To facilitate the exchange of information between the DCC and MEDT, the government ministry in charge of Development Forum follow-up, Jurabek Sattorov, MEDT, has been invited to observe the meeting.

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- b. On 31 January, the government submitted for comments from DCC working groups a total of 11 implementation plans in the following sectors: macroeconomy, governance, energy, transport, education, health, social protection, business environment, agriculture, JCPS, and regional cooperation and integration into the global economy. (There were originally 7 areas discussed at the December 2010 Development Forum, followed by 9 in the Development Forum Action Plan, and most recently 11 implementation plans from GoT.)
 - c. DCC members were commended for their efforts over the past weeks to discuss and agree on their working groups' respective implementation plans with GoT focal points.
 - d. The schedule of DCC working group meetings, organigram, and Development Forum next steps and focal points have been updated and distributed before the meeting.
2. The Chair opened the floor to updates from the various working group coordinators (reflected in the attached schedule of DCC working group meetings). The Council noted that:
- a. Most working groups with specific implementation have met and are in the process of reviewing and finalizing their plans. Additionally, other working groups in water, environment, and CSOs/NGOs (without implementation plans) have also initiated activities.
 - b. Bilateral agencies, such as GIZ and USAID, have become more active as co-chairs of select working groups. Other DCC members, such as the EU, ADB and UNDP, have also shared coordination roles in working groups in water, environment, and regional cooperation.
 - c. GoT has set 15 April as the date for the National Agrarian Reform Conference to be held in Dushanbe. The President is expected to open the event, at which high-level participation from agency headquarters is requested by the government. The invitation and program are to be distributed the week of 28 February.
 - d. The IMF tackles macroeconomic issues directly with GoT, while a number of IFIs maintain interest in these issues. Further discussion among the IMF, other IFIs and DCC leadership regarding the need for a dedicated working group is forthcoming.
 - e. The governance and public sector development sector group is tackling a range of issues and may require additional GoT focal points. It will be necessary to further define the scope of work of the 3 working groups clustered in this sector.
 - f. The regional cooperation implementation plan was added by GoT. A corresponding DCC ad hoc working group is handling the issue.
 - g. Following up on the JCPS by all concerned development partners is ongoing; DCC activities reflect the commitment of signatories and other partners to the strategy. DCC leadership will convene meetings as needed.
 - h. The water working group has pushed forward with water sector reform and identified a GoT focal point with whom to coordinate.
 - i. The environment working group had its first meeting and will look into mainstreaming related issues into related implementation plans (such as energy and transport).
 - j. At the NGOs/CSOs working group meeting, international NGOs expressed an interest in interacting with the DCC; SCO will brief the Council at a later date.

3. The Chair thanked DCC members for their leadership and effective, well-coordinated efforts. He invited all participants, particularly the nontraditional partners, to participate in the working groups relevant to their agencies.
4. The first DCC-GoT review meeting is tentatively scheduled in late April. Planning with MEDT will begin this month and the DCC will be updated as needed.

Agenda item 2 – Other business

5. In response to an inquiry from DFID, DCC leadership, supported by the Secretariat, will help facilitate the collection of donor responses to Paris Declaration questionnaires for submission to GoT. On the government side, a DFID- and UNDP-supported project is lending assistance to SCISPM on completing the questionnaire. The GoT is required to submit the information to the OECD by 31 March. **Follow-up: DCCS**
6. In response to a request from KfW to fix recurring dates for DCC meetings, it was agreed that the DCC should continue to schedule meetings on an as-needed basis, with as much advance notice as possible.
7. The Chair flagged the issue of further funding for the Secretariat, which has a budget until the end of the year provided by DFID, SCO and SIDA. If any members can share costs, they are requested to get in touch with the Chair or Deputy Chair. Zainiddin Karaev, WB, stated that the Bank can continue to host the Secretariat, a form of in-kind contribution.
8. Eduard Auer, EC, announced the arrival of Ovidiu Mic, new head of operations for the EC delegation.