



Minutes of REACT Meeting

19 January 2012

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

Chair: Major-General Abdusattor Khushvakhtov, first deputy Chairman of the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES)

Participants: REACT partners (Annex VII - attached)

1. Introduction:

The Chairman opened the meeting welcoming the participants and introduced the agenda of the meeting. He mentioned the importance of the overview of the earthquake occurred in Darvaz district in December 2011 and mentioned that the meeting would continue with the presentation on this disaster according.

2. Disaster Overview: Earthquake in Darvaz district of GBAO region:

Mr. Umed Saiduniev, representative of Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan briefed the participants on the general overview of an earthquake occurred on 29th of December 2011 in Sagirdash village of Darvaz district of GBAO. Mr. Saiduniev mentioned that the assessment of the situation was carried out by the National Disaster Risk Management Team of RCST in the area with close collaboration of central and local CoES representatives and representatives from local Khukumats and police department. The assessment was carried out one day after the earthquake with the results of 77 houses partially damaged.

Detailed assessment of the situation had been conducted on 5th – 10th January, 2012 identifying the general needs of the affected population. According to the information presented during the detailed assessment, 53 houses (66 families/452 persons) have been partially damaged. No casualties were reported and 2 residents were hospitalized within the local hospitals.

RCST has provided first aid and non-food items to ten households.

Mr. Saiduniev mentioned that the RCST volunteers based in Khorog have also been deployed during the assessment. Following detailed assessment needs of the population have been developed and presented to the partners.

Colonel Jamshed Kamolov, Head of the CoES Department of Protection of Population and Territories briefed the participants on the situation and needs assessment, conducted jointly with the RSCT. Mr. Kamolov mentioned the number of the villages affected within the district and detailed information on needs of the population. According to the presentation, 3 schools have been damaged in three villages of the district. Mr. Kamolov stated that a list of affected people and households has been developed and the numbers coincide with the data presented by the RCST. Mr. Kamolov mentioned that 5 MT of diesel fuel, 1 MT of petrol and 100 litres of engine oil are required to clean the roads in the affected area from snow.

Mr. Kamolov mentioned that the aftershocks of the earthquake can still be observed at the area and accordingly, up to date, almost 20 aftershocks have been observed. Mr. Alisho



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Shomahmadov, Head of CoES Information Management and Analytical Center, noted that the occurrence of aftershocks following an earthquake with the magnitude of 4 and above of Richter scale is normal. For more information refer to the presentation attached as **Annex I**.

3. Situation updates:

- Weather conditions of autumn 2011 and forecast for winter 2012:

Ms. Jamilya Baidullaeva, Head of Hydrometeorological Center of Tajikistan, briefed the participants about the weather overview for the period of December of 2011 and forecast for the months of January and February of 2012. Mr. Baidullaeva presented a chart that compares the weather conditions, mainly precipitation and an average temperature of ten years including 2011. According to the presentation, the average temperature is rising in the country on a yearly basis comparing to previous years of the decade. She also briefed the participants on the weather overview for the months of December including data on precipitation and temperature. She mentioned that the Hydromet, in collaboration with UNDP DRMP has developed a forecasting data for the months of October, November and December of 2011, indicating that the weather for the above mentioned period would be colder than last year. Accordingly, cold temperature and snow have fallen early on November of 2011.

Ms. Baidullaeva presented a chart indicating the coldest periods of the month of December of 2011 in different regions of the country. Brief information on the weather condition for the first half of January 2012 has also been presented with a forecast for the rest of the month including February. According to Mrs. Baidullaeva, forecasts indicate that the low temperature will remain in the country till the end of January with severe cold temperature in the mountainous regions of up to 30-50 degrees below zero in highest elevations. Detailed presentation can be found as **Annex II**.

- Energy: coal and gas:

Mr. Tohir Azimov, a representative of Ministry of Energy and Industry, briefed the participants on the seasonal monitoring of the water volume in the reservoir of the Nurek Hydro Power Station (HPS) and information on supply and use of coal and gas in the country. According to Mr. Azimov, water accumulated in the reservoir during spring-summer periods is used for electricity production during autumn-winter. Mr. Tahirov presented comparison of water volumes, production of electricity and its level at Nurek HPS for the period of last 6 years. The chart also included data on the consumption of electricity by the population per region including major industrial objects in the country. According to Mr. Azimov, the amount of water inflow and outflow into and out of Nurek HPS is lower than the six year average. He also mentioned that generation of electricity in December increased comparing to November, 2011 to accommodate the increased consumption due to cold temperature in December.

Import of natural gas to Tajikistan for the period of January - December 2011 constituted 178.95 mln m³ (average 15 mln m³ per month). This is 22,65 mln m³ more than the total supply of natural gas in 2010 and 1.05 mln m³ less than planned for 2011 (180 mln m³). However, Mr.



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Azimov also noted that the price for the import natural gas from Uzbekistan has also risen comparing to the year of 2010.

General information on coal mining has also been presented during the meeting with total coal production also increasing in 2011 comparing to 2010. Mr. Azimov also mentioned that regardless the mini-HPS being built in the regions of the country (30 in total), the situation with the energy still requires improvement. For more detailed information, please see **Annex III**.

Mr. Abdurahim Muhidov, UNISDR, enquired about why the comparison period used by the Ministry of Energy and Industry covers six years. Ms. Shahlo Rahimova, UNDP DRMP, noted that the data was collected and analyzed only for the period of six years due to the fact that the information earlier than six years is not available to UNDP DRMP and collaboration was not established earlier than the period of six years.

Mr. Nashir Karmali, Head of Mission, FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance, enquired if any measures are being taken in regards of severely cold weather in the eastern regions of the country and how the Ministry would solve the situation if the cold temperature would result in malfunctioning power stations. Mr. Azimov replied that the Government of Tajikistan has taken the measures to ensure that the population, regional and local khukumats and jamoats have enough stocks of alternative energy supplies as coal and wood.

- **Railway communication through Uzbekistan:**

Mr. Abdullo Ismatov, representative of Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, has briefed the participants on the overview of the situation surrounding the railway communication through Uzbekistan. He presented a chart indicating the number of wagons remaining in Uzbekistan due to destruction of railway.

Mr. Ismatov mentioned that the wagons (302 wagons up to date) that belong to Tajikistan mainly contain fuel, food, gas, cement and other commodities. According to the presentation, the Government of Tajikistan has forwarded number of official letters to the Uzbek side and has received several replies mentioning that the construction works were being carried out. Mr. Ismatov mentioned that the consequences of the jammed wagons may result in rising food prices and fuel including negative impact on social life of the population. For more information, please refer to presentation as **Annex VI**.

4. Disaster Risk Reduction Project in Dushanbe:

Mr. Parviz Mahmudov, representative of German Red Cross (GRC) in Tajikistan briefed the participants about the ongoing project that GRC was implementing in Dushanbe. The project is funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany and German Red Cross with the project budget of USD 186,000.00 for the period of July 2011 to December 2012. Mr. Mahmudov provide information about project partners and main objectives which were: improved preparedness of the population in the most vulnerable areas of Dushanbe to seismic risk, awareness and improved knowledge and technical skills of population and schoolchildren



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for better disaster response actions and first aid. Mr. Mahmudov has also briefed about the major activities that has been carried out for the past year including project plans for the year of 2012. Mr. Mahmudov ensured that all the activities were and would be carried out in cooperation with REACT partners and other interested stakeholders. He also noted that in 2011 an international consultant on risk assessment conducted several training to GRC staff as well as to heads of target mahallas (neighborhoods). For detailed information, please refer to **Annex V**.

5. Establishment of Early Warning System in Kulyab:

Mr. Shavkat Bozorov, Director of a non- governmental organization NASIP AKP, has briefed the participants on the setup of an Early Warning System along the river of Sai Tebalay in Kulyab. The system was established with the support of UNDP in Tajikistan and has several ways of communication between the local khukumats and partners on possible flooding in the Tebalay river. He mentioned that alert levels were divided into three levels (initial, preparedness and rescue), and the alert is communicated through the SMS by the local observers (trained volunteers in the villages along the river). Other ways to alert the local population are sirens.

Mr. Bozorov presented a table indicating the hierarchy of activities and responsible bodies during the rise of water level on the river including the timings of the information share. In total, the project covers 10 points/gauges along the river Tebalay.

Maj-Gen Khushvaqtoev inquired if the gauges were able to function during night as emergencies occurring at night times cause much more damage and human losses. Mr. Bozorov responded that the indicators will work 24 hours regardless the time of the day.

Ms Regina Gujan, DRR programme of SDC, also enquired about sustainability of the project, especially the usage of SMS. Mr. Bozorov mentioned that the project has taken into account the sustainability issues and has agreed with the local mobile company that will provide free of charge SMS communication tariffs during the emergency situations with separate VPN numbers. Detailed information on the project can be found as **Annex VI**.

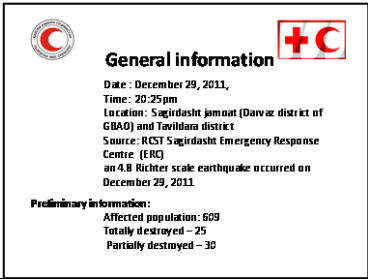
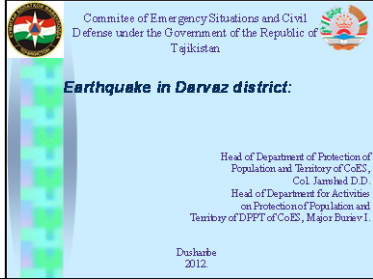
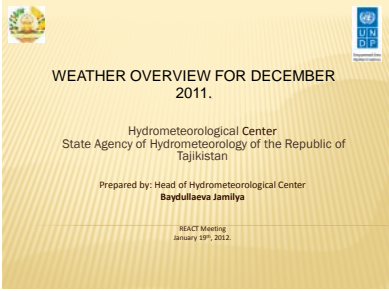
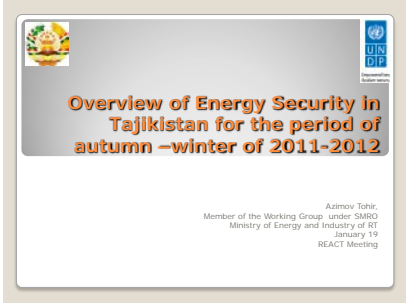
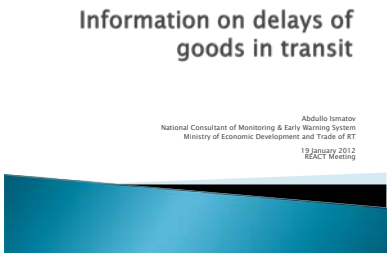


6. News from partners:

Ms. Manzura Nazaramonova, SDC Programme Officer informed about new initiative supported by SDC and implemented by the Center for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction on creation of a database for Integrated Watershed Management and Disaster Risk Reduction. The current mechanism has been created to provide information base for a better knowledge management and coordination in IWSM sector (integrated watershed management: disaster risk reduction, land use and natural resource management considering climate change adaptation and the livelihood perspective) among governmental, civil society and international stakeholders in Tajikistan. Ms. Nazaramonova urged participants to make use of the database in their daily activities that can be found at main SDC website.



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Annexes:

<p>I - Disaster Overview: Earthquake in Darvaz district of GBAO region:</p> 	
<p>II - Weather conditions of autumn 2011 and forecast for winter 2012:</p> 	<p>III - Energy: coal and gas:</p> 
<p>VI - Railway communication through Uzbekistan:</p> 	<p>V - Disaster Risk Reduction Project in Dushanbe:</p> 
<p>VI - Establishment of Early Warning System in Kulyab:</p> 	



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Annex VII – List of Participants:

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