

# NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON DAMS AND DEVELOPMENT IN GHANA

## 14<sup>th</sup> National Coordinating Committee Meeting

### Minutes

Date: Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2011      Time: 9:00 – 12:00      Venue: AGRA Conference Room

### Chairperson

**Mr. Minta A. Aboagye**

### NCC MEMBERS PRESENT

NAME	Institution
1 Mr. Harold Clottey	Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing
2 Mr. Joseph Amakyi	Ministry of Energy
3 Mr. George Tetteh	Bui Power Authority
4 Nana Kwadwo Wuo II	Bui Community
5 Togbe Emmanuel Agbesi Kpakpa	Battor/ Akainyakrom Community
6 Nene Tetteh Amoako IV	Representative from the Lower Volta Basin
7 Togbe Adom Drayi II	NAVRAT 52
8 Hon. Isaac Agbo-Tetteh	Lower Manya Krobo District Assembly
9 Mr. Stephen Adjabeng	Volta Basin Development Foundation
10 Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally	International Water Management Institute
11 Mr. Minta A. Aboagye	Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing (Chairperson)
12 Dr. E.O. Bekoe	Water Research Institute
13 Mr. Richard Koranteng	Volta Basin Development Foundation (Secretary)
14 Ms. Rhoda Arthur	Volta River Authority (Rep.)
15 Nicole Lefore	International Water Management Institute
16 Edmund Kyei Akoto-Danso	International Water Management Institute (Support Staff)
17 Kupualor Ebenezer Tetteh	Volta Basin Development Foundation (Support Staff)

### MEMBERS ABSENT

1. Dr. Nicholas Iddi      Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology
2. Dr. Bob Alfa      Water Resources Commission
3. Togbe Adom Drayi II      National Association of 52 VRA Resettlement Townships

The NCC meeting began at 9:10am with a prayer from Nana Kwadwo Wuo II.

### Agenda:

1. Short report of the inception workshop;
2. Matters arising - Legal status of GDD; Visits to EPA & W.R.C and Project closeout durbar at Bui.
3. Way forward:
  - Identification of prospective Donors;
  - Finalization of Action plan;
  - Setting up Advisory council
4. Any other business
5. Closing Remark

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1. Opening Remarks	Mr. Minta Aboagye welcomed all present for the 14 <sup>th</sup> NCC Meeting and also thanked them for participating in the Inception workshop held at Akuse. He said that even though it was the last meeting of the NCC for the current phase, it served as a link between this and subsequent phases. It is also important because it was used to prepare both the strategic and action plans.	Mr. Minta Aboagye
2. Report of Inception meeting	Mr. Koranteng said that the workshop was held on the 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> March and thanked members who attended because it even coincided with a national holiday. In all 20 members attended. He outlined the objectives of the workshop which were to clarify the strategic direction and implementation agenda of the Ghana Dams Dialogue (GDD) for the next two years, clarify the legal status of GDD and its sub structures best suited to the proposed role, clarify and enhance the institutional mandates, roles and responsibilities of NCC and Secretariat, and other mechanisms of GDD, in pursuance of the agreed transformation and finally assess capacity development needs for enhancing individual and organizational effectiveness and efficiency. He ended by stating some of the key decisions taken including the enlargement of the NCC from 14 to 16 to address gender issues, the inclusion of experts and resource persons to the Advisory Council and the need to look again at the mandates and legal status of GDD.	Mr. Richard Koranteng
3. Matters Arising	<p><b>3.1. Legal Status of GDD</b></p> <p>Dr Liqa Raschid-Sally indicated that a subcommittee was set up to explore the requirements for legalising the GDD. The committee visited the Registrar Generals Department to discuss the issues with some top officials from the Department. Based on this, there was further discussion between the Secretariat and Mr. Rajeev Ahal of O.D. Consultancy which resulted in the development of draft options which were the re-discussed at the subcommittee. The options were presented to NCC for discussion.</p> <p>The Not-for-Profit Association option was seen to be the best option since it allowed, according to the Registrar's office, for participation by government organisations, without interfering with their respective mandates. However upon deliberations the house agreed to further seek clarification on the option chosen through consultation with a legal expert.</p>	Dr Liqa Raschid-Sally

	<p><b>3.2 Visits to EPA &amp; WRC</b></p> <p>Mr. Richard Koranteng reported that the subcommittee was unable to visit these organizations as planned at the Inception meeting but there was an assurance that the committee will re-organize to have informal meetings to get to know the related projects and programmes before embarking on the formal visits.</p> <p><b>3.3 Project Closeout Durbar at Bui</b></p> <p>Mr. Richard Koranteng reported that on the 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2011 the secretariat embarked on a visit to Bui resettlement area with the aim of getting to know how already resettled communities are faring and to see the new settlement areas and the related infrastructure. The visit was also to inform the Bui communities of recent activities undertaken by the platform including the livelihoods study, and outline future plans. On arrival the team realized the community had organized a durbar which finally ended up with the enstoolment of Dr. Raschid-Sally as the development chief. She also set up an endowment fund for educating girls, with a seed fund of one thousand Ghana Cedis.</p> <p>It was also revealed that the Akainyakrom community had also moved and this prompted Dr. Bekoe to ask Togbe Kpakpa about the general feelings at the new resettlement site. In response, Togbe Kpakpa said the conditions were satisfactory.</p>	Mr. Richard Koranteng
4. Way Forward	<p><b>4.1 Identification of Prospective Donors</b></p> <p>The Chairman said the funding of GIZ has come to an end and therefore there was the need to seek other sources. He invited views on possible sources of funding for GDD. Suggestions included GIZ, IUCN, DANIDA, CIDA, the Indian Government, Irish development aid and the Australian Embassy</p> <p>When questioned as to whether local organisations like the BPA, VRA and MOE, might have funds for supporting such initiatives as the GDD, the representatives indicated that there were no funds assigned for sponsorship of such programmes.</p> <p>When requested for their views about sources of funding, members made the suggestion that the following questions should be clarified before the Concept Note is sent to prospective donors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. What do we want the funds for?</li> <li>II. Whether GDD is working towards meeting any of the Millennium Development Goals in</li> </ol>	Mr. Minta Aboagye

	<p>which case the project concept could be designed to tie into the MDGs</p> <p>III. The need to talk to the various donors to get to know the forms their funding take in order to set the proposal within these frameworks.</p> <p>The Chairman concluded that what is needed is a logical plan which captures these concerns to source for the funding.</p> <p><b>3.2 Finalization of Action Plan</b></p> <p>One key recommendation made at the Inception meeting was that a two (2) member committee was tasked to review the action plan and report to NCC. The draft plan was presented but the Chairman said Mr. Twum Koranteng should inform the Committee to provide the full report at the next NCC meeting. He further added that we needed the action plan to inform donors what we have done, what we want to do now and in the future. An interim committee was further set up to look into the Action Plan. The members include Mr. Minta Aboagye, Dr. Nicholas Iddi and Mr. Richard Twum Koranteng.</p> <p>To conclude the discussion, it was proposed that priority should be given to the first objective of the Action Plan which was to put the structures of the GDD in place.</p>	Twum Koranteng
5 Setting up Advisory Council	<p>The meeting accepted the members of the Advisory Council to include indentified representatives from the following organizations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development</li> <li>II. Ministry of Water Resources Works and Housing</li> <li>III. National Development Planning Commission</li> <li>IV. Ministry of Lands and Forestry</li> <li>V. Volta River Authority</li> <li>VI. Bui Power Authority</li> <li>VII. Ministry of Energy</li> <li>VIII. Volta Basin Authority</li> </ol> <p>As indicated earlier, experts will be used as resource persons during deliberations of the AC meetings.</p>	Twum Koranteng
6 Any other Business	<p>A formal invitation has been extended to GDD to attend the formal impoundment of the Bui project.</p> <p>Togbe Kpakpa was grateful to the BPA and government for all they had done to see them that far.</p>	BPA Rep.

The last part of the meeting was used to congratulate the members for their fruitful discussions and for wishing Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally well in her endeavours. Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally on her part also thanked all members for supporting the project to a successful end. She added that even though this will be her final meeting with the NCC, her close association and friendship with members of the NCC, made her feel a part of the future plans, and she will be available to support the group wherever she will be.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55pm with a prayer from Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally.

