

NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON DAMS AND DEVELOPMENT IN GHANA

8th National Coordinating Committee Meeting

MINUTES

Date: 29th September, 2009

Time: 9:⁰⁰ – 12:⁰⁰

Venue: IWMI Conference Room

CHAIRPERSON

Dr. E.O. Bekoe

NCC MEMBERS PRESENT

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| 1. Togbe Adom Drayi II | NAVRART 52 |
| 2. Mr. Benjamin Ofori | Volta Basin Research Project (Representing) |
| 3. Dr. E.O. Bekoe | Water Research Institute |
| 4. Nene Tetteh Amoako IV | Representative from the Lower Volta Basin |
| 5. Mr. Richard Twum Koranteng | Volta Basin Development Foundation |
| 6. Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally | International Water Management Institute |
| 7. Torgbe Agbesi Kpapka | Akainyakrom Representative |
| 8. Mr. Bob Alfa | Water Resources Commission |
| 9. Nana Kwadwo Wuo II | Chief of Bui |
| 10. Mr. Sylvester Zigah | Bui Power Authority |
| 11. Hon. Isaac Agbo-Tetteh | Manya Krobo District Assembly |

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT

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| 1. Mr. Edmund K. Akoto-Danso | International Water Management Institute |
| 2. Ms. Maija Hirvonen | Consultant |
| 3. Mr. Ben. Sackey | Volta River Authority |

MEMBERS ABSENT

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| 1. Mr. Samuel Ayeh-Dateh | Ministry of Energy |
| 2. Mr. Mike Anane | League of Env. Journalists |

AGENDA

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the 7th NCC Meeting
2. Past Activities
3. Upcoming events and activities
 - Courtesy call to Vice President by HSAF Team on 26th October, 2009.
 - Press Conference
 - HSAF Consultation – Dams Affected Communities on 27th October, 2009.
 - HSAF Consultation – Government Agencies & Department on 28th October, 2009.
 - 3rd Ghana Dams Forum - 29th and 30th October, 2009
4. AOB

The meeting began at 9:15 am.

The Chairperson welcomed members to the meeting. The Chairperson asked members to introduce themselves since some invited guests were also present.

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH NCC MEETING

ITEMS	ISSUES	RESPONSIBILITY
1. Confirmation of Minutes of the 7th NCC Meeting	<p>1.1 Members went through the minutes.</p> <p>1.2 Togbe Adom Drayi II moved for the confirmation of the minutes and was seconded by Torgbe Agbesi Kpapka.</p>	
2. Past Activities	<p><i>2.1 Activities by the Action Team</i></p> <p>Members were informed about activities that have taken place since the last NCC meeting. Since reports of all these activities were forwarded to members and also captured in the second GDD Newsletter, the activities were only discussed in brief. They included a visit to the Graphic Communication Group Limited, a field trip to Akanyakrom, as well as the Institutional Networking Meeting among Dam Affected Communities, and the 1st Annual Meeting of Dam Affected Communities. All these activities were led by the Action Team of the NCC.</p> <p>Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally informed members about the visit of the Action Team to the Graphic Communication Group Limited. She said that the objective of the visit was to promote collaboration with the Group, and also to establish a platform on how issues on dams could be factored into the Daily Graphic Governance Dialogue series.</p> <p>Mr. Richard Twum Koranteng also informed members about the field trip to Akainyakrom. The purpose of the visit was to resolve concerns raised during the previous NCC meeting; and the visit met its objective. He added that: "Speaking on behalf of the</p>	

two communities, the Chief of Battor – Togbe Emmanuel Agbesi Kpakpa – informed the gathering that, having considered all of the issues discussed during the meeting, both communities have agreed to be resettled side by side. To this effect, they have sent a letter to the BPA accordingly.

Mr. Twum finally reported on the Institutional Networking Meeting and the 1st Annual Meeting of Dam Affected Communities. He said that the two events were held back-to-back on the 16th and 17th of July, 2009. The key issues that came out of the meeting included land acquisition and ownership; the Volta River Authority Resettlement Trust Fund; participation of dam affected communities in decision-making processes; and capacity building opportunities.

Bob Alfa applauded the Action Team for the visit to the Graphic Communication Group Limited, and proposed that the Team visit other media houses as well.

2.2 GDD Newsletter

The Editor of the Newsletter, Edmund Kyei Akoto-Danso, informed members about the release of the second GDD Newsletter. He re-emphasized the relevance of the Newsletter as a mechanism for information exchange and requested comments from members to improve the Newsletter. He encouraged the Bui Power Authority and the Volta River Authority to use the platform to get across information as much as possible.

Members were informed about the impact of the Newsletter and the website of the project. Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally said that the Secretariat had been approached by the International Water Power & Dam Construction journal to submit an article to its

	<p>September edition. This is available on-line at www.waterpowermagazine.com. The Secretariat had also been contacted by the West Africa Dialogue on Large Infrastructure for further information about the Ghana Dams Dialogue, and possible synergies between the two processes.</p> <p>Messrs. Ben Sackey and Ofori commended the Secretariat for the GDD Newsletter and further recommended the possibility of looking for external support to produce more copies and expand distribution. The Volta River Authority and the Chinese Embassy were suggested as possible sources of support.</p> <p><i>2.3 Mid Year Report</i></p> <p>Members were briefed about the midyear report of the project, which was submitted to GTZ as one of the technical requirements of the project. As was noted by Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally, following feedback from GTZ, the finalized mid-year report will be circulated to members and also uploaded onto the website.</p>	<p>Secretariat</p> <p>Secretariat</p>
<p>3. Upcoming events and activities</p>	<p>Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally and Mr. Richard Twum Koranteng informed the meeting about the upcoming events and activities for the dialogue process. These activities included a courtesy call to the Vice President by the Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Forum (HSAF) Team; a press conference to publicize the up-coming HSAF consultations and third Ghana Dams Forum; the HSAF consultations with Dams Affected Communities and Government Agencies & Department themselves; and the third Ghana Dams Forum. Members were told of the background to the collaboration between the HSAF and the Ghana Dams Dialogue (GDD) The GDD would be facilitating the meetings between the</p>	

	<p>HSAF and relevant government agencies and Dam Affected Communities (DACs) and assist in preparing discussions on the draft Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Protocol. The HSAF consultations would seek to obtain detailed feedback from a diversity of stakeholders, especially DACs and Government Agencies, on the content and practicability of the draft Protocol. It would also raise awareness amongst the Ghana Dams Dialogue Forum members about the Protocol to ensure its usefulness and credibility.</p> <p>The schedule for the various activities was proposed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Press Conference on the 22nd October, 2009• Courtesy call to Vice President by HSAF Team on 26th October, 2009.• HSAF Consultation – Dams Affected Communities on 27th October, 2009.• HSAF Consultation – Government Agencies & Department on 28th October, 2009.• 3rd Ghana Dams Forum - 29th and 30th October, 2009 <p>After the presentation of the programme, and the details of the HSAF Consultation and the 3rd Ghana Dams Forum, members were requested to come out with any suggestions, comments or further clarifications.</p> <p>After a long deliberation, the meeting concluded that:</p>	<p>HSAF and GDD Team.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The HSAF and GDD team pay a courtesy call on the Vice President as a first step, and invite him or his representative to the 3rd Ghana Dams Forum. • The Action Team of the NCC help pre-select issues to be presented and discussed at the HSAF Consultation with the Dam Affected Communities (DACs). • The topics to be presented during the 3rd Ghana Dams Forum should focus on the following; <i>Institutional Challenges; Funding challenges & coping strategies and Alternate Livelihood Options</i>. Institutions and individuals were identified to deliver the presentations. • The Action Team finalized a format/structure for the three presentations, and a programme for Consultation and the Forum. • The theme for the 3rd Ghana Dams Forum would be <i>“Addressing Livelihood and Institutional Challenges for Sustainable Dam Development in Ghana”</i>. <p>The Action Team was mandated to take action on these points. .</p>	<p>Action Team</p> <p>VRA, KNUST and IWMI</p> <p>Action Team</p> <p>Action Team</p>
<p>4. Any Other Business</p>	<p>4.1 Networking Meeting with the International Financial and Non-Financial Institutions.</p> <p>The Secretariat informed members about the Networking Meeting with the International Financial and Non-Financial Institutions that was tentatively scheduled for the month of November. The meeting would, among others, deliberate on issues concerning the integration of Dam Affected Communities into the decentralized administrative structure of the country, and also discuss ways of building the capacities of and providing resources</p>	

	<p>for the different stakeholder groups that are part of the dialogue process.</p> <p>4.2 One body for the Lower Volta Resettlement Communities</p> <p>Nene Tetteh Amoako IV used the platform to inform the District Chief Executive (DCE) of the Manya Krobo District Assembly about the effort of the affected communities to form one unified body for the six affected communities of the Kpong Dam. He said, “the previous DCE initiated the process and he hopes that the present DCE will use his august office to help set up the body”.</p> <p>Torgbe Agbesi Kpapka thanked the Action Team and the NCC members on behalf of his community for their visit, and for facilitating an amicable settlement of issues in their community.</p>	DCE
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Togbe Adom Drayi II moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally .The meeting ended at 12:35 with a prayer from Nana Kwadwo Wuo II.

