NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON DAMS AND DEVELOPMENT IN GHANA

12th National Coordinating Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: Tuesday, 21st December, 2010 Time: 9:⁰⁰ – 12:⁰⁰ Venue: AGRA Conference Room

Chairperson

Dr. Mrs. Cecilia Amoah

NCC MEMBERS PRESENT

| 1 | Dr. Mrs. Cecilia Amoah | Volta Basin Research Project | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| 2 | Mr. Gabriel Apatu | Bui Power Authority | | |
| 3 | Togbe Adom Drayi II | NAVRART 52 | | |
| 4 | Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally | International Water Mgt. Inst. | | |
| 5 | Mr. Richard Koranteng | Volta Basin Development Foundation | | |
| 6 | Nene Tetteh Amoako IV | Natriku Community | | |
| 7 | Nana Kwadwo Wuo II | Bui Community | | |
| 8 | Hon. Isaac Agboh-Tetteh | Lower Manya Krobo District Assembly | | |
| 9 | Mr. K.D. Bright Siayor | Volta River Authority | | |
| 10 | Togbe Emmanuel Kpakpa | Akainyakrom | | |
| 11 | Mr. Minta A. Aboagye | MWRW&H | | |
| 12 | Mr. Bob Alfa | Water Resources Commission | | |
| 13 | Mr. Mike Anane | League of Env. Journalists | | |
| OBSERVERS | | | | |
| 14 | Mrs. Rhoda Arthur | Volta River Authority | | |
| 15 | Mr. Ben Sackey | Volta River Authority | | |
| 16 | Mr. E.A.K. Kalitsi | Kalitsi and Associates | | |
| 17 | Mr. Rajeev Ahal | Organization Development Centre | | |
| 18 | Mr. Benjamin Ofori | VBRP | | |
| 19 | Mr. Edmund K. Akoto-Danso | International Water Mgt. Inst. | | |
| 20. | Ms. Patience Asem | VRA Resettlement Trust Fund | | |

MEMBERS ABSENT

| 1. | Mr. Samuel Ayeh-Dateh | Ministry of Energy |
|----|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 2. | Mr. S.A. Appenteng | AGI |
| 3. | Dr. E.O. Bekoe | Water Research Institute |

The NCC meeting began at 09:10 am with a prayer from Nana Kwadwo Wuo II.

Agenda:

- 1. Confirmation of Minutes of the 11th NCC Meeting.
- 2. Update on past events
- 3. Presentations
 - o Findings of Evaluation of the Phase III of the Ghana Dams Dialogue
 - o Concept Note for the next phase of the Ghana Dams Dialogue
- 4. Closure of Phase III of the Ghana Dams Dialogue
- 5. Presentation of Certificates



| ITEM | ISSUE | RESPONSILITY |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Confirmation of Minutes of | Members reviewed the minutes of the 11 th NCC meeting. Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally moved for the | Participants of the 11 th NCC |
| the 11 th NCC Meeting. | confirmation of the minutes and was seconded by Ms. Patience Asem. | meeting |
| 2. Update on past events | Mr. Richard Koranteng updated members on the outcomes of the 4 th Ghana Dams Forum. He reminded members about the rich representation during the Forum from the Government Agencies and Departments including the Chairman of the National Development Planning Commission, the Minister of Food and Agriculture, deputy ministers from the Ministries of Environment, Science and Technology, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, and from the Ministry of Energy, and the Director of Water, representing the Minister for Water Resources, Works and Housing. He added that, the Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) (or their representative) of the two largest dam projects in Ghana, the Akosombo and the Bui dams were also present and engaged in the discussions alongside numerous traditional chiefs and representatives of NGOs. The meeting shared recent scientific research relevant to dam development and provided a platform for continued dialogue over contentious dam-related issues. The participants concluded with an agreement that the Ghana Dams Dialogue should be sustained beyond this current phase (January 2009 – December, 2010). | Richard Koranteng |
| | Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally updating members on the Cultural Harmony Meeting at Bui indicated that, the meeting was the outcome of a request made by the BPA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) during the 4th Ghana Dams Forum where he raised the critical issue of cultural harmony and integration of communities in the resettlement sites. She reported that the Bui Power Authority requested the Ghana Dams Dialogue Platform through its secretariat to facilitate such a meeting. The aim of the meeting to initiate a dialogue on achieving cultural harmony and tolerance, and to propose systemic interventions for the cultural integration of the communities in the Bui Hydroelectric Project area. Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally outlined the key resolutions from the meeting as follows: The traditions are delicate and relevant. The pouring of libation was a sensitive issue requiring further deliberations and follow-up, with the involvement of the right parties. Taboos and festivals are not issues in this discussion. Both are known and should be recognized by all residents in the new site. | Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally |

| | Workers of BPA are exempted from these taboos and festivals . | |
|------------------|---|-----------------|
| | Workers of BPA are exempted from these taboos and jestivals. Chieftancy/allegiance aspects are clear to those involved (and do not require further | |
| | | |
| | discussion). | |
| | Research historical facts on pouring of libation and prepare a protocol prior to moving to the | |
| | new site. | |
| 3. Presentations | 3.1. Findings of Evaluation of the Phase III of the Ghana Dams Dialogue | Mr. Rajeev Ahal |
| | | |
| | Mr. Rajeev Ahal presented findings of the evaluation of the Ghana Dams Dialogue for the 3 rd phase. | |
| | He outlined the objectives of the exercise thus; to undertake the end-of-project evaluation of the | |
| | process of growth and evolution of Ghana Dams Dialogue in its third phase; to document key | |
| | experiences and lessons learnt. And finally to provide recommendations for the next phase of GDD. | |
| | To achieve these objectives, the consultant used an Organisational Development approach - the | |
| | integrated application of Gestalt Organisational Development. This approach is based on the | |
| | principles of appreciative inquiry, systems thinking, group process, emotional and social intelligence | |
| | as well as personal growth and mastery to enhance learning and the management of change at all | |
| | levels of system in a multi-cultural environment, he added. | |
| | | |
| | He presented key findings, lessons learnt from the evaluation and impact areas for the next phase | |
| | of GDD. He ended his presentation with some specific recommendations emerging from the | |
| | evaluation : | |
| | I. Establishment of a decentralized Project level engagement by GDD. | |
| | II. Broadening GDDs horizontal/thematic engagement through the extension of scope to upstream | |
| | and downstream areas of dams. | |
| | III. Being strategic in advocacy function leading to becoming a Knowledge Manager on Water | |
| | Sector in Ghana | |
| | IV. GDD's strategy to safeguard its independence should be based on its independent NCC and a | |
| | basket of funds. | |
| | V. GDD's strategy to strengthen its accountability by enhancing transparency of decisions made | |
| | and process of decision making within NCC and accountability of Secretariat to the NCC. | |
| | VI. Institutional management trough an improved minutes keeping and dissemination of NCC | |
| | meetings; follow up, review and feedback of agreed actions within GDD; | |
| | meetings; follow up, review and feedback of agreed actions within GDD; | |

3.2 Concept Note for the next phase of the Ghana Dams Dialogue

Mr. Rajeev Ahal did his second presentation on the Concept Note for the next phase of the Ghana Dams Dialogue. He indicated that the Concept Note was designed to propose key policy and programme guidelines by the outgoing NCC to the new one (institutional memory and hand-over). This also forms the basis for the Secretariat to start identifying funding sources to recommend to the next NCC and finally define directions for the capacity of Secretariat to be built up for supporting the next phase of GDD.

Four strategic goals with respective objectives and outputs were discussed and approved by members of the NCC. The strategic goals include the following:

- 1. Lead a national level dialogue process on Sustainable Dam Development
- 2. Undertake evidence based and focussed advocacy and lobbying to push current policy and legal envelopes.
- 3. Support improved Implementation of selected key sustainability aspects of dam development in Ghana.
- 4. Capacitate Dam Affected Communities on voice and accountability aspects

In order for GDD to achieve the above in the next phase (2011-13), it was agreed to:

- introduce and manage the process of change towards the proposed institutional mechanisms.
 This will include a planned transition and capacity development of the proposed Secretariat of GDD. Apart from utilization of internal resources (in terms of leadership and experience), GDD will bring in Organisational Development expertise to make this transition smooth and effective.
- that, based on this Concept Note, the new NCC leadership will develop a detailed GDD Action Plan (including budget) for the Fourth Phase (2011-13).
- seek and secure funding for the next phase: The strategy would be to seek Core Support from a
 partner donor based on this concept note and identify other supports for some of the
 programmatic activities (including in-kind support from some of the GDD members). Having a
 'basket of funds' will help GDD to ensure a balanced, secure and flexible funding to enhance the
 requirements of a multi stakeholder forum such as this one.

The last part of the meeting was employed to close the activities of the third phase of the Ghana Dams Dialogue. The Chairperson and the Project Leader (Dr. Mrs. Cecilia Amoah and Dr. Liqa Raschid-Sally) respectively gave valedictory speeches to close the current phase. The meeting ended with a cheerful presentation of certificates by the co-chairs, to members of the NCC and other personalities and organizations who have contributed to the successful implementation of the third phase of the dialogue process.

The meeting closed at 12: 30 with a closing prayer from Nana Kwadwo Wuo II.

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