

Minutes of Tenth (10th) meeting of Project Steering Committee for Sindh Water Sector Improvement Project Phase-I (WSIP) held on February 20, 2010 under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary (Dev.) P&D Department, Committee Room of P&D Department, Government of Sindh, Karachi

List of the participant of the meeting is attached at **Annex-A**

After welcome and introduction of the participants of the meeting, the Chairman in his opening remarks stated that WSIP Project is very important project in the irrigation and drainage sector. He further stated that during the last World Bank Mission in May 2009, the Project implementation was rated as unsatisfactory by the World Bank Mission which was a wake up call for all of us. He urged that all project partners have to take all possible efforts/measures to get the project implementation on faster track. Agreeing with the observation of the Chair, the Project Director, WSIP/SIDA stated that the progress implementation was delayed in past years due to one or other reasons, however, most of problems/issues have now been resolved and the pace of the implementation has improved and that some tangible progress has been achieved and hopefully during the coming World Bank Mission the ranking of WSIP project progress implementation would be considered as satisfactory. Thereafter the chairman asked PC(WSIP) to proceed as per agenda of the meeting;

Item No. 1: Confirmation of minutes of 9th PSC meeting held on December 9, 2009:

2. The Project Coordinator, WSIP/PCMU informed that the minutes of previous (9th) meeting of PSC were circulated to all members/participants of the meeting. No comments on the minutes have been received from any quarter. The Chair, however, enquired from all the participants for any comments. *All participants agreed with the minutes of previous meeting, hence minutes of 9th meeting were confirmed.*

Item No. 2: Review of updated implementation status/progress of project activities:

3. Presenting the component wise updated status of project implementation, the Project Director WSIP/SIDA informed that steps towards implementation of component-A activities have been initiated. The recruitment of project staff was in advance stage; deployment of some key staff for SIDA Secretariat and staff for FOs has been completed, whereas selection of remaining staff for SIDA including MD SIDA and staff for three AWBs has been started and would be completed before end March 2010.

4. It was further informed that the proposals for reactivation of social mobilization activities including formation of remaining FOs, trainings and other support to FOs, communication and media strategy have been prepared and are under process of approval for implementation. Actions have been initiated on preparation of detailed Rules of Business, Procurement/Financial and Administrative and staff rules etc to make the SIDA fully operational in delivering the mandated services.

5. The Project Coordinator, WSIP/PCMU pointed out the delay in compliance of the decision/directives of Honourable Chief Minister Sindh in respect of preparation of Rules of Business for SIDA, made in the meeting held on July 21, 2009 under the Chairmanship of C.M Sindh. The Chair took very serious view on the delay and directed that SIDA should give it a top priority to get the decision/directives of Honourable C.M Sindh complied without further delay. On a query from the Chair regarding date and time frame for completion of the above task, the PD WSIP/SIDA stated that on Feb. 22, 2010 a meeting with PICs has been arranged to discuss the subject matter, thereafter the time frame for completion of assignment will be communicated accordingly. Regarding arrangement of SIDA Board meeting, it was pointed out that due to sad demise of one of the farmer members, the SIDA Board has now become non functional. However, for temporary arrangement, necessary amendment would be required in SWMO-02 with consultation of Chairman SIDA to make the SIDA Board functional. In this regard it was decided that MD SIDA being secretary of SIDA Board will promptly take action accordingly.

6. The Team leader, PICs WSIP gave detailed presentation during the meeting for implementation of component-B activities. It was informed that identification of works for main/branch canals and FOs distributaries/minors for Nara Canal and Ghotki Feeder AWBs has been completed. Accordingly 1st package for Nara canal including Mithrao, Khipro and upper/lower Nara Canal has been finalized at an estimated cost of US \$ 56.8 million. The preparation of package for Ghotki Feeder was under way. The walkthrough survey on 28 FOs channels of Nara Canal AWB has been completed and design/engineering survey is under way. The walkthrough survey for FO channels of Ghotki Feeder AWB has been started. The identification of works for Left Bank Canal AWB would be carried out as soon as prioritizing of works is finalized which is still under consideration.

7. The PD WSIP/SIDA informed that Left Bank Canal AWB in its meeting agreed that rehabilitation works for Phuleli canal would be carried out under WSIP instead of PSDP, however, the minutes of the meeting are yet to be received from AWB. The representative of IPD (Additional Secretary) endorsed the view point /decision of AWB for inclusion of Phuleli Canal under WSIP Project. In this regard, it was decided that SIDA should get official consent from AWB as well as IPD for inclusion of Phuleli Canal under WSIP and convey to PICs so that they can start their survey activities.

8. The representative of Planning Commission, GoPakistan who is the member of PSC raised points regarding (i) slow progress of the project, and (ii) if there was any deviation /change of scope of physical works as against the approved PC-I, then, it will require immediate revision of PC-I. The representative of W&P section, P&D Department, GoSindh endorsed the view point. The PD WSIP/SIDA explained the reasons for slow progress and also explained that there was no any major deviation/change of scope as against the PC-I. However, he assured to further review it and will address the concerns of the honourable member. The Chair directed that concerns of the member should be addressed properly.

9. Updating the status of component-C activities, the PD WSIP/SIDA informed that the procurement process has been completed by PMC/A for deployment of consultants for preparation of drainage and flood master plan and assured that by 1st week of March 2010, the Contract Agreement would be signed with selected firm for the consultancy. He further informed that the procurement process for Consultancy Services for Guddu Barrage study has been started. Short listing of firms has been completed by PMC/A and is under process of approval of the World Bank. Regarding safety assessment of Sukkur Barrage, it was informed that one of the World Bank Islamabad based Consultant visited Sukkur Barrage in 3rd week of Jan 2010. Further line of action would be discussed with forth-coming World Bank Mission based on the gap analysis report of WB Consultant.

10. The Project Coordinator, WSIP/PCMU informed that for carrying out M&E activities under Component-D of the Project, the Contract Agreement with M/s. NESPAK has been signed on December 19, 2009 as M&E Consultants. The Team Leader along with some staff members of the team have been mobilized on Jan 17, 2010 and they have started their activities i.e. preparation of baseline/Inception Report etc. The request of consultants has been forwarded to SIDA for release of mobilization advance to the firm in Pak Rupees as well as in US dollars. The PD WSIP/SIDA informed that the payments to the consultants would be made by Monday Feb. 22, 2010 without delay.

11. Providing the updated status of the activities of component-E, the Project Coordinator, WSIP/PCMU informed that action has been initiated for carrying out Technical Assistance and Training activities as per concept paper approved by PSC. Regarding Training Proposal submitted by SIDA to the World bank for getting grant from Trust Fund being managed by the World Bank, it was informed that the Bank Mission will be visiting from Feb. 28 to March 13, 2010 to finalize the proposal/request. The Chair directed that arrangement of Trainings should be made for those who are involved in the Project to make it more purposeful and result oriented.

12. It was informed that the process for identification of Strategic /Research Studies has been initiated. The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) has been formed to develop a framework for identification and prioritization of the areas of interest / strategic studies and further line of action for implementation of these studies. As of now two meetings of RAC have been held. In 2nd meeting of RAC, five research studies have been identified for implementation in the 1st year program. In addition four small grants would be awarded to the PhD/Masters students doing the research relevant to the WSIP objectives. Details have already been provided in the Working Paper of the meeting.

13. The Project Director WSIP/SIDA stated that an amount of Rs. 249.407 million has been incurred up to December 2009 from IDA funds. On the request of representative of Planning Commission, GoPakistan, the Chair directed SIDA to provide head wise details of expenditure incurred on WSIP Project.

Item No. 3: Compliance of the decision of previous (9th) meeting of PSC:

14. The forum reviewed compliance status of decisions of 9th PSC meeting based on the information provided in the Working Paper. It was observed that actions on some important decision including (i) preparation of Business Plan for transfer of Nara Canal AWB, (ii) Transfer/delegation of financial/technical and administrative powers to PD WSIP, (iii) payments of salary to contingent staff from WSIP Project and (iv) obtaining of consent from Finance Department regarding rectification of anomaly/enhancement of salary packages of project staff under WSIP have not been complied. The matter was discussed in detail and different options/ways for settlement of above issues were discussed. Based on the suggestions of the Forum, SIDA was directed to take necessary actions in light of discussions/suggestions for compliance of the decisions of previous meeting without further delay.

15. The decisions on the above have been summarized as under:

- i. The minutes of previous (9th) meeting of PSC confirmed.
- ii. Selection of Project Staff for three AWBs and remaining staff for SIDA including MD SIDA would be completed during the month of March 2010.
- iii. SIDA to get the proposals finalized to carry out social mobilization activities, Communication Strategy, strengthening of Communication Cell as per concept paper approved by the PSC in its 8th meeting held on September 17, 2009.
- iv. SIDA should give it top priority to get the compliance of decision/directives of Honourable C.M Sindh regarding preparation of Rules of Business for SIDA completed without further delay. The time frame for completion of the task would be informed to PCMU within three days.

- v. SIDA will promptly take necessary action for consultation with Chairman SIDA for temporary amendment in the SWMO-02 to make SIDA Board functional.
 - vi. SIDA should get official consent from Left Bank AWB as well as IPD for inclusion of Phuleli Canal under WSIP and convey to PICs so that they can start their activities like survey etc.
 - vii. SIDA should review / address the concerns of representatives of Planning Commission expressed during the meeting.
 - viii. After getting all necessary clearance/approval, SIDA will sign the Contract Agreement with selected firm in 1st week of March 2010 for preparation of Drainage and Floods master Plan.
 - ix. PD WSIP/SIDA will coordinate with IPD to proceed further for selection of firm for Guddu Barrage study.
 - x. SIDA and IPD will discuss further line of action regarding the safety assessment of Sukkur Barrage issue with the forth coming World Bank Mission based on the visit report of WB consultant.
 - xi. PCMU to get the full team of M&E Consultants mobilized immediately and SIDA will release payment for mobilization advance to the consultants by Feb. 22, 2010.
 - xii. PD WSIP/SIDA will provide the head wise details of expenditure incurred on WSIP to the rep. of Planning Commission/member of PSC as desired by him with a copy to PCMU within one week.
 - xiii. SIDA to actively pursue for summary submitted for approval of Government of Sindh regarding transfer of financial/technical/administrative powers to PD WSIP for implementation of the Project.
 - xiv. PD WSIP/SIDA will ensure that payments are not made from WSIP Project for any staff including contingent staff if proper procedure as stipulated for the WSIP project has not been followed.
 - xv. SIDA will get the Business Plan for Nara Canal AWB completed immediately.
 - xvi. SIDA will actively pursue with Finance Department, GoSindh, for getting consent of department regarding rectification of anomaly / enhancement of salary packages of staff under the Project.
16. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks from and to the Chair.

List of the Participants of 10th PSC meeting for WSIP held on February 20, 2010

1. Mr. Aurangzab Haque In Chair
Additional Chief Secretary (Dev.) P&D Department, GoSindh
2. Dr. Salam Memon, Project Coordinator, WSIP/PCMU P&D Department, GoSindh
3. Mr. Tahir Shamshad, Joint Secretary, Planning Commission, GoPakistan
4. Syed Mazhar Ali Shah, Additional Secretary, I&P Department, GoSindh
5. Mr. Muhammad Mithal Abbasi, Managing Director, SIDA
6. Mr. Muhammad Ehsan Leghari, Project Director, WSIP/SIDA
7. Mr. Fazal-e-Akbar, Deputy Chief Planning Commission, GoPakistan
8. Ms. Abida Lodhi, Deputy Secretary (Dev-I) Finance Department, GoSindh
9. Mr. Naushad Ali Jamali, PD HEIS, Agriculture Department, GoSindh
10. Mr. Hyder Raza Khan, Deputy Secretary, Forest & Wide life Department, GoSindh
11. Mr. Nazir Hussain Mughal, Director (C&WM) WSIP/PCMU
12. Mr. Nazir Ahmed Memon, General Manager (Transition) SIDA
13. Mr. Moula Bux Mirbahar, General Manager (Operation) SIDA
14. Mr. Anwar Hussain Memon, General Manager (Finance) SIDA
15. Mr. Faizullah Khatri, Assistant Chief (W&P) P&D Department, GoSindh
16. Mr. S.M Yahya, Director, EPA, Sindh
17. Mr. M. Ashraf Sahto, Assistant Director, CDA, GoSindh
18. Mr. Muhammad Khalil, Team Leader, M&E Consultants, WSIP, PCMU
19. Mr. Guy Jones, Team Leader, Project Implementation Consultants, WSIP, SIDA
20. Mr. Muhammad Ayoub Soomro, Senior Irrigation Engineer, PMC/A, WSIP
21. Ghulam Hyder Qureshi, Sociologist, PCMU, WSIP P&D Department, GoSindh