

Minutes of Eighth (8th) meeting of Project Steering Committee (PSC) for Sindh Water Sector Improvement Project Phase-I (WSIP) held on September 17, 2009 in the Committee Room of P&D Department, GoSindh, Karachi

List of the participants of the meeting is attached at **Annex-A**.

The meeting chaired by Additional Chief Secretary (Dev.) P&D Department, GoSindh. After welcome remarks, the Chair asked to proceed as per agenda of the meeting.

Item # 1: Confirmation of the minutes of seventh (7th) meeting of the Committee:

2. The Project Coordinator, WSIP, PCMU stated that the minutes of 7th PSC meeting were circulated to all the concerned departments/agencies and the participants of the meeting. No comments were received from any quarter on the minutes. The Chair, however, enquired from all the participants for any comments. *All participants agreed with the minutes of previous meeting, hence minutes of the 7th meeting stand confirmed.*

Item # 2: Review of updated implementation status / progress of Project activities

a) Selection of SIDA staff

3. Giving the updated implementation status / progress of the project component, the Project Director WSIP informed that approval of GoSindh for appointment of SIDA staff including GMs and other staff has been received and accordingly the deployment of these staff would be finalized very soon. The recruitment process for staff of AWBs has been initiated. In this regard it was further informed that during the meeting held under the Chairmanship of Minister IPD/Chairman SIDA on September 16, 2009, it was agreed that Business Plan for one of AWB will be prepared for making AWB fully functional /operational in all respects as a model followed by remaining two AWBs. Based on it the timing for deployment of staff for three AWBs may be done accordingly.

b) Improvement of Irrigation and Drainage System

4. Under Component-B¹ of the project, the PD WSIP informed that most important activity of the component, i.e. deployment of Project Implementation Consultants (PICs) has been completed and contract has been signed on July 16, 2009. The consultants are on board and have started their project activities i.e. identification and survey of irrigation channels for rehabilitation works. It was further informed that World Bank approved the TORs for preparation of drainage master plan under component-C². The RFP along with TORs has been issued to the short listed firms for submission of their technical and financial proposals for selection of firm. The Secretary IPD was of the view that selection of firm for the subject activity may be made carefully looking into the previous performance of firm(s) because of failure of LBOD to avoid any criticism from the people of affected area of Badin.

c) Feasibility Studies for Barrages

5. The Team leader PMC/A assured that procurement procedure would be made fair and transparent in accordance with the guidelines of the World Bank. Regarding preparation of TORs for feasibility study of Guddu Barrage, it was informed that draft TORs has been finalized in consultation with IPD (*CE Guddu Barrage who is the focal person from IPD*) and waiting for clearance of IPD to proceed further. The draft EOI and SPN prepared by PMC/A has been sent to IPD for taking further action. The Secretary IPD stated that action on finalization of TORs and issuance of EOI/SPN would be completed by October 5, 2009.

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¹ Improvements of the Irrigation and Drainage System (main canals, branch canals, distributaries and drainage systems)

² Management plan for major I&D infrastructures

d) Selection of Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Consultants

6. The Project Coordinator, PCMU/WSIP apprised the forum on the updated status of component-D³ being dealt by PCMU and stated that selection of firm to be deployed as M&E Consultants has been finalized by PMC/A. On the receipt of combined evaluation report from PMC/A, the review Committee formed by GoSindh vide S&GAD, GoS notification dated 1.10.2007 reviewed /discussed the report in detail in its two meetings held on August 17 and 26, 2009. Based on the discussions of review Committee meeting a report/recommendation has been prepared and shared with all members of the PSC on September 4, 2009 for consideration in the PSC. Forum was apprised of the recommendation of review committee that (i) the Combined (Technical and Financial) Evaluation Report submitted by PMC/A for M&E Consultancy may be accepted, (ii) award one Consultancy Contact for the M&E Component instead of four contracts for four activities, (iii) the time period for the consultancy would be 60 months if synchronized with PIC Contract period terms. Otherwise, it would be for 43 months (extendable to 60 months) since the project termination date is April, 2013. This fact may be highlighted while forwarding the case to the World Bank prior to contract award and (iv) the cost of consultancy quoted by the selected firm is US\$ 4.483 million, which is 7% higher against the allocation of US\$ 4.2 million.

7. The Secretary IPD was of view that the M&E Consultants may be deployed at least four months after the physical works started because they have to monitor the implementation of the project activities. The PD WSIP and Team Leader, PMC/A explained the need of M&E Consultants before start of physical works. The M&E Consultants have to prepare base line survey before start of physical works to see the impact of the project and also M&E Consultants have to review and clear the sub-project EA/EMP and see that actions proposed are addressed in civil works contracts under the project. The Secretary IPD further opined that PSC is not a forum to approve consultancies, thus, this matter should be approved by the appropriate administrative authority. The PC, PCMU-WSIP clarified that the report of review committee as notified by S&GAD vide notification NO: SO(C-I)/SGA&CD/4-37/2007 dated 1st October 2007 for M&E consultancy has been presented before PSC accordingly. After detailed discussions, the forum/PSC in principle agreed with the recommendations of review committee on combined evaluation report subject to condition that implementation agency will get the normal approval from the appropriate administrative authority including World Bank before signing the contract.

e) Project Implementation Consultants (PICs) Presentation

8. Presenting the schedule /plan for implementation of physical works/ rehabilitation work of irrigation channels, the Project Implementation Consultants informed the forum that engineering surveys work on 1st priority target has been started from August 4, 2009 in consultation with concerned project partners including AWBs. The survey work would be completed by December 2009 and hopefully 1st contract would be awarded in early 2010. On the issue, raised by PICs, it was clarified that for implementation of WSIP activities, the PD WSIP is approving authority for all PIC documents.

f) Others

9. During the meeting, it was informed to the forum that Minister IPD/Chairman SIDA has desired for lining of channels under WSIP as per directives of President of Pakistan. It was pointed out that under WSIP there is very small allocation/provision for lining of the channels. However, the matter was discussed in detail and forum supported and endorsed the recommendations of SIDA regarding lining of distributaries/minors and suggested that the World Bank may be consulted on the subject for the possibility if its inclusion in the WSIP Project. In this regard it was decided that SIDA will forward a Concept Note on the subject by providing full details including costs for improvement/lining and justification so that further action could be taken accordingly.

³ Project monitoring, evaluation and supervision of EMP

Item # 3: Compliance status of the decisions taken at different forums for implementation of the project:

10. Apprising the updated implementation status of other project activities, PD WSIP informed that based on previous decision of PSC, regarding involvement of RSPs/NGOs in social mobilization activities under the project, SIDA has prepared a concept note on the subject and shared with members of Committee through submission of status report of PSC. The concept note will be shared with the World Bank by PCMU for its consent before taking further action.

11. The PC, PCMU/WSIP apprised the forum that the concept note regarding Technical Assistance and Training under Component-E⁴ of the project prepared has been shared with participants/members of the Committee during the meeting. The component will be implemented with the support of PMC/A and close coordination with SIDA and other project partners. The process for preparation of plan for technical assistance and training has already been initiated. As training need / capacity assessment and its management requires specific technical expertise, thus, a resource person will be hired through PMC/A for Training Needs Assessment (TNA)/ Capacity Assessment, fine tuning and finalization of plan and its management. Further the Communication Cell established by SIDA will be strengthened to undertake information, education and communication needs of the project. This Concept Paper will also be shared with the World Bank before start of work.

12. It was further informed that compliance of the actions as per WB's Aide-Memorie and decisions of meetings held under the Chairmanship of Honourable Chief Minister Sindh and Minister IPD/Chairman SIDA was being reviewed / pursued in monthly review meetings being arranged by PCMU on regular monthly basis and updated compliance status has been provided in the working paper of the meeting.

13. The representative of FOs, Mr. Zahid Hussain Bhurgri suggested for purchase of dredger under WSIP project. The Committee was of view that instead of purchasing new dredger, SIDA may explore the possibility of outsourcing/ renting it and on need basis to avoid heavy expenditure on maintenance of the dredger. The Committee directed that the project funds may be utilized in a way so that maximum benefit to peoples of province specially farmers community can be ensured.

14. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks from and to the Chair.

15. **The gist of decisions of the meeting is as under:**

- i) *SIDA will finalize immediately the deployment of staff i.e. GMs and other staff as approved by the GoSindh and conveyed to SIDA on Aug. 5th and 25th 2009 respectively.*
- ii) *SIDA in consultation with AWBs will prepare Business Plans for AWBs for making AWB fully functional /operational in all respects.*
- iii) *The IPD will finalize draft TORs and EOI/GPN for Guddu Barrage by October 5, 2009.*
- iv) *PCMU will finalize the selection process for M&E consultants after getting approval from the appropriate administrative authority including World Bank.*
- v) *SIDA will forward a Concept Note within 10 days regarding lining of irrigation channels under WSIP by providing full details and justification so that further action could be taken accordingly.*
- vi) *PCMU will process the case regarding Technical Assistance and Training the project based on the recommendations of concept note presented during the meeting.*
- vii) *PCMU will share with the World Bank the Concept Note regarding involvement of RSPs/NGOs in carrying of social mobilization activities under the project*
- viii) *The Compliance status of World Bank's recommendations would be followed on regular basis.*

⁴ Project Coordination, Monitoring, Technical Assistance and Training

List of the Participants of the 8th meeting of PSC, WSIP held on September 17, 2009

- i. Mr. Nazar Hussain Mahar, Additional Chief Secretary (Dev), P&D Department in Chair
- ii. Mr. Shuja Ahmed Junejo, Secretary Irrigation & Power Department
- iii. Mr. Javed Ishrat, Secretary, P&D Department
- iv. Mr. Fazal A. Nizamani, Senior Chief (W&P) P&D Department
- v. Dr. Salam Memon, Project Coordinator, PCMU/ WSIP, P&D Department
- vi. Mr. Qabool Ahmed Shaikh, Director General, Coastal Development Authority (CDA)
- vii. Mr. Muhammad Mithal Abbassi, Managing Director SIDA
- viii. Mr. Muhammad Ehasan Leghari, Project Director, WSIP, SIDA
- ix. Mr. Zahid Hussain Bhurgari, Representative of FOs, NCAWB
- x. Mr. Ylli Dedja, Team Leader, PMC/A, WSIP
- xi. Mr. Hassan Ali Din-Muhammad, Chief (F.Aid) P&D Department
- xii. Mr. Hyder Raza Khan, Deputy Secretary Forest & Wildlife Department
- xiii. Mr. Abdul Basit G. Khan, Director, OFWM, Hyderabad
- xiv. Dr. Fateh M. Marri, Director (M&E) PCMU/ WSIP, P&D Department
- xv. Professor Aijaz Ahmed Qureshi, General Manager (Transition), SIDA
- xvi. Mr. Anwar Hussain Memon, General Manager (Finance), SIDA
- xvii. Mr. Moula Bux, Mirbahar, General Manager (Operation) SIDA
- xviii. Mr. Nazeer Ahmed Memon, Social Development Specialist, SIDA
- xix. Mr. Faizullah Khatri, Assistant Chief (W&P) P&D Department
- xx. Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Abro, Assistant Chief (W&P) P&D Department
- xxi. Mr. Abbas Ali, Assistant Chief (F.Aid) P&D Department
- xxii. Ms. Ghazala Channar, Technical Specialist, PCMU/ WSIP, P&D Department
- xxiii. Mr. Amanullah Qureshi, PIC Consultants, WSIP Project
- xxiv. Mr. Khalid Ajaz, PIC Consultants, WSIP Project
- xxv. Mr. Ghulam Hyder Qureshi, Sociologist, PCMU/WSIP, P&D Department