

Minutes of the Preparatory Meeting of SACOSAN VI held on 12.05.2015

To discuss on the preparations of SACOSAN VI, a meeting was held at the Conference Hall of 4th Floor, MDWS, on 12.05.2015 under the Chairmanship of Shri. Saraswati Prasad, Joint Secretary-SBM (G). The meeting was attended by following members.

1. Dr. Nipun Vinayak- DS(SBM-G), MDWS
2. Mr. G. Balasubramanian- Deputy Adviser (SBM-G), MDWS
3. Dr. D.S Shyni, Sr. Consultant & Team Leader (Sanitation), NRC, MDWS
4. Mr. Alok Jawahar- MHRD
5. Ms. Sue Coates - UNICEF
6. Ms. Shalini Prasad - UNICEF
7. Ms. Jane Bevan - WSP, World Bank
8. Mr. Vinod K Mishra - WSSCC
9. Mr. R. Murali- FANSA
10. Mr. A. Kalimuthu- Water for People

DISCUSSIONS

Shri. Saraswati Prasad, Joint Secretary (SBM-G) welcomed all the participants and initiated the discussions on SACOSAN VI preparations.

Agenda 1: Technical Focus Session Guidelines and submission dead line:

Ms. Jane, WSP recommended that a concept note for Technical papers may be prepared and may be publicized widely for getting technical papers from all the States. She also suggested that there should be an overview kind of presentation for the Country theme paper-R&D and Innovation. Mr. Murali, FANSA emphasized this by saying that the concept paper may help the authors to focus on the theme.

Dr. Nipun Vinayak, DS (SBM-G) emphasized that time is too short to prepare and send concept note, as the papers has to reach SACOSAN Secretariat by May 30th, 2015. In addition, communication has been already sent to NGOs, KRCs, Dr. Mashelkar Committee members and advertised in National dailies requesting papers. Joint Secretary (SBM-G) suggested that due to time constraint, concept note may now help to evaluate the technical papers rather than sending that to authors.

India has to select and send best 4 technical papers to SACOSAN VI Secretariat on the lead country paper on the theme R & D and Innovation. JS asked to confirm from Secretariat that 4 papers have to include 1 overview and 3 technical papers from authors or all 4 has to be from authors on the theme and no overview paper. He also suggested that if overview paper has to be included, then who will prepare and present. This also needs to be clarified from Secretariat.

Scrutiny of the technical papers was also discussed in the meeting. It was then decided that WSP could help in scrutinizing technical papers to be send to Bangladesh.

Agenda 2-Finalization of Technical Focus Session Partners and Co-chair

Shri. G.Balasubramanian, Deputy Adviser, MDWS informed the participants that SACOSAN VI Secretariat suggested WSP/ BMGF as the Co- chair for the India Thematic Focus Session on R& D and Innovation. So after initial discussions, it was decided that WSP could be the Co-chair and WSSCC can be the rapporteur for the India Lead Session for the SACOSAN VI at Dhaka.

Agenda 3.Preparation of Country Paper

It was discussed that WSP helped MDWS in preparation of Country paper for the last SACOSAN V. Sue Coates of UNICEF informed UNICEF will assist in preparation of Country paper for SACOSAN VI. She also suggested that Sri. Sujoy Majumdar, former Director (SBM-G), MDWS will prepare the Country Paper on behalf of UNICEF. The first draft will be submitted by mid June and the same will be presented in the next preparatory meeting. The first draft will be circulated / hosted in the Ministry's website to get the inputs and comments from all the regional partners / support organizations and all the States. With their inputs and comments, the paper could be finalized by July and submit to Secretariat within the timeline fixed by them by September 30th. Inputs from other concerned Ministries for preparing Country paper have to be shared to UNICEF.

Agenda 4. Participation in Side events

All development partners agreed to participate in side events. The themes suggested during the meeting are Menstrual Hygiene Management, Solid & Liquid Waste Management and Capacity Building in Sanitation etc. WSSCC agreed to support complete organization on the side event Menstrual Hygiene Management in SACOSAN VI. It was agreed that the development partners will mail more suggestions on side events. Mr. Murali, FANSA suggested that the complete logistics of side events has to be taken care of by the country who suggest the theme and event.

Agenda 5. Participation in Exhibition

Discussed about certain issues and problems faced during the organization of exhibition during last SACOSAN V held at Kathmandu. Water for People agreed to take responsibility for the organization of exhibition during SACOSAN VI.

Agenda 6. Selection of Indian delegation to participate in SACOSAN VI

The earlier ICWG meeting discussed on the delegation for the SACOSAN VI. India could sent a team of 80 members including vulnerable group, students and youth. HRD Ministry suggested that if youth and students are to be included in delegation, then they will support for getting nominations.

The other points for discussions also included Sharing of Videos related to hosting of SACOSANs as Bangladesh requested to share videos of earlier organization of SACOSAN to them.

DECISIONS

- To scrutinize the Technical papers with the support of WSP and will sent to SACOSAN VI Secretariat on scheduled date.
- WSP will be the Co-chair and WSSCC will be the Rapporteur for the Country's Thematic Focus Session (R&D Innovation) of SACOSAN VI.
- Country Paper will be prepared by UNICEF. Draft will be presented in the next preparatory Meeting of SACOASAN VI by mid June.
- India will participate in side events. Menstrual Hygiene Management, Solid & Liquid Waste Management were suggested as Side events. WSSCC agreed to support complete organization on the side event on the topic Menstrual Hygiene Management in SACOSAN VI.
- India will participate in exhibition. Water for People will be responsible for the organization of Exhibition at SACOSAN VI.
- Indian delegation will be finalized later.
- First week of June is proposed for second meeting on the SACOSAN VI Preparations.

With the consent of the Chair, the meeting ended with vote of thanks.