

Minutes of the Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) Meeting
Project Title: Preparation of Sri Lanka's Third National Communication on
Climate Change to the UNFCCC

Venue: Saptha Parisara Mandappya, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

Date: 07th January 2016 at 10.00 am

Present:

Dr. R.D.S. Jayathunga,	Director (Climate Change),	Ministry of Mahaweli Dev. & Envnt.
Ms. Lovita Ramagutte,	Deputy Director,	UNDP
Dr. Vishaka Hidellage,	Asst. Country Director,	UNDP
Ms. Dhanuski Abhayarathna,	Programme Analyst,	UNDP
Ms. Sheyara Bastianiz,	Progrm. Associate,	UNDP
Mr. N.D.R. Weerawardna,	Addl. CGF(R & E),	Forest Department
Mr. D.M.L. Bandaranayake,	Addl. Secretary,	Ministry of Plantation
Mr. G.A.S.P. Gunawardhna,	DGM (TS&CA),	Ceylon Petroleum Corporation
Mr. A.B. Ilangasingha,	Director,	Ministry of PCs & LGs
Dr. G.S. Sumanasekara,	Deputy Director,	Ministry of Rural Economic Affairs
Dr. B.V.R. Punayawardhna,	Climatologist,	Dept. of Agriculture
Mr. Sachitha Fernando,	Assit. Director,	Dept. of National Planning
Mr. R.D.C.P. Gunasekara,	Assit. Director,	Dept. of External Resources
Ms. Hiranthi Jans,	Assit. Director,	Central Environment Authority
Mr. A.Z.J. Singaveeger,	Senior Eng. Assistant,	Dept. of Agrarian Development
Mr. Channa Dias,	Deve. Officer,	Ministry of Transport
Mr. Sukith Jayasekara,	Zonal Manager,	Waste Management Authority
Ms. Samudrika Divithurugama,	Zonal Manager,	Waste Management Authority
Ms. K.A.K. Kasthuriarachchi,	Envnt.Mgt.Officer,	Ministry of Mahaweli Dev. & Envnt.
Ms. Shayamali Priyanthi,	Envnt.Mgt.Officer,	Ministry of Mahaweli Dev.& Envnt.
Ms. Ambika Tennakoon,	Envnt.Mgt.Officer,	Ministry of Mahaweli Dev.& Envnt.
Mr. Dasun Hewapathirana,	Dev. Officer,	Ministry of Mahaweli Dev. & Envnt.

Excused;

Mr. Udaya R. Senevirathne, Secretary, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

Mr. Gamini Gamage, Addl. Secretary (Environment and Policy), Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

Welcome and Opening remarks:

As the chair of Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC), Mr. Udaya R. Seneviratna, Secretary, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment was unable to participate the meeting due an another urgent matter, Dr.R.D.S. Jayathunga, Director (Climate Change), Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment chaired the LPAC meeting and welcomed the participants on behalf of

the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment at the meeting. Further, he stated that being the national focal point for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), it is an obligation for submission of National Communications to the UNFCCC as per the Article 12 of the convention and therefore the process have been launched by Sri Lanka for national communications. He reiterated that project proposal for preparation of Sri Lanka's Third National Communication (TNC) on Climate Change has been started by this Ministry with the assistance of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and it is expected to implement the project within few time.

As per the agenda, Dr. Jayathunga requested Ms. Lovita Ramguttee, Deputy Country Director, and UNDP to address the meeting. Then Ms. Ramguttee taking the floor stated that UNDP is a partner of this process and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) has been supporting the development of National Communications and currently assisting a number of activities on Climate Change issues. Also she mentioned that while the Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) process is being carried out, a parallel process is also being undertaken by UNDP/GEF soliciting a peer review of this proposal.

Objective of the meeting:

Dr. R.D.S. Jayathunga explained the objective of the meeting. He stated that as per the article 12 of the Convention, Sri Lanka has to make communications periodically to the UNFCCC and this is an important mechanism for exchanging information on Parties' responses to climate change and recent/latest developments of UNFCCC process. He also mentioned that this national communication allows countries to highlight issues, problems, gaps and constraints faced as well as technical and financial support needed by the Parties. Further, he stated that information from national communications have been used to integrate climate change issues into national sustainable development policy and planning. Further, he explained that today meeting is to present the project document to the members of the Local Project Appraisal Committee and get further comments and suggestions of the LPAC members for the implementation of TNC Project. Prior to implementation of project activities of under the TNC, LPAC is required to be met to ensure all the stakeholders are on board and agreeable to the actions identified in the TNC Project. The LPAC is comprised of 17 Government agencies and UNDP. The major role of the LPAC is to monitor and guide the TNC Project.

Presentation of the Project:

Ms. Ambika Tennakoon, Environment Management Officer of Climate Change Secretariat of the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment presented the overall Project Proposal of TNC. She highlighted the process of Third National Communication was conducted through a wider stakeholder consultation. Further, she explained that the key components of the project separately as information on national circumstances, Greenhouse Gas Inventory, Mitigation and Adoption measures, Development and Transfer of technologies, Education and Awareness, Capacity building, Knowledge Management, Research & systematic observations and budget, Technical supports and Overall project management arrangement.

Discussion:

Clarification was sought by Department of National Planning to know whether this project has been included to Punarudaya Programme which is implemented by this Ministry. Dr. Jayathunaga said that all Climate Change issues related activities are incorporated in to “Punarudaya” Programme. Accordingly, the Following matters were comprehensively discussed and decisions were taken under each output of the document of TNC.

Component 1: National Circumstances of Sri Lanka

- Dr. B.V.R. Punnyawardhna, Climatologist of Department of Agriculture requested to check the sequence of elements of National Circumstance Chapter and there was decided to recheck the UNFCCC guidelines for national communication and revise accordingly.
- Further it was decided to include information on biodiversity, co systems fisheries & livestock and missing areas in the National Circumstances Chapter.

Component 2: Sri Lanka’s National Inventory of GHG Emissions

Dr. B.V.R. Punnyawardhna asked whether default values developed by IPCC or country specific emission factors are used for the calculation of GHG emission for TNC. Further, he stated that using country specific emission factors will reflect the accuracy of country’s real emission especially for agriculture as mostly use the emission factor developed by Philippines paddy fields by RRI in Manila. Then, it was decided to start a national process to calculate country specific emission factors for agriculture sector under TNC Project.

- Further, it was decided to include fisheries and livestock sectors which are not covered under Agriculture, as one of main source of GHG emission.
- It was emphasized that the TNC should in the very least initiate the collection of country specific emission data that will reduce the risk of over estimation; as a result of using default figures (to be further elaborated under point 2.3).

Component 3: Vulnerability and Adaptation

Dr. B.V.R. Punnyawardhna questioned whether the Vulnerability Disaster Risks Profiles which have been prepared by the Disaster Management Center (DMC) could be used for the proposed Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment under TNC.

- Under this components DMC and MET have the big role in their participation is almost important. Therefore it was discussed in detail on the vulnerability to adverse impacts of Climate Change and identified health, fisheries and livestock are missing under this section.
- It was decided to ensure the participation of DMC and Dept. of Meteorology (MET) for the next meeting.

Dr. Vishaka Hidellage explained the need of incorporating vulnerability maps by regions, given that there are so many overlaps in characteristics.

Point 3.5 needs to be further elaborated to include the fisheries and livestock sectors. Scattered information pertaining to various crops (i.e. rice, coconut and tea) should be consolidated.

Data to build on economic models that will increase incentive to invest in climate change upfront needs to be paid attention too. Such data is crucial to impact stakeholders such as the treasury and the business sector. Research initiatives in this area should be incorporated under point 3.3

Component 4: Mitigation Actions

There was a discussion on whether only the existing mitigation programmes, actions and strategies are incorporated or upcoming/ pipeline mitigation programmes, actions and strategies will be incorporated under this chapter, as many of mitigation programme, actions and strategies are in the pipeline.

- It was decided to include all the ongoing and upcoming mitigation programmes, actions and strategies to this chapter of TNC.
- It was a request to change this chapter as Mitigation Measures or Mitigation options instead of Mitigation Actions.

Component 5: Other information considered relevant to the achievement of the objective of the UNFCCC and preparation of Sri Lanka's TNC Report

- Dr. Jayathunga indicated that technology transfer should be in one chapter, as it was discussed in chapter 03 too. Then it was decided to take technology development transfer under one chapter of TNC.
- It was decided to consider Vulnerable Disaster Risk Profiles to be the main reference document for the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment under TNC.
- If the information network related to Climate Change will be developed for sub regional level, Dr. B.V.R. Punnyawardhna suggested that TNC report should be translated in to Sinhala and Tamil languages.
- Dr Jayathunga suggested that this chapter should be named as Means of Implementation (Capacity building, education, awareness, research financial and technical needs).

Budget:

Dr. Jayathunga raised that the project management budget allocated for the full period of the project is insufficient to cover up office equipments, stationeries, utility bills and staff salaries for the project. Ms Dhanushki Abhayaratne explained that project management (PM) costs are capped at 8% and cannot exceed this limit. The PM costs are to mostly cover transport, equipment and travel.

The cost for the full time technical coordinator's position should be built into Output 4. However, at least one staff member's support (at least 50%) should be made available from the CCS to the technical

coordinator and ensure project ownership. The option of hiring a graduate at a junior level also remains a feasible option.

Costs for all technical functions should be built in at output level. Only administration costs should be factored into the PM budget.

Financial mechanism for TNC:

As the project document between the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment and UNDP has not yet been signed and a budget for 2016 cannot be granted for this project through the Treasury , Mr. Prageeth Gunasingha, Assistant Director of Department of External Resources (ERD) requested this Ministry to write a letter with a copy to ERD, requesting for advice on whether direct financing for 2016 by UNDP to implement the TNC Project in 2016 should be considered, given the resource constraints faced by CCS at present.

Project Management Arrangement:

- As there is no reflection of LPAC in the management arrangement, it was requested incorporate LPAC in to the management arrangement.
- Further Project Coordinator is a full time position, it was decided to directly link to the 03 Teams to Project Coordinator Position. This position is to be recruited under UNDP procedures.
- As, allocation for Project Management Unit (PMU) is not sufficient to recruit project staff, for space and project running cost , Dr Jayathunga requested to revisit this matter with regard to the budgetary provision.
- Further Dr. Jayathunga indicated that providing a space for TNC Project Staff is presently impossible in the Climate Change Secretariat, due to other two projects are already occupied the available space.
- Further, Dr. Jayathunga mentioned that expertise will also be sought from other institutions involved in the climate change issues (from consultants) for the implementation of this project and CCS staff will be recruited in part time basis to be utilized to manage day to day activities in the project.

Closing Remarks:

Dr. Jayathunga Director (Climate Change) concluded his closing remarks by indicating that all the suggestions of this appraisal will be incorporated for the TNC document and finally thanking for all the participants' views and suggestions at this meeting and appreciated them for their presence at this meeting.

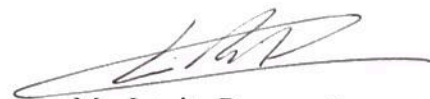
Approved:



Dr. R.D.S. Jayathunga,
Co Chair/ Director (Climate Change),
Ministry of Mahaweli Dev. & Environment

Date:

21.01.2015



Ms. Lovita Ramaguttee
Co Chair/Deputy Country Director
UNDP

3/02/2016

