

# Developing National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Strategic Action Plan: 2017-2030

## Meeting Notes

### Working Committee meeting

Date: 7 July 2017

Time: 12:00

Venue: NEOC, MOHA

Participants: Members of the Working Committee, Disaster Focal Person from line Ministries, UN agencies (UNRCO & UNDP), Donor representative (DFID), DPNet representatives, AINTGEDM, NRCS, National Thematic Coordinator and PAC.

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Krishna B Raut, joint secretary MoHA. Mr. Raut welcomed all the members of the Working Committee and participants in the meeting. He highlighted about the objective of the meeting.

#### **Presentations:**

- **Dr. Narayan B Thapa**, National Thematic Coordinator delivered a presentation on progress till date and status of thematic working group meetings. He suggested to expedite the TWG meetings and to complete by end of July so that drafting process gets momentum.
- **Dr. Dilip Kumar Gautam, Team Leader, Practical Action Consulting** delivered presentations on preliminary first drafts of National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Strategic Action Plan (SAP). He highlighted that these documents are prepared based on the suggestions obtained during one-to-one consultations, 7 district level workshops, 2 sub-national level workshops, review of existing legal and regulatory frameworks, background working papers on recent major disasters and learning from implementation of NSDRM 2009. Dr. Gautam said that the team has just initiated the drafting process, major inputs from TWG are yet to receive and he sought the guidance from WC to move ahead for drafting. After getting inputs from Thematic Working Groups, the draft will be further improved. There are the following suggestions from the participants and members of the management committee:
  - The SAP should clarify the roles of local governments and there should a mechanism for Monitoring & Evaluation at local level also.
  - Learnings from private sectors are also useful.
  - Capacity development should be given priority.
  - Issue of implementation at all levels needs to be addressed.
  - There should be coordination mechanism at district and local levels.
  - Directives issued by MOFALD may be relevant.
  - Development partners could also be engaged in coordination.

Open Discussions: Participants from government, donors, UN Agencies, AINTGDM, DPNet, NRCS provided following points as inputs. Key points discussed were;

- To change the word समुत्थानशिल and make it उत्थानशिल. To prepare the documents in Nepali. Contextual, realistic, achievable targets for which revision may be needed not exactly same proposed by Sendai. Policy and plan at all level by 2020 with clarity on the division of work at three government levels.
- It may be better to propose Chief Secretary as Chairman of national coordinating committee instead of Member of NPC since NPC is an advisory body only. It is necessary to include the provision of making DRR transparent and accountable. The SAP needs to be harmonised with proposed DM bill.
- To reflect joint works by UN agencies, development partners and Government of Nepal. Suggested prioritising the strategic activities. The draft needs to be shared with wider stakeholders to get their inputs.
- Resource mapping at local and national level could be useful to set targets.
- To conduct a gap analysis on policies of different sectors. Baseline information is required for setting the targets and to monitor the progress. Expert groups and peer groups reviews are required to finalize the documents. Clear actions on DMIS including data base management should be on priority.
- Priority on capacity enhancement for effective engagement of all stakeholders. Separate meeting with lead and co-lead to expedite the TWG meeting and reporting. TWG reports are key inputs to the documents from beginning of drafting process.
- Strong implementation modality, coordination mechanisms are most and also ensure engagement of development partners.
- To review current search and rescue policy and emphasis on new needs. Research and study should be on priority in the policy and action plan. Introduce reward and punishment provisions.
- To ensure wider level sharing for inputs to the document. Newly elected representatives to be engaged for their ownership on the documents that helps easy implementation at local level.
- To include climate financing as a means of funding the implementation of SAP. The SAP should have learning and sharing mechanism, donor engagement strategy and provision of reward and punishment. Whole of society engagement should be reflected. Disaster management Information System should be developed. Overall development policy should be supported.

**Mr. Krishna B. Raut**, Joint Secretary, MOHA concluded the meeting on behalf of Working Committee by acknowledging the progress of the work. He said all the feedbacks and technical inputs are valid, very useful to incorporate. Revised draft will be consulted in two regional meetings. Process will be reviewed to engage newly elected representatives. Inputs from constitution, unbundling report and directives are useful for further revision. Hopefully, TWG meetings will be concluded by the end of the July and revised full draft will be available for further review. He also suggested including the learnings from Gorkha earthquake. It may be better to incorporate the important points of अवधारणा in the पृष्ठभूमि in Policy document.