

# **Brief Notes**

**on**

## **Sanitation and Water for All**

**Steering Committee Meeting, Addis Ababa**

**Period: 20 – 21 November 2010**

On Behalf of FANSA  
Md. Yakub Hossain, Deputy Executive Director of VERC  
&  
Convenor - FANSA-BD

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**Freshwater Action Network South Asia**

The second Steering Committee Meeting was held during 20-21 December 2010 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The meeting started with the welcome speech of the Interim Vice-Chair, Mr. Piers Cross, as Mr. Sanjay Wijesekera was on the way during that time. Then, the last meeting minutes was approved and update of SWA activities was in place. The details of the meeting are as follows:

**Participants:** AMCOW, Ghana, Kenya, Pakistan, Uganda, South Africa, DGIS, SDC, DFID, CEDARE, WSSCC, UNICEF, AfDB, ANEW, FANSA, EWP, IWA, WaterAid

**Objectives of the meeting:**

- To resolve urgent outstanding administrative and management issues of the committee
- To develop long term issues through proper planning
- To provide directions and set expectations for the 2011 Regional High Level Meetings
- To provide assistance to strengthen national planning processes and capacity building

**Important discussions of the closed meeting on 20 November, 2010 (Part-01)**

**Vice-Chair Election update:** Mr. Sanjay Wijesekera from DFID has been elected as Vice-Chair of the SC.

- In the MDG summit, SWA will have the strategic role in side event where lots of people could participate there. The summit will be sponsored by Japan, USA and Korea.
- Next HLM will take place in Regional level
- Five country level membership application have been approved – Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Mongolia, Mali, UCLGA
- India did not apply for membership, it needs to lobby from the FANSA side for ensuring the membership
- SWA needs to play proper role for quantitative and qualitative achievement

**Chair Search:** Mr. Henry Northover from WaterAid, on behalf of search committee updated that the Chair selection is almost finished and declaration will be given in due course.

**Governance Document Update:** The document was approved by the members and will be circulated to the respective members for having further comments on it and finalization. The Secretary will circulate the revised Governance Document to all partners incorporating the major changes and also post it to the website.

Suggestions -

- For the membership no individual will be considered but the association of NGO could get the membership
- The first seat could be offered to a developing country government representative from a non-English speaking African, SWA partner country. Second seat would be offered to an Asian country government who are SWA partners

**Partnership Composition:** On behalf of Asian Countries, the name of Bangladesh was proposed for the SC but consensus needed from other Asian Countries for its

approval. World Bank and WHO has been elected as observer and non-voting member. However, Vice-Chair to confirm the partnership to new partners.

**Reaching Partners:** After each two years there will be election and which will also be discussed in the partners meeting.

**Setting SC Terms:** As per Governance Document, half of the SC must be elected every year. One year is not enough time to strengthen the capacity. The committee proposes that all members will have at least two years in the first term and half will have three years.

**Creation of Standing Committees and Task Teams:**

Standing Committee on Governance: Chair, Sanjay Wijesekera (DFID); Chair, Clarissa Brocklehurst (UNICEF)

Country Processes: Chair, Henry Northover (WaterAid)

Chair Search Committee: Chair, Henry Northover (WaterAid)

**Performance Criteria of Steering Committee Members:**

- Unicef will lead the task team
- Asian Committee need to collaborate with the Africa. CSO will discuss the IGC meeting among them to feed the task
- To work with Technical Team Mr. Henry Northover from WaterAid
- For working with Standing Committee Mr. Sanjay Wijesekera from DFID and Mr. Rudy Amenga from ANEW

**Update on Secretariat Establishment:** Unicef is hosting for the secretariat and provide the staffs to run it. They will recruit 3-4 staffs and WSSCC will recruit one communication specialist. Collaborative council will suggest the communication activities. Next partnership meeting will be held in any place of Srilanka or Mumbai or Sweden or Kualalampur.

**Upcoming milestone events:**

The next SC meeting - Sri Lanka around SACOSAN

Partnership meeting – October/November 2011. There is also possibility of arranging in Stockholm.

**Important discussions of the open meeting on 20 -21 November, 2010 (Part-02)**

The Global Framework for Action was presented by Clarissa Brocklehurst, Uncef. In the preparatory process of the global HLM 2010, there was 20 countries engaged. In the meeting, it was suggested that the global meeting should held in every two years. The regional meeting would held in Africa and Asia during 2011. In the meeting Bangladesh committed to create \$200 million fund for arsenic safe water from its domestic source. Bangladesh also announced that it has been planned to conduct a sanitation census in 2010 to better understand gaps in coverage.

Regarding Technical Assistance Mechanism (TAM), many off track countries to reach internationally agreed goals on water and sanitation. According to the 2010 GLAAS survey, 12 developing countries reported no urban or rural sanitation, 10 countries reported no process in place for local stakeholder participation. However, a

global partnership model is emerging to strengthen national plans and planning processes in a way that can be replicated and scaled up. At the global level, the TAM would compile existing resources and where necessary generate new ones. A group of potential TAM donors (UK, Netherlands, US, Germany, Switzerland, WSP) agreed to proceed and commit to either supporting the use of their resources already in place at WSP or to provide additional resources to WSP. The Secretariat will document the processes, monitor the impacts and capture key lessons learned. A proposal for SWA adoption in advance of the 2012 HLM will be presented to SWA members.

#### **Important discussion of the meeting**

- Peoples participation need to ensure for all activities
- Joint monitoring system to be continued
- Capacity building activities of the service providers is essential
- Regarding GLAAS and SWA progress, the Technical Advisory Group meets December 2010. Data collection will be done by March-August 2011 and full report publishes by March 2012 and HLM hold during April 2012.
- Regarding achievement of MDG, the country level fiscal allocation will be spent based on political prioritization. WatSan related appropriate message delivery to the donors, partners, CSO and personal contact with ministry for follow-up and linkage with other ministry is important. Media is an important factor to be mobilized. Decentralization of service delivery is required. Lobby with finance ministers.

#### **Important suggestions of the meeting**

- Decentralization and delegation power and resources to the local bodies of governance so that they can develop integrated WatSan plans, implement and monitor the same. Bureaucratic integrated centralized fragmented schemes will not work.
- WatSan policies and guidelines should provide scope for CSO participation and community mobilization
- Must highlight systems at the country level. This would reduce corruption, wastage of resources and enhance the reliability of the data on progress achieved

#### **Group discussion on what other activities or ideas could SWA consider for further implementation**

1. Improve political prioritization of Sanitation and Water
2. Strengthening the evidence based perception research to feed into future planning process besides holding the Governments Accountability
3. Strengthening country planning and implementation

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**(Md. Yakub Hossain)**

Deputy Executive Director of VERC

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Convenor, FANSA-BD