

Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief and Development

SC Meeting Minutes
27th, Jan, 2015

Chaired By: Mr. Fazel Rabi Haqbeen

Minutes by: Hamidullah Ahmadi

Participants: See the last page

Agenda:

1. Approval of minutes of previous SC meeting
2. Matters arising
3. Approval of report December (finance and narrative)
4. Review ACBAR status according the track changes (endorsed already by the directors meeting)
5. Update on London conference – Follow up internal meetings
6. Approval minutes of General Assembly Dari and English
7. Donor update
8. Internal management update – and decision taking (sub group of Management has to be made for the recruitment)
9. AOB ./.

SC Meeting Minutes

Agenda	Comments and exchange of viewpoints on the topic	Action points/Deadline
Approval of previous SC meeting minutes	Last SC meeting minutes were approved with no comments. Regard to update on BAAG feedback, yet no specific formal reply from them but Mr. Nader from BAAG will have an official meeting with ACBAR 27 th Jan, 2015 at 11am so Marine and SC members in particular who attended London conference would be part of the meeting and could raise the points during the meeting and he will explain briefly.	Last SC minutes approved without any comment.
Matters arising	Marine, Deputy Director ACBAR has briefly updated SC board on civil society workshop held 26 th Jan, 15 covering the broader angles in terms of coordination, Advocacy, CSOs' sustainability, and on the detention of NGOs and local organizations for the solutions to overcome the challenges. SC appreciated the hard work of ACBAR developing civil society report and conducting workshop on it which was well done and contributed well in understanding of participant with other various aspects. In regard to re-opening ACBAR Herat, the issue is still pending due to deteriorating security situation, lack of human resources and time. SC has shared the importance of re-opening Herat office as they received messages from	Info/Coord to send a letter to acting Finance and Economy Ministers with follow up.

	<p>numerous NGOs. Currently, DoEco Herat in cooperation with SDO representative has took the lead of NGOs coordination. Decision was held that one of SC members (Mr. Jawad or Mr. Haqbeen) together with ACBAR staff (Mr. Najib or Tamim) will go to Herat in coming months possibly Feb, 2015, to make a quick assessment, and see the situation (problems and challenges), visit stakeholders, and return back for ahead process. NPO and SDO committed their assistance in terms of facilitation even possibly accommodating ACBAR Herat office.</p> <p>MoFA has published new decree on visa for traders and investors with no coordination to MoEco. In the decree, there is nothing relevant for NGOs and not applicable for expats joining NGOs' framework.</p> <p>The visa law had been reviewed by Ministry of Economy and passed to parliament for approval. To date, none of the agency members faced any problem obtaining visas. Turkey in general, not only to Afghanistan but for some other countries stops issuing visa to control their borders.</p>	
<p>Approval of report (narrative) Dec, 2014</p>	<p>ACBAR has prepared letter to Ministry of Finance covering NGOs financial issues and will be submitted once the new Minister is in place. Beside this, recently ACBAR received many feedbacks from members that they are being asked to directly provide kinds of information to NDS or District police Departments through their own forms which is unlawful as per the NGOs Law. ACBAR has shared the issue to head of NGOs Department (MoEco) who agreed as well. Therefore, ACBAR provided another letter to MoEco to clarify that legally it's only the Ministry of Economy who can share NGOs' info with any govt or other Departments as/when needed as., the letter will be sent to MoEco next week.</p> <p>Regarding the letter to President Ghani, as they are currently busy for introducing new Cabinet so yet no feedback, anyhow ACBAR again will send a follow up letter to Mr. Ghani after two weeks.</p> <p>On update to NDS meeting, ACBAR for the first time attended National Security Department NSD meeting 7th Jan, 2015. The meeting was clear with focus on following Networks' activities in terms of demonstration in order how to control such acts in a better way.</p> <p>ACBAR communicated the issue with Mr. Kakar that ACBAR is not involved at any political activities and he acknowledged the point, so ACBAR will not be part of this meeting in future.</p>	<p>Narrative report Dec, 14 approved with no comment.</p> <p>Mr. Dalili will take meeting appointment with MoFIN, ACBAR Deputy and SC will be part of the meeting to discuss NGOs financial issues behalf members.</p>
<p>Approval of report (Finance) Dec, 2014</p>	<p>Deputy Director Mr. Najib has presented Dec, 14 financial report with updates on TAW and PWJ projects with no specific problem.</p> <p>SC suggested addition of a line for total monthly surplus and a paragraph of info on highlighted points.</p>	<p>Financial report Dec, 14 approved with suggestion for adding an extra line for monthly surplus and a</p>

		paragraph of info for highlighted points.
Update on London conference – Follow up internal meetings	<p>SC chairman and Mr. Dalili has updated SC on numerous follow up internal meetings held among people attended London conference following with one recently held in SDO office.</p> <p>ACBAR SC members have conducted two separate meeting with London participants very much focusing on pessimism in terms of advocacy and how to response, strengthen, and to involve ACBAR members (local NGOs) in advocacy meeting. Eventually, decision was held that a bigger meeting would be called in Feb, 2015 inviting all ACBAR local members and London participants with aim to develop a kind of strategy, mechanism, activity plan which later on could be shared with International NGOs for their concerns and support to/on this process.</p> <p>By this, ACBAR would fulfil greater role, prove its active presence in international conferences and to avoid sidelining ACBAR at any occasion in future.</p> <p>For official feedbacks on London conference, colleagues may refer to BAAG website.</p> <p>SC suggested a follow up meeting for all London participants including SC to communicate relevant issues. Beside this, SC recommended having a retreat session to assess and evaluate ACBAR activities for the last year in terms of what went well and what the shortcomings were. ACBAR will plan and organize both these meetings by return of Director.</p>	<p>SC agreed on conducting a bigger advocacy meeting in Feb, 2015 with regular follow up in the future. London participants and ACBAR local NGOs will be invited.</p> <p>The joint board will closely follow advocacy issues with civil society activists, Networks, and consortiums.</p> <p>ACBAR will organize a London follow up meeting and a retreat session to assess ACBAR activities for the last year by Director return.</p>
Review ACBAR status	Due time limitation, it was agreed that SC will review the points in track changes and send their approval through email.	
Approval minutes of General Assembly Dari and English	<p>Last GA minutes approved with amendment to the part of associate membership. Beside this, in Dari version, the words "Emergency and associate" ought to be translated to Dari. In a quick review to GA action points, following updates were given,</p> <p>Concerning members' participation in ACBAR meetings, it's good but anyhow the point could be raised in next GA for ahead active participation in ACBAR regular meetings. Further to this, it was agreed that ACBAR will not stop associate membership but "NGOs who did not fulfil membership criteria constantly for one year, ACBAR will stop their membership".</p> <p>ACBAR is in the process to open reserve account at ALFALAH Bank which has a lengthy process fulfilling the criteria and relevant docs and would be managed in Feb, 2015.</p>	GA minutes approved with amendment. Info/Coord will justify the comments to the GA minutes both (English and Dari)
Donor update	ACBAR will signed DFID contract 27 th Jan, 2015 and will start the program Feb, 2015. For TAW, ACBAR is reviewing the	

	annual plan for the second year while for PWJ phase of year three is under work, MoFA/Japan will give feedback in coming three weeks.	
Internal management update	The position of ACBAR Director will remain open for three more weeks and Mrs. Justine will postpone her resignation up to Jun until new Director occupy his/her position and handover. Dr. James, SC member will send the recruitment plan to Justine. SC members each Mr. Fazel Rabi Haqbeen, Mrs. Helene, Mr. Charles, Abdullah Ahmadi, and Dr. James were elected as recruitment board for hiring new Director. Consultant position in order for developing advocacy strategy was called postponed until new Director is recruited.	
AOB	Decision was held that the next General Assembly will be held 11 th Mar, 2015.	ACBAR Team to start preparation for next GA

The next Steering Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday (24th, Feb, 2015)
At 9 AM in ACBAR

List of Participants

No	Name	Organization	Status	Present	With apologies	Absent
1	Mr. Fazel Rabi Haqbeen	WADAN	Chair Person	√		
2	Ms. H�el�ene VIDON	MADERA	Full member	√		
3	Ms. Ziggy Garewal	ACTED	Full member		√	
4	Mr. Ajmal Shirzai	FGA	Full member	√		
5	Dr. James Williams	JUH	Full member	√		
6	Mr. Raz Mohammad Dalili	SDO	Full member	√		
7	Mr. Amanullah Jawad	NPO/RRAA	Full member	√		
8	Ms. Victoria Ghuri	STARS	Full member			√
9	Ms. Inge Detlefsen	RI	Full member	√		
10	Mr. Charles Davy	A-AID	Full member	√		
11	Mr. Sayed Abdullah Ahmadi	CCA	Full member	√		
12	Mr. Sabirullah Memlawal	JVC	Full member	√		
13	Dr. Mohamad Farid Asmand	AHDS	Full member			√
14	Mr. Prasant Naik	NRC	Full member			√
15	Mr. Osman	HTAC	Full member	√		
16	Mrs. Justine Piquemal	ACBAR	Director	√		
17	Ms. Marine	ACBAR	Deputy/Advocacy Manager	√		
18	Mr. Tajali	ACBAR	Deputy Director	√		
20	Mr. Sabri	ACBAR	Finance		√	
21	Hamidullah Ahmadi	ACBAR	Senior Coordination Manager	√		

