

9th NGO Consultation Meeting
Bangladesh Country Coordinating Mechanism (BCCM)
Organized by: Peoples Development Community (PDC)
Venue: Photo Journalist Association Auditorium
Prurana Palton, Dhaka 1000
Date: Tuesday, 24th October, 2017

Minutes on 9th NGO Constituency Consultation Meeting

Introduction:

The meeting was organized by the Peoples Development Community (PDC) on Tuesday, 24th October, 2017 at Photo Journalist Association Auditorium, Prurana Palton, Dhaka 1000. As per decision of 8th meeting this meeting has to be arranged by FDSR but due to his urgency of Rohingya response he couldn't do it. However, the meeting was arranged by Peoples Development Community (PDC).

At the beginning of the 9th NGO constituency consultation meeting, SM Shirajul Islam Executive Director of PDC welcomed all the members of the constituency. He said that we are grateful to the committee for giving the opportunity to arrange the meeting with all renowned NGO's of Bangladesh. He also expressed his gratitude to the members for their presence and contribution for making BCCM functioning well that would enhance the smooth operation of global funds activities in Bangladesh. The smooth operations would ensure the eradication of TB, Malaria and HIV AIDS from Bangladesh. On behalf of the elected members of the constituency, Mr. Islam also thanked the BCCM secretariat for their technical and financial support to arrange the meeting.

A total of 39 participants were attended in the meeting and all participants of the meeting made self-introduction. As a host organization, the Executive Director of PDC, Mr. SM Shirajul Islam facilitated the meeting. He also invited Dr. Mohammad Kamrul Hassan, Director of WEDO Bangladesh, Mr. SK Nazrul Islam, Project Director, FDSR Member, BCCM, Mr. Md. Kamal Uddin, NATAB, Member, BCCM and Mr. Manaj Kumar Biswas, Coordinator of BCCM to join with him for facilitation and presentation.

Afterwards, the following agendas were shared for discussions:

Agenda:

- 1) Review of last meeting (8th) minutes and endorsement
- 2) Update on last (91st) CCM meeting and on oversight committee visits
- 3) Open Discussion on NGO Constituency issues
- 4) Schedule next meeting (host, location, etc.)
- 5) Miscellaneous

1. Review of last meeting (8th) minutes and endorsement

Executive Director of PDC, Mr. SM Shirajul Islam requested Dr. Mohammad Kamrul Hassan (the host of the 8th NGO constituency meeting) to share the outcomes of the 8th NGO consultation meeting. Then, Dr. Hassan welcomed the participants in the 9th NGO consultation meeting and explained the objectives of BCCM to the NGO constituency member. Later, he

...ared the summary of the issues and outcomes of the 8th NGO consultation meeting that was held at Thames Square, Room No. 602 (Level -5), Dhanmondi, Dhaka 1209, Date: Thursday, 08th July, 2017, arranged by WEDO. Based on the full consent of the members, the last meeting minutes was endorsed.

2. Update on last (91st) CCM meeting and on oversight committee visits

Mr. Manaj Kumar Biswas, Coordinator of BCCM provided an update on last two meetings (91st) where several discussion and decisions were made and those had been shared among the participants. He informed that the 91st BCCM meeting was held on 02 August 2017. He also confirmed that the next CCM meeting (92nd) would be held on December.

After that, Mr. Manaj Kumar Biswas presented the Oversight Committee Activities from March to October 2017. The activities were:

Meetings:

- 15th Oversight Committee meeting held on 9th May, 2017.
- 16th Oversight Committee meeting held on 27th July, 2017.

Visits:

- Site Visit to PR HIV-icddr,b on 16th March, 2017
- Site Visit to PR TB-NTP Dhaka office on 21st June, 2017
- Site Visit to Khulna and Barishal for HIV and TB program.
- Site Visit to Dhaka Urban for HIV and TB program. On 19th and 22nd October 2017.

The site visit recommendation and the decisions of 16th oversight committee meeting (held on 12 September) were also shared with the participants. The printed copy of the recommendations and decisions were also distributed among the participants of the meeting.

Later, the BCCM coordinator shared the funding request submission to the GF for TB, Malaria and HIV for the period of 2018-2020.

- Funding requests have been submitted to GF Secretariat for
 - HIV and TB on 15 March 2017;
 - Malaria on 23 March 2017
 - GF Secretariat has submitted to Technical Review panel (TRP)
- TRP recommended to start grant making for TB and HIV components
- Grant Negotiation will be done for
 - Malaria: 05-09 June 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland
 - HIV and TB: 02-14 July 2017 in Dhaka, Bangladesh
 - Final Document submission for Grant Approval Committee (GAC) by 17 July 2017
- Grant signing is expected by November 2017
- Grant Implementations: From January 2018

In connection with previous meeting, Mr. Manaj Kumar Biswas also updated that they are trying to produce newsletter since last year. Hopefully, from August, this year BCCM secretariat will be able to start to publish newsletter where the activities of BCCM, including success and problems will be highlighted.

3. Open discussion on NGO constituency issues

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The open discussion on NGO constituency issues was facilitated by Dr. Mohammad Kamrul Hassan and Mr. SM Shirajul Islam. A number of issues were raised from the participants during the discussion. Those were as follows:

Concern over less attendance in the meeting

This issue is continuous issue. Though 39 participants were attend in the meeting instead of 26 in last meeting. The number is sound for last meeting but not sufficient. Mr. Islam said to produce effective result the number of participant must be increased.

Mr. SM Shirajul Islam informed the participants that all the members were invited to attend the meeting via email and for re-confirmation telephone called was made. In some cases, face-to-face communication was made to invite the members. Many of the members confirmed to attend. However, at the last moment, some of them canceled and others never communicated.

Measures to be taken to increase the attendance:

To make the NGO consultancy more effective and to ensure more participation, some of the participants including Dr. Kamrul Islam proposed to provide attendance benefit, classification of participant on the basis of attendance, to use this platform in other donor or activity, issuing membership certificate for participation. In response, Mr. Manaj, Coordinator of BCCM said that it's not possible currently as there is no budget for member's attendance in the meeting from Global Fund and he agreed that if necessary a certificate may issue in favor of any participant NGO.

Besides, one participant proposed to change the membership policy by adding clause like cancelation of membership for not attending in three successive meetings. Especially, those who are elected members must prioritize BCCM meetings as they are committed to do that during election process. If any of the elected members was unable to attend, he/she could nominate a representative from their respective organization. Dr. Jahangir informed that the issue was also discussed in the 8th meeting. However, the members wanted more consultation to settle the issue. It has discussed that as the inflow of fund is become narrow so the committee can make a channel with business forum like FBCCI or like this.

In this regard Mr. Manaj Kumar Biswas said that we have tried several times to attend a representative from FBCCI but last three year we cannot achieve any positive result.

Regional consultation meeting for NGOs on Specific disease:

Mr. S. Nazrul Islam shared the previous BCCM meeting issues which was held at Dhaka club. He said as Bangladesh announced Lower Middle Class so the fund inflow from every corner is becoming diminishing which is also affected area of HIV AIDS sector whereas the world largest densities land is vulnerable for this diseases, in addition the Rohingya people. Whereas there many screened HIV/AIDS patients found in Rohingya. Meeting of 91st a decision was taken that after September GoB will take the treatment of HIV patient through 10 tertiary hospital of Bangladesh. He also place the question after withdrawing the GFATM fund, how BCCM will continue the respective services. In this connection speaker also expressed his doubt that there will may be a gap in treatment. It was also raised that more regional consultation may be held on specific diseases like TB, Malaria, HIV AIDS. He also said that decreasing of amount of fund the intervenes drug user become increased which is alarming to the society.