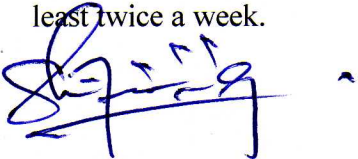


Ninth Management Board (MB) Meeting Minutes

Benin.

June 2th –5th, 2011

1. The ninth MB meeting for the Programme for South-South Cooperation (PSC) for Sustainable Development between Benin, Bhutan and Costa Rica was held from June 2th to June 5th, 2011 in Benin.
2. The meeting was chaired by the Head of the Benin Delegation, Mr. Mathias K. Pofagi, Director of CePED. The Delegation of Costa Rica was led by the Director of Fundecooperación, Mr. Mauricio Castro Salazar and the Delegation of Bhutan was led by Mr. Lhaba Tshering Sr. Planning Officer of SDS. The PSC Secretariat was represented by Ms. Marianella Feoli. The list of the Delegations is attached in Annex 1.
3. At the opening of the session, the Chair welcomed the Delegations of Benin, Bhutan and Costa Rica and thanked them for being in the meeting. The Chair emphasized the importance of the meeting since this is being held at a time when all projects are being closed and so, it was important that the reports are reviewed carefully to ensure that the results and indicators are true especially since these would be used to promote PSC to the donors.
4. The Head of the Costa Rica Delegation thanked the Benin Delegation for the welcome remarks. He also thanked the Kingdom of the Netherlands for the support received and stressed the importance to ensure that all indicators and reports should be verifiable as they would be used to showcase the results to possible donors.
5. The Head of the Bhutanese Delegation thanked Benin and the PSC Secretariat for organizing the meeting and for all the hard work that went into organizing the meeting. He agreed to the noting by Benin and Costa Rica and further underscored the importance of having accurate and verifiable indicators and results of PSC.
6. The Meeting reviewed the proposed agenda and adopted with a slight modification in schedule. (Revised agenda attached Annexure 2)
7. After adoption of the revised agenda, the PSC Secretariat presented a summary of the PSC Promotional efforts (materials, facebook, website, events) and informed the meeting that focus of the Promotional efforts was to create a new image which is more inclusive one and open to accommodate participation of possible new partners. The PSC Secretariat explained that the objective of the events held last week in Europe was to showcase PSC and to garner support for South-South cooperation.
8. As proposed by the NM of Bhutan, it was agreed that the new logo needed to be adjusted to better incorporate the comments made previously.
9. Referring to a quote by the Minister for External Affairs, Costa Rica, the NM of Bhutan requested to revise the phrase : “the development of a happiness index” to write “the learning about the happiness index”.
10. All three National Mechanisms approved to be part of the facebook efforts and to upload news or comments at least twice a week.



11. As agreed during the meeting held in Brussels, it was agreed that the PSC would pursue for three Global Call Openings 2012 with the EU as below:

- Non-State Actors: Bhutan to lead in preparing the concept note and explore collaboration with SNV since Cordaid response was not very forthcoming;(Deadline for submission to the Secretariat: July 1, 2011)
- Biodiversity: Costa Rica to lead in preparing the concept note. HIVOS to be explored for collaboration.(Deadline for submission to the Secretariat: August 1, 2011)
- Food security: Benin to lead in preparing the concept note. To be submitted as PSC proposal only without any collaboration. .(Deadline for submission to the Secretariat: August 1, 2011).

12. The concept notes would then be forwarded to EEPA to support in the preparation of the full proposals. However, if the contract with EEPA is extended, EEPA would be required to write the full proposal based on the concept notes prepared by the NMs.

13. PSC Secretariat informed that the PSC experiences will be showcased as a successful South-South Cooperation example during the GSSD Expo 2011 scheduled to be held in Rome in December. The meeting was also informed of Costa Rica's planned participation in the Regional South-South Expo in Latin America planned to be held in Panama. It was suggested that the other NMs could explore participation in such regional forums too.

14. For the next steps, it was agreed that the PSC would:

- a. Explore the possibility with the Dutch Government to consider supporting a second phase and that each NMs would request its respective Embassies to follow up. The PSC Secretariat will inform the NMs on the development.
- b. Pursue with the EU as mentioned under point 12. The deadline for submission of the concept note was agreed as follows:
 - i. Non-State Actors, NM of Bhutan → July 1st, 2011
 - ii. Environment, NM of Costa Rica → August 1st 2011.
 - iii. Food security/Gender, NM CePED → August 1st 2011.

15. The NM of Bhutan presented the status of all the projects executed by Bhutanese organizations. PSC Secretariat informed that TGMI (27-T-10) had committed to produce a promotional video, in addition to the documentary video that they are required to produce as an output of the project. The NM of Bhutan agreed to follow-up with TGMI and inform the secretariat.

16. The NM of Benin presented the status of all the projects executed by the Benin's organizations. PSC Secretariat informed the NM of Benin that they would be responsible to look for a possible organization/university that would upload the platform/website with regard to 1-T-07. NM of Benin agreed to invite possible organizations to discuss the possibility to manage the platform and then chose the one that will do the best work. The possible options are: University FSA, INRAB and Forest & Natural Resources Direction.

17. The NM of Costa Rica agreed to request project 01-T-07 to upload the web platform of Benin on their own website to show the results and help the NM of Benin to demonstrate how the platform will work. After

