

**Center for Policy and Human Development
Third AHDR – 2011 Meeting Minutes
Kabul Serena Hotel**

**Saturday, 11th Dec 2010
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

Present Participants:

1. Mr. Mohammad Afzal Safi
2. Mr. A. R. Samadi
3. Mr. G. S. Hassanzadah
4. Prof. Hamidullah Amin
5. Prof. A. Ghani Ayubi
6. Mr. Hayat Khan Shams
7. Mr. Mustafa
8. Mr. Khibar Rasool
9. Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Lewal
10. Mr. Ahmad Shah Katawazai
11. Mr. Quadir Amiryar
12. Mr. Abdul Wahab Arian
13. Mr. Fakhruddin Azizi
14. Eng. Mohd. Yosouf
15. Mr. Mohammad Nasib
16. Ms. Jean Kissell
17. Mr. Fazelullah Stanekzai
18. Mr. Karim Najimi
19. Ms. Khwaga Kakar
20. Mr. Habibullah Wahidi
21. Mr. Mohd. Naeem Sabawoon
22. Mr. Mohammad Shah Wazery



Chairperson: Professor Hamidullah Amin, Chancellor, Kabul University
Note Taker: Habibullah Wahidi, Deputy Project Manager, UNDP/CPHD

Agenda Items:

- **Acknowledgment**
- **Update on the final version of the AHDR**
- **Launching/follow-up of report's recommendation brainstorming**

A. Opening Remarks by the Chancellor of Kabul University:

Professor Hamidullah Amin the Chancellor of Kabul University thanked all the participants for their generous support to the preparation process of Afghanistan national Human Development Report – 2010 and the Center for Policy and Human Development and its team for its tireless efforts. Pointing out to the latest conference organized at the Ministry of Water & Energy, the Chancellor pointed out that Afghanistan's water is very important resource for the development of the country which has not been properly utilized. Thus, the availability of the upcoming report which includes valuable information and sound policy recommendations is a significant achievement.



Remarks by Center for Policy and Human Development:

Ms. Khwaga Kakar, On behalf of CPHD also thanked all the participants for their continued support and commitment to NHDR preparation process which started in April of 2009. She also thanked Kabul University for its kind support and contribution throughout the report preparation process.



While preparing the report, a broad range of consultations were held on national and provincial levels. A number of research projects were implemented in close collaboration with Kabul University and other provincial universities with various governmental institutions, UN agencies, NGOs, civil society as well as maliks, Mirabs, irrigation officers and the public. Around 4,500 people have been consulted and their inputs have been collected.

She added that a UNDP based NHDR process was designed to ensure advocating for policy dialogue, the water crisis of the country in a participatory process aimed also to contribute to developing local capacities. In this connection, the Social Sciences faculty of Kabul University was involved to undertake a number of case studies for the report. Moreover, a comprehensive training on the concept of human development was organized for the students of Kabul University various faculties in order to get familiar with HD, its importance and how it can influence policy making on national and international levels.

On the research and consultations activities a number of local NGOs assisted CPHD. She thanked WADAN and its leadership for the tremendous support they provided to the process. The inputs from these consultations were really useful to the authors of our report.

She appreciated the efforts of Strategic Partnership for Development (SPD) which has supported the report preparation process through drafting a number of background papers, thematic papers, and issue notes.

Cooperation for Peace & Unity in Afghanistan (CPAU) made it possible for the report to use specific case studies capturing the challenges of Afghans across the country.

ASCHIANA and SANAYEE made it possible to produce a booklet that captures the views of the young generations of Afghans regarding water issues.

B. Conclusions and recommendations:

After a discussion about the next process, sharing views and expressing appreciation on the finalization of the report, the following items were recommended by NHDR Advisory Board members:

1. In order to well acknowledge the commitment of the NHDR-2010 Advisory Panel members, there is a need for drafting of a foreword for the Advisory Board members which will be signed by all the members and be used in the report.
2. Human Development Reports are independent policy advocacy documents that do not necessarily reflect the views of UN or the government of Afghanistan. They expressed hope that ANHDR-2010 shared with the UNDP HQ will be dealt with as an independent document and that there won't be a substantive change in terms of the contents of the report as it has already been approved by the board. The meeting agreed that the revised version of the ANHDR-2010 coming back from UNDP HQ should be shared for final approval with the ANHDR-2010 Advisory Board.
3. It was mentioned that the NHDR is one a few report which is truly Afghan product as it is produced by a dynamic young Afghan group through a nationally led process with broad consultations. If the report is only launched in English then it will be perceived as an external report. Thus, it is very crucial that the report should be launched when English, Dari, and Pashto versions are available otherwise the launching of English version only might create misconceptions on the ownership of the Report by Afghans.
4. The meeting based on the past NHDR launching experiences, mentioned that president is usually very busy and has cancelled his participation in the launching ceremonies. In order to be on the safe side, in addition to the availability of the president, we should also reserve the schedules of one the vice presidents.
5. The NHDR Board members recommended that the launching to take place also at provincial levels and expressed their commitment to advocate the report through provincial launching events.

6. The meeting recommended the presence of vast number representatives from various stakeholders such as: religious scholars, civil societies, and NGOs in the launching ceremonies of the report.
7. Organizing conferences and media campaigns to disseminate the messages of the report to diverse audience. In this regard it was recommended to:
 - a. Organize round-table discussions in radio and television during the launching to introduce the report. NHDR Advisory members will participate in these events.
 - b. Organize workshops/conferences with community leaders/mullah/shura members to mobilized them for disseminating the messages of the report
 - c. In order to better convey the messages of the report, a 10-15 minutes documentary should be prepared and broadcasted on various TV channels at various intervals of time. Messages of the report should reach to general public, private sector, civil society, donors, and the government of Afghanistan.
8. Follow-up: As this is a reference report for water issues in the country. It was recommended that:
 - a. Convert some of the materials for lecture notes to be used in Geo-science and agriculture departments of Kabul University (request from the University)
 - b. Holding meetings with the donors and other actors who can bring a change in policy and or commitment to the water sector.
 - c. To use some of the materials and make them more people friendly (simpler) to make access for the rural population especially considering that it calls for actions by the communities/individuals as well. One possibility is to develop simplified curriculum to be used in WADAN's civic education centers around all 34 provinces of the country.
 - d. ASCHIANA expressed their availability to develop plays based on the messages of the NHDR with the involvement of Afghan children.