

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the National CAMPA Advisory Council(NCAC) held on 03.03.2010 at New Delhi chaired by the Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C), Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.

Present: (The list of the participants is enclosed).

The Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C), Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India welcomed the participants in the 2nd Meeting of the National CAMPA Advisory Council held on **03.03.2010** at New Delhi. Shri Ansar Ahmed, Member Secretary, Ad-hoc CAMPA & IGF (FC) sought the permission of the Hon'ble Minister to present an overview of the Status of the National CAMPA Advisory Council (NCAC) and its working. It was constituted vide letter No. 13-1/2009-CAMPA dated 13.08.2009 in pursuance to Hon'ble Supreme Court of India order dated 10.07.2009 in I.A. No. 2143 in W.P. (C) No. 202 of 1995. The main functions of the National CAMPA Advisory Council include to lay down broad guidelines for State CAMPA, Institutionalisation of Monitoring mechanism to monitor and evaluate projects being undertaken by the state CAMPA, facilitate assistance to State CAMPA for Scientific and Technological assistance and establish mechanism for resolution of disputes having Inter-State or Centre-state character.

He emphasized that first charge of the National CAMPA Advisory Council is to device economical & dependable Monitoring Mechanism and research for the different forestry activities under the CAMPA.

Agenda No. 2.1 – Confirmation of the minutes of the first meeting of the NCAC

The first meeting of the NCAC was held on 29th September, 2009. Minutes of the meeting are placed at **Annexure-I**.

The minutes of the first meeting of the NCAC stand confirmed.

(Action: MS-Ad-hoc CAMPA)

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Agenda No. 2.2 – Action taken on the decisions taken in the first meeting

2.2(a) Action taken on Agenda Item 1.1 – Opening of separate Sub account to meet the expenditure of the works approved by the National CAMPA Advisory Council.

As decided in the last meeting of the NCAC, a sub account under the account of Adhoc CAMPA has been opened and an amount of Rs. 5 lakhs has been transferred to the sub account. Depending on the requirement of funds, and after approval of budget and expenditure by NCAC, the money from sub account will be released to the concerned.

2.2(b) Action taken on Agenda Item 1.2 (a): Activities of Core Group for IT&CT applications and budgetary support for activities of the Core Group for Information and Communication Technology constituted by Ministry of Environment and Forests

For the expenditures of the Core Group on Information and Communication Technology applications under the leadership of Sh Anil Oberoi, Sh B.K. Singh, Secretary (Finance and Accounts) will open separate accounts wherein the money will be deposited for the expenditure of the Core Group after approval of its separate budget from the sub account of the National CAMPA Advisory Council. The sub account will be operated by Shri B.K. Singh and Shri Anil Oberoi as per administrative convenience within the framework of the budget approved by the National Advisory Council.

2.2 (c) Action taken on Agenda Item 1.2(b) Establishment of a National Forestry Informatics Centre (NFIC)

DGF&SS stressed that although a Concept Paper has been prepared by Shri Anil Oberoi, concrete action for establishment NFIC will be taken after the new Director of FSI is in position as the FSI is envisaged as the main owner and maintainer of the Centre. The Council agreed to the suggestion.

2.2 (d) Action taken on Agenda Item 1.3 Establishment of National Forestry Knowledge Forum.

Shri M.K. Jiwrajika, a special invitee to the Council informed the Council that a concept note on National Forestry Knowledge Forum is under preparation and will be presented to NCAC soon, in consultation with DGF&SS.

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Agenda Item 2.3: Submission of budget of Core Group for IT & CT for financial year 2009-10 and 2010-11, and opening of a separate sub-account for the same.

The Council considered the budget submitted for the activities of the Core Group on IT&CT application set up by the Ministry under the leadership of Shri Anil Oberoi, and stressed that a separate detailed budget may be submitted to the NCAC for NCAC and Core Group separately in proper format. However, the Council approved the partial budget of the Core Group of Rs. 1,98,000/- and Rs. 3,78,000/- for years 2009-10 and 2010-11 respectively to meet routine expenditures on meetings, travel and accommodations of the core group members. The Council also approved already incurred expenditure of Rs. 66,000/- on first meeting of the Core Group, which has been included in the partial budget of 2009-2010.

It was informed by DGF&SS that a presentation was to be made in the ensuing meeting of PCCF's by Shri Anil Oberoi and by NIC, on the concept for the web-based Remote Sensing based online monitoring & evaluation system for implementation of the APO's of the respective States using the CAMPA funds.

(Action: MS, NCAC/Secretary, F & A Core group)

Agenda Item 2.4 -Progress of Funds disbursement to different State/UTs, preparation of Annual plan of Operation

The MEF expressed satisfaction on the disbursement of Rs. 818.95 crores to the States as per the Supreme Court order and approved guidelines of the Ministry. However, Council expressed concern on non-submission of Annual Plan of Operation by most of the States who have been disbursed money. It was also apprehended that it will be very difficult to defend the present scenario during review of the process by the Supreme Court. It was decided that the State Government shall be requested to send the APOs by 31st March otherwise next disbursement of funds could not be done.

(Action: MS, NCAC/Secretary, F & A/Core group)

Agenda Item 2.5 - Issues of land acquisition for different activities under CAMPA fund.

The Council reiterated that no money from CAMPA should be used for acquisition of land. However, in case of relocation of villages from critical habitats of National Parks, Tiger Reserves, CAMPA money may be used as per the guidelines issued in this regard.

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Agenda Item 2.6 - "Monitoring and Evaluation of Forest Area Diversions including the Status of Compliance of Approval conditionalities and the Impact of Forest Diversion Cases on the Forest and Wildlife"

The Council appreciated the need for more use of in-service/ training of interns from IIFM, Bhopal and deemed FRI University in study of monitoring and evaluation of forest diversions, particularly its compliances by the State Government and user agency. ADGF(FC) explained the mechanism for training of the interns from IIFM and Deemed FRI University. The Council recommended the proposal for the internship of IIFM and Deemed FRI University under the guidance of the Forest Conservation Division.

Agenda Item 2.7: Transfer of Rs. 5 crore from ad-hoc CAMPA to FSI, Dehradun as per orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court

The Council recommended the transfer of money, that is about Rs. 5 crore to a separate account to be managed to be used for the comprehensive survey of the Aravallies in Rajasthan, as well as initiation of the National Forestry Informatics Centre by engaging technical and support staff on contract to supplement the existing permanent staff in view of growing vacancies and attenuation of staff due to retirement. The detailed modalities to be worked out by FSI and permission of Supreme Court to be obtained, with the assistance of Shri M.K. Jiwrajika & the Central Empowered Committee (CEC).

The meeting ended with the thanks of the Chair.
