ORISSA FORESTRY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

OFSDP

SFTRI Campus, Ghatikia, -751 003 Bhubaneswar

Letter No.3523/OFSDP-110(Vol.II)/07

Date: 20.12.2010

From:

Arun Kumar Bansal, IFS Project Direction & Member Secretary, OFSDS

To

All members, Governing Body of Orissa Forestry Sector Development Society(OFSDS).

[Principal Secretary to Govt., Forest & Environment Department, Principal Chief Conservator of forest, Orissa, Principal Chief Conservator of forests & Chief Wildlife Warden, Orissa, Special Secretary to Govt., Forest & Environment Department, Secretary, Nature, Environment and Wild Life Society, Angul]

Sub: Eleventh Governing Body Meeting of OFSDS – Proceedings.

Ref: This office letter no. 3402/OFSDP-110(Vol.II)/2007, dated 04.12.2010.

Sir,

A copy of the approved proceedings of 11th Governing Body Meeting of OFSDS held on 6th, December, 2010 under Chairmanship of Sri R.N. Senapati, IAS, APC & Chairperson of OFSDS Governing Body is enclosed herewith.

The receipt of the approved proceedings may be acknowledged.

Yours faithfully

Project Director & Member Secretary, Governing Body, OFSDS

Encl: As Above

Copy forwarded along with a copy of the approved proceedings of 11th Governing Body of OFSDS to P.S. to Agriculture Production Commissioner, Orissa for kind information of the Agriculture Production Commissioner and Chairperson of the Governing Body of OFSDS.

Project Director & Member Secretary, Governing Body, OFSDS

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Proceedings of the 11th Meeting of the Governing Body of Orissa Forestry Sector Development Society (OFSDS) held on 6th December, 2010 at 17.00 hrs in the chamber of APC, Rajiv Bhawan, Bhubaneswar.

Eleventh meeting of the Governing Body of the Orissa Forestry Sector Development Society (OFSDS) was held on 6th December 2010 and was chaired by Sri R. N. Senapati, IAS, Agriculture Production Commissioner and Chairperson of the Governing Body.

The list of the members present is at Annexure-'A'.

At the outset the Chairperson welcomed all the members and special invitees to the meeting and requested the Project Director and Member Secretary to initiate the discussion. The Project Director thanked all for providing ample support to the Project, thereby creating an enabling environment for achieving the overall objectives.

The following agenda items were discussed:

i. Confirmation of the proceedings of the 10th meeting:

The Project Director informed that the proceedings of the 10th meeting of the Governing Body held on 14th May, 2010 was sent to all members vide letter no. 1425 /OFSDP-110/07 dated 20.05.2010. No comments have been received. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

ii. Compliance to the decision of the last meeting of the Governing Body:

a. Construction of one more floor at Aranya Bhawan:

Project Director informed that PCCF, Orissa in his letter no. 15801 dt. 01.10.2010 has opined against construction of fourth floor mentioning that "Aranya Bhawan is a self contained unit". In the meanwhile, Orissa Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation, Bhubaneswar has been requested to examine the technical feasibility and to furnish the cost of estimates for construction of conference hall in the second floor of the PMU building. It was decided to obtain "feasibility report" from Orissa Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation and along with their willingness to take up construction. In case Orissa Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation expresses its unwillingness then the job can be given to other agencies.

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b. Posting of persons for implementing the time bound project:

PCCF, Orissa informed that recruitment of foresters has taken place in the project divisions, and they will be deployed on completion of their training in about six months time.

Agenda Item #.1: Review of Progress of Project Activities:

a. Reforestation:

The Project Director informed that against the target of 1, 77,650ha under the JFM component, 1, 58,145 ha have been achieved up to this planting season. Micro plans are under preparation for the 4th batch of the VSSs for which the plantation interventions will be taken up next year.

The target for Artificial Regeneration (Teak Plantation) under non JFM mode is 19000 ha, against which 9454 ha have been achieved up to 2010-11 and about 3000 ha area has been identified to be planted up during the next season. Project Director apprised that there may be some shortfall under this component as the DMU Chiefs are finding it difficult to find suitable blank areas.

Under the coastal Plantation component, Mangrove plantation over an area of 2031 ha & Casuarina plantation over 67 ha has been raised up to November 2010. Project Director apprised that more areas will be available for Casuarina plantation, once the scheme for 'harvesting of old/mature Casuarina plantations and replanting', duly approved by Govt. of India, will be implemented. After detailed discussion it was decided that the whole procedure has to be adopted cautiously. Fresh efforts must be made to look for suitable vacant lands to be planted with casuarinas on priority. Project Director also appraised that to make up the shortfall in target for Casuarina plantations, additional areas for Mangrove plantation have already been identified, which was agreed to.

b. Biodiversity Conservation:

Project Director informed that under this component, not much utilization has been possible because main activity relates to reducing man animal conflicts through creation of elephant corridors. A proposal for declaring Kuldiha- Hadgarh-Simlipal

Elephant Corridor as a 'Conservation Reserve' has been prepared with detailed mapping and land schedule. The PCCF (WL) has agreed to the proposal in principle and has submitted the same for the consideration of the Government. PCCF (WL) apprised that 14- Traditional corridors & 9- Fragmented corridors have been identified in the state and detail study is going on and a comprehensive action plan will be prepared. The Chairperson suggested that all possible steps may be taken to reduce manelephant conflict.

Project Director apprised that preliminary work has been taken up to facilitate inventorization of Sacred Groves in the project divisions and to initiate the process of harnessing their bio- diversity conservation potentials through active participation of the VSSs/EDCs. After detailed discussion, it was decided that a broad based committee, including all the stakeholders may be formed for holistic development of selected sacred groves/areas, through preparation of a management plan.

c. Community/Tribal development:

i. Entry Point Activities:

The Project Director informed that Office-cum-meeting halls are being constructed in each VSS/EDC along with creation of community assets from funds under EPA. Some of the key activities taken up under EPA are: drinking water facilities, water harvesting structure, renovation of ponds, bathing enclosures for women, solar lights, spot lights, renovation in school, weighing balance, radio, tent house utensils, KB pumps, community agriculture equipments etc.

ii. Income Generation Activities:

The Project Director apprised the members that the project has a provision for funding the SHGs through VSSs for taking up Income Generation Activities through the revolving fund @ Rupees one lakh per VSS. The basic approach of the Project has been to promote demand driven IGA. About 2000 SHGs have been linked through 2500 loans through 'VSS Revolving Fund'. The project has also carried out market research by a specialized Agency for suggesting area based IGA, based on a comprehensive Livelihood Opportunity Analysis (LoA) and Value Chain Analysis (VCA). The Income Generation Support Agencies (IGASA)

are in place for hand holding, capacity building, cluster formation, value addition and market linkage, as the Project now is embarking upon focused IGAs.

It was decided to expedite the process and efforts to cover another 1,000 SHGs by June, 2011.

iii. Livelihood Improvement:

The Project Director informed that the project is making efforts for mainstreaming health care in the project VSSs through convergence with NRHM. Gaon Kalyan Samities have been formed covering 1383 VSSs. 77,164 insecticide treated mosquito nets (LLIN) have been distributed in 670 VSSs, and 294 VSS Animators have been trained as Fever Treatment Deports (FTDs) in collaboration with the NRHM and NVBDCP. 622 Project VSSs have been covered through NRHM interventions such as village sanitation, Reproductive & Child healthcare camps, Immunization trainings, monetary incentive to cancer patients etc. Besides, 3138 Indigenous Fuel Efficient Smokeless Chullahs have been installed in 52 VSSs in 8 DMUs.

iv. Capacity Building:

The Project Director apprised the members that Project is continuing with focused capacity building programmes. Trainings are organized for all the stake holders i.e. VSS Members, Animators, SHG Members, and Forest Staff on a regular basis. 1.9 lakh persondays training have been conducted by the divisions, and 1900 person-days training has been organized at the PMU level through 79 National/International Trainings.

d. Research:

The Project Director informed that different research activities such as establishment of a 'Nakshatra Vana' in the campus of the State Silviculturist; 'Use of Fly Ash in Forest Nursery and Plantation' in Angul Division and improvement of the 'Teak Seed production area' at Chulhijhinka are being undertaken under the Project.

e. Monitoring & Evaluation:

The Project Director informed that in pursuance of the decision of the General Body, the 2nd round of Independent Third Party Verification of Assets created under the project has been completed. The report is under scrutiny. The project is also in the process of Grounding MIS Based reporting system covering various activities in the project. The Household Level Socio-Economic Baseline Survey Phase-II is under progress. Steps have also been taken for mid-term

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internal evaluation of the Project, and discussion for firming up the ToR is in progress with the first ranked firm.

f. Publications:

The Project Director apprised that Quarterly Newsletters are being regularly brought out both in English and Oriya. The Project website: www.ofsdp.org is being maintained and updated regularly.

g. Project review by JICA:

The Project Director informed the members that a two member JICA review mission Team visited the Project from 10th to 13th November 2010 and expressed satisfaction on the implementation of the project and advised/requested for working out details for utilizing the loan amount within the period stipulated for loan disbursement.

Agenda item # 2&3: Approval of Annual Activity Report for the year 2009-10 & revised Final Accounts for the year 2006-07, 2007-08 & 2008-09:

The annual activity report for the year 2009-10 and the Audited Statement of Accounts & Revised Final Accounts for the year 2006-07, 2007-08 & 2008-09 prepared by the Internal Auditor were placed before the members and approved.

Agenda item # 4: Any other matter with permission of the Chair:

The Chairperson advised to prepare an alternative action plan within three months for utilization of balance fund that would be available at the end of the Project.

In order to have regular meetings of the District Advisory Committee, Chairperson suggested that Chief Secretary, Orissa & Principal Secretary, Forest & Environment to be moved to issue suitable instructions to the Collectors to organize the meetings of the District Advisory Committee at regular intervals.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

(R.N.SENAPATI, IAS)

Agriculture Production Commissioner & Chairperson of the Governing Body, OFSDS

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ANNEXURE-A

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS			
SL NO.	NAME	DESIGNATION	DESIGNATION
1	Sri R.N. Senapati, IAS	Agriculture Production Commissioner	Chair Person
2	Dr. Aurobindo Behera, IAS	Principal Secretary, F&E.Deptt	Member
3	Sri S.C. Mohanty, IFS	Principal C.C.F., Orissa	Member
4	Sri P.N. Padhi, IFS	Principal C.C.C. & C.W.L.W.	Member
5	Sri B.P. Singh, IFS	Spl. Secretary, F&E. Deptt	Member
6	Sri P.K. Behera	Secretary, N.E.W.S, Angul	Member
7	Sri Arun Kumar Bansal, IFS	Project Director	Member Secretary
8	Sri Vinod Kumar, IFS	Spl. Secretary, SC & ST Deptt.	Spl. Invitee
9	Sri M.G. Gogate, IFS (RTD)	Team Leader & Resident Project Manager, G.C.	Spl. Invitee
10	Sri Rajiv Kumar, IFS	Joint Project Director (HRD&R)&(A&F)	Spl. Invitee
11	Sri Debidutta Biswal, IFS	Joint Project Director (IME)	Spl. Invitee