

Millennium Challenge Account Vanuatu
Constitution Building
Lini Highway
PO Box 192
Port Vila, Vanuatu
Tel: (678) 26918 / 26415
Fax: (678) 26419
Email: mcavanuatu@vanuatu.gov.vu



Compte du Défi du Millénaire Vanuatu
Bâtiment de Constitution
Lini Route
BP 192
Port Vila, Vanuatu
Tel: (678) 26918 / 26415
Fax: (678) 26419
Email: mcavanuatu@vanuatu.gov.vu

Reducing Poverty through Improved Infrastructure

MCA-Vanuatu Steering Committee Meeting No. 08 of 2011

Type of Meeting: Steering Committee Meeting

2:30pm Tuesday 23rd August 2011

MCA-V Conference Room

Board Members:

Present: Deputy Chairman and Director General, MFEM, George Maniuri
Alternate Director of Finance, Antonneth Arnhambat
Alternate Director of PWD, Ambatha Paraliu
Director of DSPPAC, Gregoire Nimbtik

MCC Representative

Christine Cookson, MCC Resident Country Manager (MCC RCM)

NZ Aid Programme Representative

John Claasen, New Zealand Aid Program Manager

MCA-Vanuatu Program Management

Johnson Wabaiat, Director MCA

Serah Toara, Financial Management Officer

Apology:

Absent:

Director General of Lands, Joe Ligo

Quorum Present: Yes

Welcome by chairman

Introduction made by the Chairman of the Steering Committee. Chairman thanked everyone who could make it to the meeting. Chairman presented agenda as follows:

Agenda Items:

1. Minutes of Previous Meetings No.4 – 8
2. Business Arising from 2011 SC Minutes Not Covered Elsewhere on the Agenda:
 - a. Response to Frances Reid's March 1 letter
 - b. Progress with Road Act
 - c. VKS Final Reports
 - d. Court Trust Account for Custom Owner Royalties
 - e. Progress and Safeguarding of GoV Royalty Funds
 - f. CoM Road Safety Paper
 - g. Letter Requesting an Audit of the GoV 2011 Road Maintenance Allocation
 - h. Changes to VPMU Paper and Progress with CoM Decisions
 - i. Request for MCC's Written Consent to Closure of MCA-V
 - j. Closure Media Release/ Event
 - k. Saama Stockpile. Malarua Stockpile
 - l. Final Indicator Tracking Table and Results Report
 - m. Final Traffic Count Survey Reports
 - n. Proposed Meeting on Samma Meeting
 - o. Changes to CCP Modification Annex
3. MCA-Vanuatu CCR Final Draft
4. Implementation Letter Post Compact VNSO & MCC
5. Asset Disposal/Transfer list
6. Progress Report – Recommended Delegations to Program Director / VPMU
 - a. Variations
 - b. PA Final Report GRM
 - c. Defects Investigation Report ERR
 - d. Contractor Past Performance Report (TRIP, Data Quality Auditor
 - e. Archives Policy Paper (Electronic Recording)
 - f. Update re Land Compensation Payment
7. MCA-Vanuatu Documentary Presentation
8. MCA Vanuatu Final Financial Overview – For SC Information
9. Process for Confirming Final SC Meeting Minutes
10. Appreciations and Closure of Final meeting MCA-V Steering Committee
11. AOB

Adoption of Agenda

No comments were received from members on the Agenda items. Chairman concluded that the Agenda was generally accepted.

1. Minutes of previous Meetings No.4 – 7

Comments on Minutes no. 4 of 2011.

MCC RCM comments made were already sent through email on 22nd August and copied to all members. Minute taker noted the changes on the electronic version of the minutes sent through email. All members agreed to the changes and agreed that they reflect the true minute of the meeting.

Moved by Director DSPPAC and seconded by Alternate Director of PWD. Minutes approved.

Comments on Minutes No. 5 of 2011

Page 2. NZ Aid made comments through email to remove DG Russell Nair and replace with DG Joe Ligo.

Page 3. Bold sentence on item 5. Re number as item number 5.

DG MIPU and Director MIPU are also absent. Add to previous minutes

Moved by alternate Director of Finance and seconded by Alternate Director PWD. Minutes approved.

Comments on Minutes No.6 of 2011

Page 3. Audit Letter – PD to give update. MCC RCM could not understand the a few incomplete lines. Suggested ‘The letter for the Minister of Lands to update on the Land Take compensation. Changes are already made on the electronic version of the minutes and already noted by minute taker.

Page. 4 First Para. Delete ‘Outstanding’ in the line ‘Notation of MCA’

Page 4 – Discussions on the Council of Ministers of Paper. Needs more clarity on the discussions held on each concerns raised. PD will assist to detail the response that addresses each concern.

Page 5. Change title to ‘Draft VPMU Council of Ministers Paper’

Page 6. Delete item ‘c’

Changes to be made by minute taker and passed to Chairman for signature.

Moved by Alternate Director of Finance and seconded by Alternate Director of PWD.

Comments on Minute no. 7 of 2011

Number the pages

Remove Russell Nair

Page 3. A few editorials identified in the minutes. Minute taker to forward minutes to MCC RCM for editorials.

Correct Alternate Director of Finance Name on page 1.

Page.4. Second Para. First Line – add Alternate Director General MIPU

Page 4 – Editorial on item 5.5 – MCC RCM to add in comments

Bonus – The discussions to bonus was agreed not to be in the minutes as SC members took the decision to discuss the matters. Minute taker to forward the minutes to MCC RCM to add in the decisions made

Moved by Alternate Director of DSPPAC and Alternate Director of Finance.

2. Business Arising from 2011 SC Minutes Not covered Elsewhere on the Agenda.

a. Response to Frances Reid’s March 1 Letter

Response letter was drafted and presented to DG and Acting Director of Finance to look particularly at the Royalty and Trust Accounts.

Alternate DoF – Draft of letter mentioned that the SLO will facilitate the Royalty Trust Account. The court registrar confirmed that the SLO will not facilitate the Royalty Trust Account or the Court.

Alternate DoF emphasized that a Development Fund Account would be the best option forward as there is not interest accrued in the account. Also there are strict processes for accessing funds from that pot of money.

MCC RCM requested if an Authoritative letter detailing the processes of signing off on funds sitting in the development funds.

Finance will produce the letter and submit to MCC.

b. Progress with Road Act

Meeting was convened this morning with the State Law Office. They will go through the legal language and submit it back to the PWD to fine tune. It will be presented to the November 2011 sitting.

c. VKS Final Reports

MCA Vanuatu has forwarded to MCC for No Objection. MCC will not be the legal body responsible. Amendment need to be made.

d. Court Trust Account for Custom Owner Royalty Funds

Alternate Director of Finance to respond on the letter. Again as mentioned in ‘a’ above an authoritative letter will detail the processes.

e. Progress and Safeguarding of GoV 2011 Road Maintenance Allocation

Program Director held discussions with the Health Planning Officer on the 22nd of August 2011. PD will give an update on the meeting. After the meeting with the Prime Minister, it was agreed that the Road Safety will be undertaken by VPMU, Health, and other stakeholders.

f. CoM Road Safety Paper

This will now be followed up and taken up by the VPMU and the Ministry of Health.

g. Letter Requesting an Audit of the GoV 2011 Road Maintenance Allocation

This matter has been discussed with the PM. The decision taken for the Maintenance Funds to be reverted back to the MFEM budget through the VPMU to manage and monitor.

h. Changes to VPMU Paper and Progress with CoM Decisions

The Paper was approved by the DCO Wednesday last week and further signed by the sponsoring minister and the Prime Minister. Paper is in the agenda for this week's meeting. The PM will be travelling out of the country this week.

i. Request for MCC's Written Consent to Closure of MCA-V

Governing body of MCA has obtained the motion for closure. The MCC will require that a written consent will need to be sent to MCC.

j. Closure Media Release/Event

A media release will need to be made for the closure of MCA Vanuatu. PD mentioned that the SC will need to give approval for the Media Release.

NZ requested if they will be given a space to do a quote. MCC agreed to do allow a space for the NZ Government quote.

Chairman agreed for the media release to be finalized and circulated to all SC members.

k. Saama Stockpile. Malarua Stockpile

Process stockpiles. There is a dormant claim sitting in this agenda.

l. Final Indicator Tracking Table and Results Report

Report is still being worked on by M&E Officer. Will be submitted on the 26th of August 2011 with some items marked as 'Failure' due to lack of information provided by the responsible entities.

m. Final Traffic Count Survey Reports

Should be finalized together with the ITT.

n. Proposed Meeting on Samma Meeting

SC noted that the Saama Stockpile is an ongoing issue. This resolution reminds the SC members on the proposed made by the Director General of MFEM to sell the stockpile and raise funds to rehabilitate the site.

o. Changes to CCP Modification Annex

Steering Committee has delegated to the Program Director to complete with all the changes discussed on Minutes no. 7 of 2011.

1. MCA-Vanuatu CCR Final Draft

PD gave the draft hard copy to SC members to take back to read and then SC will convene on Thursday 2pm.

2. Implementation Letter Post Compact VNSO & MCC (Replacement of Government Agreement)

MCC RCM mentioned this letter but MCC has further advised that this will be incorporated in the Cooperative Agreement. SC will further delegate this to the Program Director at the Thursday 25th SC meeting to complete and submit to MCC.

3. Asset Disposal/Transfer list

Moved to Thursday 25th August 2011.

4. Progress Report – Delegation to Program Director / VPMU

- a. Variations
- b. PA Final Report GRM
- c. Defects Investigation Report ERR
- d. Contractor Past Performance Report
- e. Archives Policy Paper (Electronic Recording)
- f. Update re Land Compensation issues

PD presented the outstanding work required on items and requested if SC members delegate item a to f to Program Director to complete and submit to MCC by the 26th of August 2011.

Chairman has no objection to the proposal and Alternate Director of Finance agreed to it. Other members generally agreed to the proposal.

5. MCA-Vanuatu Documentary Presentation

MCA Vanuatu presented the documentary to the Steering Committee members. They would like the documentary to be presented in the final media release.

Mix of language from Bislama and English.

6. MCA Vanuatu Final Financial Overview – For SC Information

Moved to Thursday 25th of August 2011.

7. Process for Confirming Final SC Meeting Minutes.

8. AOB

Budget for 2011 and 2012– Budget requires VPMU to submit the figures to them to incorporate in the revised budget.

9. Appreciations and Closure of Final meeting MCA-V Steering Committee