TRIPARTITE COUNCIL
OF KHANBOGD SOUM HERDERS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OYU TOLGOI COMPANY

Summary Report on 2015 activities

The Tripartite Council consisting of representatives from Khanbogd soum local government, herders and Oyu Tolgoi company, established on 8 June 2015, is running its operation within the purpose stated in the Memorandum of Understanding and the Council’s Charter. The first meeting of the Council took place on 1 July 2015 and in the last 6 months the Parties are making due efforts in order to reach mutual understanding and cooperation. The operation of the Council has been facilitated and mediated by the Office of the Compliant Advisor and Ombudsman (CAO).

Main activities

A. Concerning organizational issues

- The Tripartite Council had 5 meetings - in July, September, October, November and December respectively. The Management Unit met 6 times in between the Council’s meetings and discussed and made decisions on the matters related to the Council activities.
- In accordance with the ordinance of the Khanbogd Soum Governor the Council took over the duties of the Compensation Working Group.

B. Concerning the selection and engagement of a team to conduct the study

- The Council selected a research team to conduct MultiDisciplinary Team (MDT) study and a joint expert team of the JSL Consulting, Oxford University and Geological Institute of the Academy of Science is selected to conduct the study together with the Independent Expert Panel (IEP).
- CAO shall be organize the training for all relevant stakeholders on the Joint Fact Finding Exercise, is role in resolving the compliants, expected outcome of the study and to discuss the detailed plan of the study during February 23 – 25, 2016.

C. Concerning the implementation of the IEP Phase I work report recommendations

- Agreed on new location for Bor Ovoo Spring, discussed the work plan for landscaping of the new location and agreed to reflect the parties suggestions on the vegetation area and types of vegetation to plant in the area.
- Commenced the implementation of the work to create a pond at the Ust Bag Mod Quarry hollow.
- Seventeen (17) additional monitoring points were selected and included in the Khanbogd soum pasturland participatory monitoring and shall be applied in annual monitoring activities.
- Provided suggestions and recommendations on the Livestock Sustainable Development Program of Khanbogd soum.
- A project to plant trees alongside Undai river is under development.
- Agreed to specifically disseminate OT company’s vacancy announcements when they are announced, to 114 citizens of 59 herder households, living along the Undai River specified in the IEP Phase I report and who are requesting for a job.
• Organized a meeting with business consultants to help the households which are expressed their desire to run small and medium enterprises and business related advice has been provided.
• Met with relevant officials of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ministry of Mining and Umnugobi Aimag government and requested for a support in the implementation of the IEP Phase I work report recommendations.
• Submitted a request to the Water Reserve Board on re-approving the Khanbogd City Planning water reserve and the request has been accepted.
• Water recharge measurement methodology of the wells monitored under the Participatory Water Monitoring has been introduced and the progress of the monitoring is being reported.

D. Concerning capacity strengthening

• Councils’ Members participated in the training on improving problem solving and conflict resolving skills provided by CAO.

Main activities to be carried out:

• Successfully implement the study through cooperating with MDT experts
• In accordance with the IEP Phase I report Recommendation #10, discuss and decide whether to engage experts to carry out studies on determining Undai River ecosystem economic value.
• Khanbogd Soum Governor’s Office, OT Company and Soum Weather Station “Khanbogd” to cooperate in the area of environmental monitoring.
• Organize activation measures to assist Khanbod Soum citizens and coivil society organization in carrying out environmental monitoring and strengthen their capacity
• Clarify, discuss and resolve the herders’ requests on Gunii Khooloi issues
• In accordance with IEP Phase I report recommendation #13, develop a project focused on “Alleviating the impacts caused to pasture reserves and herders’ livelihoods” targeted for herders living along the Undai River.

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