

F.No.10-6/2007-WBP
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(Central Project Management Unit)

First Floor, Hotel Janpath
Janpath, New Delhi 110 001

19 November 2009

Subject: Proposed IDA assisted ICDS-IV Project: Minutes of the Meeting with the State Secretaries and Directors of eight States held on 29 October 2009 at NIPCCD, New Delhi - Regarding

A copy of the minutes of the subject meeting is enclosed herewith for necessary information and action. This issues with the approval of the Joint Secretary (CDN).

Yours sincerely,



(Dr. Saroj K. Adhikari)
Asstt. Director

Tel: 2336 2376, 2336 8202

To

1. **Principal Secretary/Secretary *in-charge* of Women & Child Development**
[Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh]
2. **Commissioner/Director in charge of ICDS Programme (8 States)**

Copy to:

1. Dr. Preeti Kudesia, *Task Team, Leader*, The World Bank, New Delhi and her Team
2. Dr. A.K.Gopal, *Director*, NIPCCD
3. Mrs. Rupa Dutta, *Director (WCD)*, Planning Commission
4. Mr. V.Ramesh Babu, *Sr.Program Manager*, USAID
5. Ms Deepika Shrivastava, *Officer in charge*, UNICEF
6. Mr. Mukesh Kumar, *Program Director*, CARE India
7. Dr. (Ms) Shariqua Yunus, *Programme Officer*, WFP

Copy also to for information:

1. PS to JS (SR)/PA to Dir (MA)/PA to Dir (ASA)
2. US (WB)/SO (WB)

Proposed IDA assisted ICDS-IV Project

Meeting with the State Secretaries and Directors of eight States to discuss the project preparation and related issues

29 October 2009: NIPCCD, New Delhi

Minutes

The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) organized a meeting with the State Secretaries and Directors in charge of the ICDS Programme from eight States selected for implementation of the proposed IDA assisted ICDS-IV Project, to discuss the preparation of the project implementation plans (PIPs) and related issues. The meeting was chaired by **Dr. Shreeranjana, Joint Secretary, MWCD** and was facilitated by the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD). Secretaries/Commissioners, Directors/Dy. Directors from eight States, Director (Planning Commission), Officials from the World Bank, representatives of the development partners (UNICEF/USAID/CARE/WFP), Officials from the MWCD and NIPCCD attended the meeting. List of participants is annexed.

2. In his opening address, **Dr. Shreeranjana, Joint Secretary** outlined the purpose of the meeting and informed the States that the Planning Commission and the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance have since given their concurrence to the project preparation. The Ministry of WCD could not take up any further activity for the project preparation for more than a year pending in-principle approval from the Planning Commission. He informed that the Commission had raised certain reservations about the duplicity of the activities/interventions that were envisaged under the ICDS-IV project and the activities already approved under the ICDS General Scheme with revised financial norms. The Planning Commission has now conveyed their in-principle approval for incurring expenditure for the preparation of the project, with the condition that there should not be any duplication/overlapping in the activities of the proposed project and the existing ICDS Scheme. **Dr. Shreeranjana** expressed the hope that the ICDS-IV project would be able to bridge some of the gaps in the existing programme implementation following a decentralized planning approach and help strengthen the existing system of service delivery by bringing in necessary technical and management support to the programme. He urged upon the States for revisiting the already prepared State PIPs and revising/recasting the same keeping in view the broad interventions/activities that have been further worked out by the MWCD and the challenges of universalization of ICDS and improved delivery systems. He requested the States to expedite the project preparation activities in a time bound manner and follow a participatory approach while finalizing the PIPs by engaging all stakeholders.

3. **Shri Mahesh Arora, Director (ICDS), MWCD** made a detailed powerpoint presentation on the project component wise broad interventions/activities, project reform

principles, phased implementation approach, suggested activities that could be taken up during the preparatory phase, action points for residual preparatory work and tentative timelines. He informed the States that the project would be following a phased implementation approach wherein two distinct phases – an initial preparatory phase of about 18 months to two years with clearly defined benchmarks, followed by the full-scale implementation phase upon meeting of the agreed benchmarks, would be there. He also informed that consequent upon the Ministry's views on the phased implementation approach; the DEA has since given their concurrence and requested the World Bank to target the delivery of the project in Bank's FY 11 (starting from July 2010). While describing the revised broad activities envisaged under the project, he apprised the States that under the project management/institutional strengthening component, additional manpower support to the selected districts and block will be provided under the project. He also informed that instead of earmarking 10-12% of the total State allocation for the construction of AWCs (as per the earlier plan), construction of eco and child friendly Model AWCs would now be taken up in each block of the selected districts. Also, Cluster Resources Centre (CRC) in every block will be set up. States were requested to recast their PIPs accordingly.

4. **Dr. (Ms) Preeti Kudesia, Sr. Public Health Specialist and Task Team Leader,** World Bank informed that previous World Bank support to ICDS through various projects did not yield desired results and that the World Bank was committed to help the Govt. of India improve the nutrition outcomes in the country. Based on the past experiences, the present project has been premised on five key reform principles *viz.*, improving the targeting, flexibility in developing project plans, focused and evidence based design separately for the under 3s and 3-6 year olds, stronger convergence with health and other line departments, and a robust monitoring and evaluation system including a scientifically designed impact evaluation. The Bank's previous experiences had shown that the project implementation started without much groundwork, resulting in delays in the actual implementation of the project. In order to address this aspect, the Bank has proposed a phased implementation approach called adaptable program loan (APL) under the project wherein the first phase of about two years will have those activities that are necessary to support the full implementation of the planned activities under the project and only after meeting the milestones in phase one, the States will be able to move to the second phase. She suggested that the States may like to identify the bottlenecks in the existing programme implementation and accordingly propose activities for the first phase.

5. During the discussions, some of the States expressed their concern over the inordinate delay in the project effectiveness and felt that the momentum which was built up at the state and district level following national and state level workshops about two years ago need to be re-built again. **Ms Y.V.Anuradha, Commissioner (WCD & CW),** Govt. of Andhra Pradesh informed that the draft State PIPs were prepared after several rounds of consultations with the stakeholders including DPOs/CDPOs, development partners, line departments, PRIs and NGOs. Representatives of the Governments of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh mentioned that only few districts from their States were selected under the project leaving out some of the

most backward districts. They requested the MWCD for inclusion of few more districts in the project. **Shri Rajesh Kumar, Commissioner (ICDS)**, Govt. of Maharashtra asked for a firm assurance from the MWCD on the effectiveness of the project, so that the State could convince their finance for incurring expenditure on the project preparation activities. **Shri B.Praveen, Director (ICDS)**, Govt. of Rajasthan enquired whether the Technical Support Unit (TSU), that was earlier planned, would be established at the State level during the preparatory phase of the project to help support the DWCD carry out project activities in effective manner. On the tentative timelines of the project preparation, most of the States agreed to revise the PIPs within the stipulated time period.

6. The following decisions were taken during the meeting:

- (i) States will revive the State Resource Teams (SRTs) to carry out the residual work on the project preparation. States may seek further support from the identified development partners for revision of the State PIP.
- (ii) Revised broad interventions/activities prepared by the Ministry will be considered by the States and State/district specific activities proposed under the project will be reviewed and modified accordingly.
- (iii) Activities for the preparatory phase i.e., first 18-24 months will have to be detailed out and clearly shown in the PIP with defined benchmarks (physical targets and timelines) and with estimated budgetary requirements.
- (iv) States will ensure that the activities proposed in the State PIP will be the ones that are not covered under the existing ICDS General Scheme;
- (v) The process of revising the State PIPs will be completed before 25 December 2009. The MWCD and World Bank Team will provide necessary guidance and support to the States in revising the PIPs.
- (vi) MWCD will look into the requests of the States of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh for inclusion of additional districts in the project.
- (vii) MWCD will formally write to the States on the project preparation and the agreed timelines.

Annex
List of Participants

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Designation</i>	<i>State/ Organization</i>	<i>Contact No</i>
State Governments				
1	Ms Y.V.Anuradha	Commissioner, WD & CE Department	Andhra Pradesh	09440814408
2	Ms K. Shyama Sundari	Asstt. Director, WD & CW Deptt	Andhra Pradesh	09440814425
3	Shri Rajesh Kumar	Director, ICDS	Bihar	09431005008
4	Shri Nandlal Chowdhary	Deputy Director, Directorate of ICDS	Chhattisgarh	09425555088
5	Mrs Pushpa Marandi	Director, Social Welfare	Jharkhand	0651-2400749
6	Shri S.P.Verma	Asstt. Director, Social Welfare	Jharkhand	0651-2400749
7	Shri Ravindra Singh Raghuwanshi	Joint Director, Directorate of WCD	Madhya Pradesh	09352550710
8	Shri Rajesh Kumar	Commissioner, ICDS	Maharashtra	09930561789
9	Shri D.J.Mundhe	Dy. Commissioner, ICDS	Maharashtra	09423656409
10	Shri N.V.Kongale	Asstt. Director (Finance), ICDS	Maharashtra	09422058136
11	Mrs Sarita Singh	Secretary , WCD	Rajasthan	09414045110
12	Shri B.Praveen	Director, WCD	Rajasthan	0141-2705361
13	Shri Arun Singh	Spl. Secretary, Deptt of WCD	Uttar Pradesh	0522-2238526
14	Ms Alka Rani	Addl. Project Manager, ICDS	Uttar Pradesh	09415028168
Planning Commission				
15	Ms Rupa Dutta	Director, WCD		09810982901 011-23353437
The World Bank				
16	Dr. Preeti Kudesia	Senior Public Health Specialist and Task Team Leader		09899666140
17	Ms Ashi K. Kathuria	Sr. Nutrition Specialist		011-41479238
18	Shri Snehashish Rai Chowdhury	Operations Officer		09811076327
Development Partners				
19	Shri V.Ramesh Babu	Sr. Program Manager	USAID	09873004702
20	Ms Deepika Shrivastava	Officer-in-charge (CDN)	UNICEF	09811260888
21	Dr. (Ms) Shariqua Yunus	Programme Officer	WFP	
22	Shri Mukesh Kumar	Program Director	CARE	09350255867
MWCD/NIPCCD				
23	Dr. Shreeranjana	Joint Secretary	MWCD	011-23387683
24	Shri Mahesh Arora	Director	MWCD	011-23389434
25	Dr. A.K. Gopal	Director	NIPCCD	011-26515579
26	Dr. Dinesh Paul	Additional Director	NIPCCD	011-26962447
27	Shri S.C.Srivastava	Dy. Director	NIPCCD	09873074767
28	Shri Naveen Yadav	Under Secretary	MWCD	09873204446
29	Dr. Saroj K. Adhikari	Asstt. Director	MWCD	09968437584
30	Ms Anita Mohan	Section Officer	MWCD	09958419473