

ANMF/ASNEngr/CAN-USA Joint Initiative on Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Nepal

Full Committee and Invited Guest Meeting (Teleconference)

Date: Sunday, September 09, 2012

Time: 9:00 PM –10:30 PM (East Coast USA time)

Dial in phone: 1-213-342-3000 (Los Angeles, CA)/ **Participant Access Code:** 278699

Meeting Minutes

I. Meeting Call to order

Dr. Ramesh B. Malla (Joint Committee Chair and Founding President, ASNEngr) called the meeting of the Full Committee and invited guests of the ANMF/ASNEngr/CAN-USA Joint Initiative on Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Nepal to order at 9:00 PM (EST, U.S.A. time) on September 09, 2012.

II. Roll call

A roll call was requested by the Chair. The following persons were present at the meeting:

1. Ramesh B. Malla, Ph.D. (RBM), Chair, Joint ASNEngr/ASNMF/CAN-USA Earthquake Committee and Founding President of ASNEngr
2. Sunil Sharma, MD. (SS), President ANMF
3. Bineet Sharma (BKS), Founding President, CAN-USA
4. Jagannath Ghimire, P.E. (JG), Vice President, ASNEngr.
5. Upendra Karna, Ph.D. (UK), ASNEngr.
6. Kanhaiya Kayastha, S.E. (KK), Vice Chair, Technical Comm, ASNEngr
7. Sagar Onta, P.E. (SO), ASNEngr.

Absent by notice: Rajendra Shrestha, Ph.D., President, ASNEngr

III. **Review and Modification of Agenda:**

Agenda for the meeting was reviewed and agreed upon by all participants without any modification.

IV. **Comments and Approval of June 10, 2012 meeting minutes:** The meeting minutes of the 10th June, 2012 was reviewed and approved unanimously (proposed by KK and seconded by SS.).

V. **Steering Committee report and update on Joint Committee Structure.**

As a reminder, RBM informed that the ASNEngr/ANMF/CAN-USA Joint Initiative on Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Nepal has 3 sets of committees: Full Committee, Steering Committee, and subcommittees. The Full committee has approximately 8-10 members each from ASNEngr, ANMF and CAN-USA and about 5 members from Nepal. The Steering Committee consists of about 4 members each from

these 3 organizations and 4 from Nepal. In addition, ASNEng, ANMF, and CAN-USA each has its own subcommittees to work on the Earthquake Preparedness initiative. Also the initiative has several invited guests from Nepal and supporting organizations from throughout the U.S. and NRN ICC.

The Steering Committee meets once every month, including every 3 months with the Full Committee, and the Full Committee every 3 months. Since the last meeting on June 10, 2012 of the Full Committee and Invited guests, the Steering Committee met 2 times, on July 08th and August 05th. RBM reported that the Steering Committee's main focus has been working on preparing the position paper on Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Nepal. The Steering Committee has also formed an Editorial Team for the review and editing of the Position paper. There are about 15 members in this team. A more detail discussion s on the position paper status is presented under Item VII below.

VI. ASNEng ANMF and CAN-USA Subcommittee reports:

SS stated that the editing of the position paper is going on for ANMF and that he is waiting for more feedback and inputs from Dr. Pradeep Vaidya from Nepal. SS will submit to RBM for final draft soon.

SS suggested that a list of Nepali professionals on demand should be prepared for emergencies, during disasters. This will be further discussed during the next meeting SS stated that ANMF is already up on this – preparing doctors' list, medical facilities, background, etc, but hasn't put out yet in the web page.

BS stated that preparing a volunteers' list was a good idea. CAN-USA members are already working on it – needs to be prepared properly and so takes time.

SS added that the voluntary list should be from USA only Dr. Pradeep Vaidya is already doing this in Nepal. He suggested that this work, however, should be focused only after completing the current position paper work.

RBM suggested that perhaps this work could be carried out side by side by other members not involved in position paper.

BS added that once ICIMOD (in Nepal) will have own portal then it could be compiled by ICIMOD.

KK presented report from ASNEng subcommittee. Along with several other items, he indicated that ASNEng's part in the position paper was updated and submitted to RBM.

RBM emphasized that it is utmost important to review and revise the position paper document very thoroughly before publishing.

KK reminded that as RBM suggested earlier, filing of Copyright protection of the Earthquake Preparedness position paper that the Steering committee is preparing with the U.S. Library of Congress is important.

VII. Strategy/Concept/Position/ paper on Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Nepal -Status update

RBM reported that the lead individuals from ASNEng (Kanhaiya Kayastha), ANMF (Sunil Sharma), and CAN-USA (Suresh Ojha, SO) and himself are working on editing and rewriting the position paper on Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Nepal. The position paper consists of material contributed by approximately 22 individuals from the U.S., Canada, and Nepal. The position paper has gone through several cycles of writing, rewriting, updating and editing. Currently the Steering Committee/Editorial team are working on Draft 7 of the Position paper.

RBM stated that he is waiting comments from CAN-USA as well as from NSET's comments from Nepal. BS said that he would talk to Amod DixitJyu at NSET and would try to receive his comments by September 20, based on RBM's comments reflected in Draft 6F. SS also indicated that he is waiting feedback comments from Dr. Pradeep Baidya, IOM in certain portion of the ANMF material in the position paper.

RBM mentioned that to move forward without further delay, he was planning to review the input/feedback received as of then from KK, SS and SO, revise the document, and send it back to them with his further comments and questions. He indicated that after one more cycle of revising among the KK, SS, and SO and himself, the status of the document will be discussed at the October 7th meeting of the Steering Committee. As needed, one or two more cycles of revision will be done and then the document should be ready to be sent to the reviewers for final review.

At the August 05th meeting of the Steering Committee, the following 10 members have been identified as the reviewers for the final draft of the position paper: Gaury Adikary, M.D. (ANMF); Pradyumna Amatya, *Ph.D.*, (CAN-USA); Amod M. Dixit, (NSET), Nepal; Upendra Karna, D. Eng., P.E. (ASNEng); Mark Hauswald, M.D. (ANMF); Sanjaya Panday, Ph.D. (IOE Pulchowk), Nepal; Bineet Sharma (CAN_USA); Rajendra K. Shrestha, Ph.D. (ASNEng); Jishnu Subedi, Ph.D. (IOE Pulchowk), Nepal; Pradeep Vaidya, Ph.D. (IOM), Nepal. Other members of the Steering Committee might be called upon for help by the Committee Chair and Chief Editor (RBM) as needed in the future.

RBM will provide reviewers guidelines for the review of the position paper final draft when he sends the document to them.

VIII. Communication /Interaction with relevant institutions/organizations in Nepal

RBM indicated that normal communication with NSET, IOE, IOM, NAST, and US AID in Nepal are ongoing. He also indicated that there has been connection maintained with NSN Global through its Skill Knowledge and Innovation (SKI) Task Force committee (Chair – Dr. Raju Adhikari).

BS informed that the Ham radio communication from Singapore to Kathmandu, through NSET, was successful.

IX. Supporting Organizations and outreach

Nothing specific was discussed under this item.

X. Conferences, Workshops, and meetings

- (a). Joint ASNEng/CAN-USA Annual Conference, Leesburg, VA; May 26-27, 2012
(Hosted by: Greater Washington D.C. Chapter of ASNEng).

RBM indicated that report on this conference was presented at the June 10th meeting. He reiterated that the conference was a great success. About 160 was attended by 160 people. There were 4 technical sessions with total of 15 presentations, 7 of them were on earthquake preparedness and disaster relief in Nepal. A press release has been published and that can be found on the ASNEng website at <http://www.ASNEng.org>

- (b). ANMF Annual Conference , Chicago on May 11-12, 2012.

SS reiterated that the ANMF Annual Conference held in Chicago on May 11-12, 2012. GA stated that there were about 40 attendees and the next year's ANMF annual conference would be in Ann Arbor, MI.

- (c). ANMA/NASeA Convention, Indianapolis, IN, August 31-September 02, 2012

There was a session on Earthquake Disaster relief organized at the ANMA/NASeA Convention, Indianapolis, IN, August 31- September 02, 2012 under the leadership of ASNEng. The session was successful.

- (d). ANA Convention, Dallas, TX, June 29-July 1, 2012

No one attended the ANA Convention in Dallas, TX, June 29-July 1, 2012

- (e) NRN ICC 7th Regional Conference 30th August - 1st September, 2012, Sydney, Australia.

RBM informed that he had received an email from Dr. Raju Adhikari, Chair, Skill Knowledge and Innovation Task Force of NRN ICC from Sydney, Australia, stating that the NRN ICC 7th Regional Conference held in Sydney during 30th August – 1st September, 2012 was very successful and was attended by more than 450 people globally. However, they could not have the earthquake disaster preparedness session. NRNA declaration included the formation of a standing (permanent) S&T committee and establishment of a Science Foundation to support science program, fellowship and innovation in schools.

KK mentioned that he read about the Open University Nepal (OUN) signing an agreement with Nepal Government to start the OUN program in 2013. This is from the NRN ICC 7th Regional Conference, Sydney, Australia.

XI. Open discussion

All attending members discussed and decided to pick up three projects to start from January 2013 which is listed as under:

1. Preparing a list of volunteers with expertise in engineering, science, medicines, information technology, and other useful professional fields from the NRN Diaspora in the USA and other countries, and local individuals in Nepal , as a part of the earthquake

preparedness and disaster relief effort in Nepal and for emergencies when an earthquake hits in Nepal.

2. Preparing and updating course curriculum in Nepal colleges and Universities.

3. Organizing Workshops and Technical Seminars in Nepal to guide for the earthquake preparedness and disaster relief operations in Nepal, including conducting short training courses in this regard.

4. The Steering Committee meeting which is being held once a month. Next meeting of the Steering Committee will be Sunday, October 07, 2012.

XII. Old Business:

There was no old business.

XIII. New business:

See Section XI (Open Discussion) above for detail. Topics discussed included::

- Preparation of “*Engineering, Science and Technology Volunteers’ List for Nepal*” as a part of the earthquake preparedness effort in Nepal;
- Updating course curriculum in Nepal Colleges and Universities;
- Conducting Workshops and Technical Seminars/Trainings in Nepal.

XIV. Next meeting:

Next meeting of the full committee and guests of the Joint Initiative is decided to be held on Sunday, *December 9, 2012 (9:00 PM, East Coast Time, USA)*

As a reminder the Steering Committee meeting will be held on: *Sunday, October 07, 2012. (9:00 PM EST)*

XV. Meeting adjournment

RBM thanked everyone for attending the meeting and supporting the Joint ANMF/ASNEng/CAN-USA Initiative on Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Nepal and adjourned the meeting approximately at 10:15PM.

Minutes drafted by:
Kanhaiya Kayastha, S.E.
December 08, 2012

Review and revision done by:
Ramesh B. Malla, Ph.D., Chair, Committee on Joint ANMF/ASNEng/CAN-USA Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Nepal
December 09, 2012

Joint ANMF/ASNEngr/CAN-USA Initiative on Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Nepal

Full Committee and Invited Guests Meeting (Teleconference)

Date : Sunday, September 09, 2012

Time: 9:00 PM –10:30 PM (East Coast USA time)

Dial in phone: 1-213-342-3000 / **Participant Access Code:** 278699

AGENDA

1. Meeting Call to Order (Ramesh B. Malla, Ph.D.)
2. Introduction /Roll Call – Attendees
3. Review and Modification of Agenda
4. Comments and Approval of minutes from last meeting (June 10, 2012)
5. Steering Committee report (R. Malla)
6. ASNEngr, ANMF and CAN-USA Subcommittee reports - Kanhaiya Kayastha, S.E. (ASNEngr), Sunil Sharma, M.D. (ANMF), and Suresh Ojha (CAN-USA.)
7. Strategy/Concept/Position/ paper on Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Nepal
-Status update (R. Malla)
8. Communication /Interaction with relevant institutions/organizations in Nepal—
(U.S. Embassy, U.S. AID, Nepal Academy of Science and Technology(NAST), Institute of Engineering (IOE), Institute of Medicine (IOM), National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET), Kathmandu Municipality, and others)
9. Supporting Organizations and outreach
10. Conferences, Workshops, and meetings -
 - (a). Update on the 2012 Joint ASNEngr/CAN-USA Annual Conference, Leesburg, VA; May 26-27, 2012 (Hosted by: Greater Washington D.C. Chapter of ASNEngr) – (See attached Press Release.)
 - (b). Update on the ANMF Annual Conference , Chicago on May 11-12, 2012.
 - (c). ANMA/NASeA Convention, Indianapolis, IN, August 31-September 02, 2012
 - (d). ANA Convention, Dallas, TX, June 29-July 1, 2012
 - (e) NRN ICC 7th Regional Conference 30th August - 1st September, 2012, Sydney, Australia.
 - (f). Others
11. Open discussion
 - Future activities
 - Immediate, near future and long term strategies
 - Resources/Funding
 - Mobilizing Nepali diaspora
 - Projects in Nepal
 - etc.....
12. Old Business
13. New business
14. Next meeting:--
 - **Full and Steering Committee** - Sunday, December 09, 2012 (9:00 PM, East Coast Time, USA)
-Tentative
 - **Steering Committee** – Sunday, October 07, 2012 (9:00 PM, East Coast Time)
15. Meeting adjournment