

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

Full Committee and Invited Guest Meeting (Teleconference)

Date: Sunday, December 09, 2012

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

Dial in phone: 1-213-342-3000/ **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 December 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), Committee Chair
2. Sunil Sharma, MD. (SS), President ANMF
3. Upendra Karna, Ph.D. (UK), ASNEngr.
4. Kanhaiya Kayastha, S.E. (KK), Vice Chair, Technical Comm, ASNEngr
5. Suresh Ojha, (SO), (CAN-USA)

Absent by notice:

Gaury Adhikary, ANMA
Pramod Dhakal, Kathmandu
Amod Dixit, NSET, Kathmandu
Nabin Khanal, CAN-USA
Drona Rasaili, Canada
Bineet Sharma CAN-USA
Pradeep Vaidya, IOM, Kathmandu

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 September 09, 2012 meeting minutes:

The meeting minutes of the September 09, 2012 was reviewed and approved unanimously (proposed by U. Karna and seconded by S. Ojha.).

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

RBM reported that the Steering Committee's main focus had been working on preparing and editing the position paper on Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Nepal. RBM also informed that the ASNEng/ANMF/CAN-USA Joint Initiative on "Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Nepal" position paper Draft 10 has been now already sent to the 10 reviewers (6 from U.S. and 4 from Nepal) on November 18, 2012 for their review and providing comments: The names of the reviewers as: given in the September 09, 2012 meeting minutes are as below::

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); Sanjeeb Panday, Ph.D. (IOE Pulchowk), Nepal; Bineet Sharma (CAN_USA); Rajendra K. Shrestha, Ph.D. (ASNEng); Jishnu Subedi, Ph.D. (IOE Pulchowk), Nepal; and Pradeep Vaidya, Ph.D. (IOM), Nepal.

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 Nepal. SS mentioned that Mark Houswald will take a final look. SS will submit to RBM for final draft soon.

KK presented the update from ASNEng subcommittee. He indicated that ASNEng's part in the position paper has already been submitted to RBM, and that he would now wait for the reviewers' comments.

SO gave report from CAN-USA and stated that he has modified little bit in the Post-earthquake section 7 of the position paper. RBM suggested SO to submit the modification together with other edits in the position paper.

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

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) will address the reviewers' comments. Once received the respective revised versions with reviewers' comments incorporated from these 3 individuals, he will then review the revision/edits made, pte everything

together and prepare the next draft (Draft 11) of the document. He will forward the next draft to Dr. Mark Hauswald for proof reading.

RBM added that the proof-read document from Mark will not go to the reviewers again, but will only be circulated among the editors/Associate Editors (RBM, KK, SS and SO) before finalizing.

RBM informed that he already received comments from the 3 or 4 reviewers and are waiting for comments from the rest.

Foreword

Discussion on including the Forewords and the writer(s) for the forewords were discussed. The following possibility was identified for the forewords. The final decision on whether to include the foreword (and if yes, from whom) is to be made by the Editors/Associate Editors (RBM, KK, SS, and SO):

- Foreword from the Nepalese Ambassador to U.S..
- A joint foreword from the presidents of the three organizations: ASNEng, ANMF, CAN-USA
- Foreword and Acknowledgment from the editors of the position paper

Copyright and ISBN No.

RBM stated that he communicated with Ms. Donna Dickert, the person in-charge of book/conference proceedings publications at the American Society of Civil Engineers, with whom he has worked in several ASCE Conference Proceedings publication. Ms. Dickert has provided some useful information regarding on-line publishers for self-publishing the document, how ISBN, and copy right. He will be seeking help from, Bishnu Pandey (ASNEng), one of the Steering Committee members to explore more on these leads.

SO suggested that the position paper document be made free in the beginning and maybe decide later to whether to put a price tag on it in the future.)

KK suggested that it should be made free in the beginning both for on line publishing and for the first 100 hard copies. If in demand, then it can be arranged to be sold through the publisher.

Copyright

SS stated that if it is too complicated to receive the copyright, we should keep the things simple. RBM stated that he would go for copyright registration with the U.S. Library of Congress if it can be achieved quickly. He will check with the ASCE publications again and will get back to us.

Full Committee and Invited Guests Lists

RBM informed that there are about 36 individuals from ASNEng, ANMF, and CAN-USA and other Diaspora organizations and Nepal on the Full Committee, and more than 35 in members in the invited guest list from Nepal, U.S., Canada, Australia, U.N. and others. He emphasized that the lists need to be streamlined to have only the individuals

who have shown some interest in the endeavor. He has written to Nisha Thapa (Can-USA), one of the Steering Committee members seeking here help sort out the lists based on who have attended the meetings of the full committee so far.

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

SS informed that the Ham radio communication meeting would be held in the Bay area on December 30.

IX. **Supporting Organizations and outreach**

Nothing specific was discussed under this item.

X. **Conferences, Workshops, and meetings**

- (a). Joint ASNEng/CAN-USA Annual Conference, Greater San Francisco area, CA; May/June 2013. It was informed that the actual conference date has not yet been fixed.
- (b) ANMF annual meeting will be held in Ann Arbor, MI; in May 2013.

XI. **Open discussion**

Future Activities:

RBM reminded the attendees of the following three projects that were discussed at the last meeting (September 09, 2012) to be undertaken by this Joint Committee in Nepal starting January 2013:

- 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.*

Since the preparation of the Earthquake Preparedness position paper taking majority of the time and resources of the committee, it was decided that those would be taken up as soon as the position paper work is completed.

SO proposed to request Carnegie Mellon University if they already have the list of doctors and other health facilities, with regards to the project #1 listed above.

Resources/Funding

It was discussed how ASNEngr/ANMF/CAN-USA could be involved to look for possible funding resources.

XII. Old Business:

There was no old business.

XIII. New business:

See Section XI above for details of the three projects in Nepal for future action

XIV. Next meeting:

The next quarterly meeting of the Full Committee and guests of the Joint Initiative is decided to be held on Sunday, *March 10, 2013 (9:00 PM, East Coast Time, USA)*

As a reminder, the next monthly meeting of the Steering Committee will be held on: *Sunday, January 13, 2013. (9:00 PM East Coast, U.S.A.)*

XV. Meeting adjournment

RBM thanked everyone for attending the meeting and supporting the Joint ANMF/ASNEngr/CAN-USA Initiative on Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Nepal and adjourned the meeting approximately at 10:45PM.

Minutes drafted by:

Kanhaiya Kayastha, S.E.

March 09, 2013

Reviewed and revision done by:

Ramesh B. Malla, Ph.D., Chair, Committee on Joint ANMF/ASNEngr/CAN-USA Earthquake Preparedness and Disaster Relief in Nepal

March 10, 2013

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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 (September 09, 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). Planning for the 6th Joint ASNEngr/CAN-USA Annual Conference, Greater San Francisco area, CA; May/June 2013, (b). 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, March 10, 2013 (9:00 PM, East Coast Time, USA)
-Tentative
- **Steering Committee** – Sunday, January 13, 2013 (9:00 PM, East Coast time, U.S.A.)
15. Meeting adjournment