To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
All State Governments/Union Territories

Sub : 7th meeting of the National CAMPA Advisory Council, New Delhi: Minutes.

Sir,

A copy of the minutes of the 7th meeting of the National CAMPA Advisory Council held in New Delhi on 03rd November, 2015 under the Chairmanship of the Hon’ble Minister of State for Environment, Forest & Climate Change is enclosed, for Information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

(Rajagopal Prashant)
Asstt. Inspector General of Forests

Encl.: As above

Copy to:

1. Shri R.P. Kapoor, IFS (Retd), Member, NCAC;
2. Prof. P.C. Bhattacharjee, Member, NCAC;
3. DGF&SS/ Addl. DGF (WL)/ Addl. DGF (FC)/ Addl. DGF (PT)/ DG, FSI/ DG, ICFRE;
4. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, all Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change;
5. All Officers of the Forest Conservation Division, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change;
6. PS to Hon’ble MOS (I/C), EF&CC/ PPS to Secretary (E&F)

Encl.: As above
Minutes of the 7th meeting of the National CAMPA Advisory Council held on 3rd November 2015 under the Chairmanship of Shri Prakash Javadekar, Hon’ble Union Minister of State (Independent charge) for Environment Forests and Climate Change.

The Chairman welcomed all participants. A list of participants is at Annexure ‘A’.

AGENDA No.1 : Confirmation of the minutes of 6th meeting:

2. The minutes of the 6th meeting of the National CAMPA Advisory Council (NCAC), held on 6th July 2015 were unanimously adopted and confirmed.

3. The Chairman directed that the proposals in this behalf which have since been received from some other States/UTs may be sanctioned expeditiously. He also exhorted the officers present to come up with more such innovative ideas and proposals.

AGENDA NO.2 : Review of Action Taken Reports:

5. The ‘Action Taken Reports’ on the 6th meeting of the NCAC were taken up next, and the following decisions were taken:

(A) Director General of Forests & Special Secretary to the Government mentioned that following the approval of the School Nursery Yojana, and Nagar Van Udyog Yojana at the last meeting of the NCAC, the proposals for the above two schemes have been received from the Forest Policy Division of the Ministry along with the proceedings of the State Steering Committee of the State CAMPA in respect of Telangana State and an amount of Rs.14.75 lakhs and Rs.1.6471 crores respectively were released to the Telangana State CAMPA, for undertaking tasks relating to the Yojana, in 59 schools, and 5 municipal corporations, respectively. Hon’ble Chairman formally handed over the sanctions letter to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Telanganer.

Chairman also advised that to enhance the flow of submission of proposals for these two schemes, AD (FC) may take up the matter with State PCCFs over phone. It was also advised by the Chairman that Forest Policy Division may seek the list of the cities identified for Nagar Van Udyan Yojana from the States and send the same to the FSI for assessing the status of the forest cover in these cities which may be co-ordinated by ADG(FC).

(B) The task of inter-se prioritization of the Projects approved in-principle in previous NCAC meeting for funding out of the NCAC corpus, which was assigned to a Committee headed by Dr Rekha Pai, IGF(EAP) could not be completed due to the pre-engagement of the members. Now this shall be referred to a Working Sub Group, which shall be constituted under the chairmanship of Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEF&CC; with Shri R P Kapoor, IFS(Retd) as a Member, and the Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEF&CC as Member Secretary. All the proposals agreed in-principle in previous and this meeting of the Council will be evaluated by this Sub Group and recommendations of the Sub Group for individual proposals shall be placed before the Chairman, NCAC for approval of the proposals;

(C) Regarding approval of NCAC for FSI as Centre of Excellence granted in last meeting, the statement of the Director General of Forest Survey of India that action had progressed on all three fronts, viz., procurement of hardware, procurement of
software, and hiring of personnel for strengthening the Regional Offices of the MoEF&CC, was welcomed. DG FSI also stated that the tasks hitherto had been undertaken out of the release of Rs.37.50 crores, representing 50% of the total grant of Rs.75 crores from the NCAC funds.

DG FSI also mentioned that the task of procurement of high resolution imageries from the National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad; was making progress, and a MoU was expected to be entered into with the NRSA shortly. The high resolution imageries would enable a 2' x 2' resolution.

DG FSI was assured that the request for release of the balance funds approved by the NCAC will be considered most expeditiously on receipt of progress of expenditure against released funds;

the IA filed before the Supreme Court of India, was approved. NCAC also accorded ex-post-facto approval to the swearing of the Affidavit in this behalf by Shri Rajagopal Prashant, Asstt Inspector General of Forests (FC), MoEF&CC; It was decided that the IA be placed before the Ad-hoc CAMPA at its next meeting, for expediting action on the prayers made therein;

Quarterly Progress Reports received, wherever funds have been released, should be placed before the NCAC at its next meeting.

AGENDA No.3 - Fresh Items:
6. The ‘fresh’ items on the Agenda were taken up next, and the following ensued:

AGENDA 3(A):
Proposal of the Uttarakhand State Council for Science & Technology, Dehradun:
For setting up of a Centre of Excellence for Western Himalayan Forest Based Livelihood Scientometrics
Dr Kirti Joshi of the Uttarakhand State Council for Science & Technology made a brief presentation of the proposal for establishment of a Centre of Excellence for Forest Science & Technology and its Scientometrics. It was highlighted that the livelihood based collection, collation presentation and analysis of data for forest based livelihood methodologies based on secondary data had not been undertaken by the State or its Agencies so far, and was unique in content and also application. Wide benefits to the dwellers of the forests and its fringes was anticipated as a database on contributions of forest & grassland resources as livelihood in Eastern Himalayan region would help mainstream the concept of sustainable mountain development of the region, into the planning framework, and establish link between forest based livelihoods and ecological and economic concerns and help in planning and execution of sustainable forest management.

After thorough discussion, the Council agreed in-principle for considering the proposal for NCAC funding. It was also decided that instead of undertaking the Project in all the 3 States in the Western Himalayas., viz., Jammu & Kashmir; Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand; the Project will in its Pilot phase be confined to the State of Uttarakhand to begin with. It was also decided that the project proposal be placed before Working Sub Group for further evaluation and final decision before being put up to the Chairman for approval.

AGENDA 3(B):
Proposal of the Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal:
For funding for a Geoinformatics Centre at the institute.
The proposal for setting up a Geoinformatics Centre at the Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal was considered. After thorough discussion the Council agreed in-principle for considering the proposal for NCAC funding and it was also decided that the
project proposal be placed before the Working Sub Group for further evaluation and final
decision before being put up to the Chairman for approval.

AGENDA 3(C):
Proposal of the Barefoot College, Tilonia Ajmer, Rajasthan for CAMPA/ NCAC assistance:
A presentation was made by Shri Bunker Roy of The Barefoot College, Tilonia, Ajmer. He
mentioned that the Institution had a background of over 49 years, and had operated in 69
countries. The proposal was for providing Solar lanterns, and improved Cook Stoves
through training of village based, mostly illiterate women to fabricate, operate and repair
the lanterns and the Cook Stoves.

The Chairman clarified to all concerned that any project considered by the Council shall be
in accordance with the over arching objectives of State CAMPA guidelines which aims at
accelerating activities for preservation of natural forests, management of wildlife,
infrastructure development in the sector and other allied works. Therefore, any activity to
be taken under the project shall be in forest fringe villages and in consultation with the state
forest departments.

The project proponent may, if required, modify its proposal accordingly and place before
Working Sub Group for further evaluation and final decision on it.

Additional items with the permission of the Chair:
(a) Dr H S Ginwal, FRI, Dehradun made a brief presentation on the pilot project for
proposed Centre for Forest Genetics & Breeding at FRI Dehradun. After thorough discussion
the Council agreed in-principle for considering the proposal for NCAC funding and it was also
decided that the project proposal be placed before Working Sub Group for further
evaluation and final decision before being put up to the Chairman for approval.

(b) Dr R P Kapoor, IFS(Retd), Member NCAC circulated a note proposing the following
additional items for consideration:

(1) Management of Grassland Ecosystems under CAMPA projects, envisaging
that it is always better to manage the grassland ecosystems as such so that
their productive potential is sustained and carrying capacity maintained at an
optimum level of productivity. The Council agreed in-principle to the
suggestion of Dr R P Kapoor and recommended that Dr Kapoor may submit
his concept proposal to the Forest Policy Division, who shall examine it for
framing suitable advisory for the State Govt/ State CAMPA;

(2) Engagement of independent Agencies or experts to speed up the work of
carrying out concurrent monitoring and evaluation of these Projects. It was
brought to the knowledge of the members that evaluation of CAMPA
activities is being carried out through e.green watch project being executed
through NIC & FSI. The FSI is sending their evaluation of activities, for which
polygons are uploaded by the States on the website, to the States for
clarification and rectification. However, to supplement this monitoring by
ground truthing, the concept of field inspections of certain percentage of the
works being monitored by e-greenwatch portal is acceptable and Ad-hoc
CAMPA shall examine the suggestion;

(3) The proposal of Prof P C Bhattacharjee, Member NCAC brought to the notice
of the Council that proposal for reducing man animal conflicts was placed
before it in past and shall be considered on priority.
It was also decided that Wildlife Division, MoEF&CC should be asked to expedite their project proposals on augmentation of fodder & water scheme in protected areas.

The meeting ended with Thanks to the Chair.
ANNEXURE

List of officers who attended the 7th meeting of the National CAMPA Advisory Council

1. Shri Prakash Javadekar, Hon’ble Minister Env Forests & CC ... Chairman
2. Dr S S Negi, Director General Forests & Special Secretary
3. Dr R P Kapoor, IFS (Retd)
4. Dr Prof P C Bhattacharjee
5. Shri A A Boaz, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chhattisgarh
6. Shri K S Reddy, Addl Pr Chief Conservator of Forests, Andhra Pradesh
7. Shri A K Saxena, Addl Pr Chief Conservator of Forests, Gujarat
8. Shri M S Negi, IGF.FC MoEF&CC/ Member Secretary NCAC
9. Shri Vinod Ranjan, Addl Director General of Forests (WL), MoEF&CC
10. Shri P K Sharma, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana
11. Dr Anil Kumar, Addl Director General of Forests (FC), MoEF&CC
12. Shri B S Bonal, Addl Director General of Forests (PT), MoEF&CC
13. Dr Anmol Kumar, Director General, Forest Survey of India, Dehradun
15. Sh Anoop Badlwa, Inspector General of Forests, NAEB, MoEF&CC
16. Dr N S Bisht, Director, Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education
17. Dr Suneesh Buzy, Deputy Inspector General of Forests (RT), MoEF&CC
18. Shri Rajagopal Prashant, Asstt Inspector General of Forests, MoEF&CC
19. Dr Y V Jhala, Scientist, Wildlife Instt of India, Dehradun
20. Dr H S Ginwal, Forest Research Institute, Dehradun
22. Dr Ashutosh Mishra, Uttarakhand State Council for Science & Technology
23. Dr Kirti Joshi, Uttarakhand State Council for Science & Technology
24. Shri Bhagwat Nandan, The Barefoot College, Tilonia, Ajmer
25. Shri Laxman Singh, The Barefoot College, Tilonia, Ajmer
27. Ms Leela, The Barefoot College, Tilonia, Ajmer