

No. CPS. 2-3 /2010-NFSM
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture
Department of Agriculture & Cooperation

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

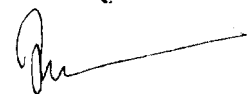
Dated the 14th July, 2010.

Subject: Proceedings of the fourth meeting of the General Council of National Food Security Mission (NFSMGC) held under the chairmanship of hon'ble union Minister of Agriculture held on 23rd june, 2010 at New Delhi

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith a copy of the Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of National Food Security Mission General Council (NFSMGC) held on 23.06.2010 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture, Government of India in the Committee Room No. 142, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi for information and necessary action.

The receipt of this letter may kindly be acknowledged.

Encl: As above.



(A. Neeraja)
Director (Crops)

Distribution (as per list at Annexure-I):

Copy also for information & necessary action to:

1. All Members of NFSM General Council
2. All members of NFSM Cell, DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. Shri S. Bhattacharya, Under Secretary, CA.V, DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

Proceedings of the fourth meeting of the General Council of National Food Security Mission (NFSMGC) held on 23rd June, 2010 at New Delhi

1. The Fourth Meeting of National Food Security Mission General Council (NFSMGC) was held on 23.06.2010 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture Shri Sharad Pawar in Committee Room No. 142, Krishi Bhawan, and New Delhi.
2. The list of participants is given at **Annexure-I**. Agenda was taken up for discussion item by item.
3. Presenting the status review of the NFSM, J.S (Crops) and Mission Director, NFSM, informed that while the targeted production of rice and wheat was on course, pulses remained an area of concern. However, he hoped that the implementation of new initiatives of merger of ISOPOM with NFSM Pulses and promotion of intensive pulses cultivation through Accelerated Pulses Production programme; more area coverage under pulses due to induction of new states of Jharkhand, Assam; development of Pulses & Oilseeds villages etc. would help in accelerating the pulses production in the country. Increase in uptake of inputs such as seed, machinery etc in the last 3 years of mission implementation was cited as an encouraging outcome of the mission. It was informed that constant monitoring and technical support offered to the States had resulted in improved expenditure during 2009-10. Promotion of hybrid rice in Eastern Indian States; aerobic rice in potential areas; Boro Rice cultivation, popularizing the stress tolerant varieties of Rice and SRI method of cultivation were some of the strategies that would result in enhanced production of rice. Need for adopting the Chinese technologies for hybrid rice production, zero budget natural farming etc. for enhanced agriculture production, were additional suggested measures that could be taken to increase production of rice crop. NFSMGC noted the review and directed that more efforts should be put in to achieve higher production levels in pulses and sustaining the momentum in rice and wheat production.
4. **Post -facto Approvals:** NFSMGC approved *post facto* the following proposals as per the agenda notes:
 - a. Extension of distribution subsidy to notified TL seeds of hybrid rice to meet the demand of hybrid rice seeds and to popularize the hybrids amongst the rice growers.
 - b. Inclusion of two newly created districts of Khunti and Ramgarh under NFSM-Rice that were carved out of the earlier NFSM districts of Ranchi and Hazaribagh in Jharkhand State.
 - c. Age relaxation for distribution of seeds of HYV/hybrids of Rice, Wheat and Pulses of beyond 10 years of age under NFSM for the current year(2010-11)
 - d. The revised guidelines for NFSM-Pulses
 - e. Operational Guidelines of newly conceptualized Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3) under NFSM-Pulses

4. **New Approvals:** NFSMGC approved the following new proposals :
- a. **Inclusion of Zero tillage multicrop planter and ridge furrow planter:** Inclusion of the said machinery under Rice, Wheat and Pulses component of NFSM was approved in the existing category of intervention relating to promotion of zero tillage seed drill machine. The assistance would be limited to Rs. 15,000/- per machine or 50% of the cost whichever is lower.
 - b. **Inclusion of Laser Land Leveller:** Inclusion of land leveller under NFSM-Rice, NFSM-Wheat and NFSM-Pulses was approved. This incentivized equipment would be given to a group of farmers/SHG registered under ATMA Scheme or Cooperatives with at least 10 farmers as its members. The pattern of assistance would be Rs. 15,000/- as individual subsidy for each of ten farmers included in the group as in Zero till seed drills upto a maximum assistance of Rs.1.5 lakh or 50% of the cost of the machine unit whichever is less.
 - c. **ICARDA Proposals:** ICARDA made a presentation on the 2 projects, one on "Pre-Breeding and Genetic Enhancement in breaking yield barriers in Kabuli chickpea, barley, wheat, lentil, through ICAR-ICARDA Collaboration" and other on "enhancing Lentil Production for food, Nutritional Security and Improved Rural Livelihoods". The project proposal on pre-breeding of lentil and Kabuli chick pea submitted by ICARDA was approved in principle, keeping in view the necessity of incorporating specific stress tolerant genes/genetic material from the potential areas to indigenous varieties. However, it was decided that initial financial assistance for next 2 years would only be provided from NFSM Pulses budget. For the sub projects on barley and wheat, ICARDA could submit a proposal separately to the States through the State Agriculture Universities for funding support under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana. Other project on "Enhancing Lentil Production in rice fallows was approved in -principle. Detailed budgetary proposal for both the projects would be submitted by ICARDA.
 - d. **ToRs for Midterm evaluation of NFSM:** The Terms Of Reference (ToR) for agencies undertaking the midterm evaluation of NFSM through a Combined Quality cum Cost Based Selection (CQCCBS) method through a consultancy Selection Committee with Agriculture Commissioner as its Chairman was approved.
 - e. On consideration of the justification given in the agenda notes, NFSMGC approved the revision of honoraria of consultants and Technical Assistants/STAs as follows:

Amount in Rupees

Category	Consultants		Technical assistants	
	Original	Approved	Original	approved
National	35,000	35,000	15000	20000
State	20,000	25,000	12,000	16,000
District /A3P	15,000	20,000	8,000	12,000

- f. As proposed in the Agenda notes, the guidelines for release and utilization of funds at National and State level for the publicity campaign on NFSM was approved by the NFSMGC.

5. New implementation approaches:

- a. **Hybrid Rice - Chinese Experience:** Prof. Ashok Gulati from IFPRI India, made a presentation on the subject. He brought out higher investment in research and development, priority for research sector involvement of large number of private agencies in seed production; political will and commitment, Institutional innovation and dynamism and a visionary for the Mission implementation as the primary reasons that led to popularization of hybrid rice in China. Development of continuous market intelligence on consumer preferences, millers' acceptance, relative yield & profitability of hybrids over HYV paddy etc. should be studied and addressed for long term promotion of hybrids. He suggested that a working group could be set up at the National Level with representatives from Public Sector research & policy wings, (including DAC, ICAR), Private Hybrid rice seed research companies; external experts for developing strategies for hybrid rice production and promotion in India. Based on their international experience on food security and issues relating to hybrid rice promotion, he also offered the collaboration with IFPRI as knowledge partner of NFSM in developing the strategies for popularizing hybrid rice and for exchange visits of researchers, development workers, Policy makers etc between India and China.
- b. **PPP model for raising India's Pulses production:** Rallis India (TATA Group) presented their collaborative work done with TN-IAMWARM project in Puddukotai district of Tamil Nadu through extending end to end services like providing quality black gram seeds for farmers, critical technology interventions to increase yield per acre through a package of practices with buy-back arrangement from farmers. It was decided that such efforts should be replicated elsewhere for wider coverage. In this regard, work relating to development of a business model being attempted by Pulses Expert Group under Prof. Y.K. Alagh should be expedited.
- c. **Promotion of SRI through Consortium led by NABARD:** NABARD presented proposal for popularizing SRI in potential rainfed areas through network of NGOs in partnership with the SRI

Dorabjee Tata Trust (SDTT). The project at the end of 5 years would cover 84,000 farmers with an expected increase in productivity of rice by 15-25%. GOI funding under NFSM on 50:50 cost sharing basis between NABARD and GOI was sought. NFSMGC approved the proposal of NABARD in principle but added that the project cost should be shared equally among the three partners SDTT, NABARD and NFSM. Accordingly an amount of Rs. 8 crores over a period of two years was approved. NABARD was asked to submit the detailed revised proposal to facilitate early release of GoI share.

d. Meeting ended with vote of thanks to chair

ACTION POINTS:

1. A circular informing the States on Inclusion of crop planter, ridge furrow planter and laser land leveller under NFSM-Rice, Wheat, Pulses as specified above in point 4 a&b should be issued. Guidelines should be accordingly modified. **(Action: NFSM Cell)**
2. Feasibility of setting up of a working group/ task force with participation of researchers, implementers and policy makers, private sectors for aggressive promotion of hybrids with a special focus on hybrid seed production and promotion should be assessed **(Action: NFSM Cell)**
3. Feasibility of engaging IFPRI as knowledge partner for guidance on implementation strategies of different components of the Mission should be assessed. Exchange visits between India and China for a group of Researchers, Development workers, Policy makers could be an activity under this partnership for devising suitable strategies for promotion of hybrid rice in the country. **(Action: NFSM Cell & IFPRI)**
4. Detailed proposals (with head wise budgetary break up) on pre-breeding of lentil, Chick Pea crops and enhancing lentil production in rice fallows need to be submitted. **(Action: ICARDA/ NFSM Cell)**
5. Process should be initiated for taking up midterm evaluation of National Food Security Mission during 2010-11 as per the ToRs approved **(Action: NFSM Cell)**
6. Orders regarding revised rates of honoraria for consultants and technical assistants at national/state/district level with effect from July 2010 need to be issued. **(Action: NFSM Cell)**
7. Revised guidelines for publicity campaigns should be operationalized from the current kharif crop season at the National level and from the Rabi crop season at the State level **(Action: Extension Division/ NFSM Cell)**
8. Releases of share of NFSM to NABARD should be expedited on receipt of revised budgetary proposal on promotion of SRI through network of NGOs so that the activity could begin from the current Kharif Crop Season **(Action: NABARD, NFSM Cell)**

ANNEXURE-I

S. No.	Name and Designation	Address
1.	Shri Sharad Pawar, Hon'ble AM, GOI.	Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.
2	Shri P.K. Basu, Secretary (A&C)	DAC, New Delhi
3	Shri Swapan Dutta, DDG (CS)	DAC, New Delhi
4	Shri Ashish Bahuguna, Addl. Secretary, DAC	DAC, New Delhi
5	Shri A.S. Lamba, AS & FA	DAC, New Delhi
6	Shri V. Venkatachalam, Addl. Secretary	DAC, New Delhi
7	Dr. Gurbachan Singh, Agriculture Commissioner	DAC, New Delhi
8	Shri G.C. Pati, Addl. Secretary	DAC, New Delhi
9	Shri Mukesh Khullar, JS (Crops)	DAC, New Delhi
10	Smt. A. Neeraja, JS (Crops)	DAC, New Delhi
11	Shri Chanchal C. Sarkar, Deputy Secretary	Deptt. of Expenditure, Min. of Finance, GOI
12	Dr. G.K. Choudhury, Director (W), NFSM	DAC, New Delhi
13	Shri Amit Sridharan, Business Manager	RALLIS India, Mumbai
14	Dr. G. Shankar, Business Manager	RALLIS India, Mumbai
15	Shri Vijay Jha, Manager Registration	RALLIS India, Mumbai
16	Dr. R.K. Gupta, National Consultant, NFSM	DAC, New Delhi
17	Dr. Shanker Lal, National Consultant, NFSM	DAC, New Delhi
18	Shri C.K. Gopalakrishnan, GM,	NABARD
19	Dr. A.P. Singh, Deputy Commissioner (TMOP)	TMOP, DAC, GOI, New Delhi
20	Shri Thomas Varghese, Director (Extension)	DAC, New Delhi
21	Shri N. Suneja, JD (Extension)	DAC, New Delhi
22	Dr. Gyanendra Singh, Principal Scientist	DWR (ICAR), Karnal
23	Dr. R.P. S. Verma, Principal Scientist (Barley)	DWR (ICAR), Karnal
24	Dr. Jag Shoran, Principal Scientist & Project Director (Acting)	DWR (ICAR), Karnal
25	Shri Rajendra Choudhary, Consultant	ICARDA, New Delhi
26	Dr. R.S. Saini, National Consultant	DAC, New Delhi
27	Shri Narendra Kumar, AD (NFSM)	DAC, New Delhi
28	Shri Ashok Gafati, Director	IFPRI, New Delhi
29	Dr. Ashutosh Sarker, Pulse Breeder and Representative (ICARDA)	ICARDA, New Delhi
