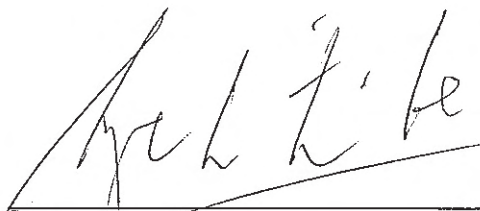


MINUTES OF MEETINGS
BETWEEN
THE JAPANESE MID-TERM REVIEW TEAM
AND
THE AUTHORITIES CONCERNED OF
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALAWI
ON
THE JAPANESE TECHNICAL COOPERATION
FOR
THE PROJECT FOR PILOTING THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PLAN

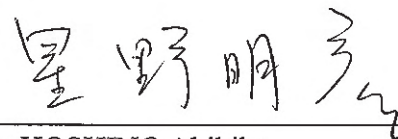
The Japan Mid-term Review Team (hereinafter referred to as “the Team”), organized by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (hereinafter referred to as “JICA”) and headed by Mr. HOSHINO Akihiko, the Deputy Resident Representative of JICA Malawi Office, conducted the Mid-Term Review from 25 January to 22 February 2009. The objectives of the Review were to verify the achievement made so far in “the Project for Piloting the Implementation of the National Education Development Plan” (hereinafter referred to as “the Project”) and to make necessary recommendations for more effective and efficient implementation of the Project.

Based on the Joint Mid-Term Evaluation Report of the Project which was endorsed by Steering Committee Meeting on 12 February 2009, both the Team and the authorities concerned of the Republic of Malawi (hereinafter referred to as “both sides”) exchanged ideas and views on future directions of the Project for the remaining project period, and to confirm the Project plan of the remaining period. Further discussion resulted in both sides agreeing upon the matters referred to herein the attached.

Lilongwe, 20 February 2009



Mr. Moffat Chitimbe
Principal Secretary for
Education, Science and Technology
Government of the Republic of Malawi



Mr. HOSHINO Akihiko
Deputy Resident Representative of Malawi Office
Leader for Japanese Mid-Term Review Team
Japan International Cooperation Agency

Attachment

According to the Joint Mid-term Evaluation Report, it is confirmed that the Project Purpose, “Quality DEPs are annually updated according to district needs and National Education Sector Plan (NESP) in all 34 Education Districts in Malawi”, is likely to be achieved. However, the Team also clarified some issues to be considered by the both sides for more efficient, effective and sustainable project implementation. Based on the recommendations proposed in the evaluation report, both sides agreed the following issues.

1. Critical issues to be clarified

According to the recommendations made in the evaluation report, MoEST agreed that it shall make efforts to clarify the following critical issues for ensuring the significance of the Project:

- 1) A significant role of DEP especially in the implementation of NESP;
- 2) Role of Division especially in DEP planning, implementation and monitoring;

2. Inter-ministerial coordination

MoEST agreed to improve inter-ministerial coordination with MoLGRD for ensuring alignment of DEP and DDP system in the context of decentralisation.

3. Cost-sharing

Budget Plan shall be agreed by both sides as shown in ANNEX I.

4. Allocation of counterparts

MoEST agreed to allocate necessary number of personnel as counterparts for the Project.

5. Revision of Project Design Matrix (hereinafter referred to as “PDM”) and Plan of Operation (hereinafter referred to as “PO”)

In the Mid-term Review, the Team found that, in the original PDM, the Project Purpose can be achieved without some Outputs, as there is not correlation between the Project Purpose and Output 4 and 5. It is also found that the original PDM cannot accurately measure the achievements due to lack of proper indicators. To objectively verify the achievements, it is necessary to properly set the indicators in the PDM. In addition, as PO was not developed at the beginning of the Project based on the original PDM, implementation process of the Project was not timely monitored for the first year.

Considering those issues, the both sides agreed to revise PDM and PO as shown in ANNEX II and ANNEX III respectively.

6. Revision of bodies in running the Project

The both sides agreed to amend “Annex VI. BODIES IN RUNNING THE PROJECT” in the R/D as shown in ANNEX IV. The main points of the amendment are as follows:

- 1) Incorporation of Technical Working Group (TWG) for the Project into a broader TWG on “Governance and Management” set by the MoEST;
- 2) Introduction of “Core trainer system”.



7. Amendment of the project title

During the Preparatory Study conducted through the 2006, the necessity to amend the project title, which was originally given as “the Project for Piloting the Implementation of the National Education Development Plan” in the request document, had already been identified according to the change of the surrounding circumstance. Although the necessary procedure was not followed at that time, it is still crucial that an appropriate project title is given in order to properly describe the content of the Project. Considering such a situation, amendment of the title is proposed by the authorities concerned of the Republic of Malawi as follows. However, since it is required to ensure consistency with international agreements, necessary procedure is to be followed between the governments. After the procedure is completed, the amendment will be confirmed.

Original: **“The Project for Piloting the Implementation of the National Education Development Plan”**

Amended: **“The Project for Supporting District Education Plans Institutionalisation Programme (DEPIP)”**

