Subject: Proceedings of the 1st Meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) Of National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) held on 16th September, 2014 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi

The undersigned is directed to forward a copy of the Minutes of the Executive Committee (EC) of National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm held on 16th September, 2014 under the Chairmanship of the Hon’ble Agriculture Minister at Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Hall, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi for information and necessary action.

It is requested that the Action Taken Report may kindly be furnished to the undersigned for placing the same before the next EC Meeting.

Encl. As above.

(M.N. Sukumaran)
Director (OS)

Distribution:

A. All members of EC

1. Shri Ashish Bahuguna, Secretary (A & C), DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Dr. S. Ayyappan, Secretary (DARE) & DG (ICAR), Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. Shri Avinash K. Srivastava, Additional Secretary, DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. Shri Raghav Chandra, Additional Secretary & FA (DAC), Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. Dr. J. S. Sandhu, Agriculture Commissioner, DAC, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.
7. Shri Deepak Kumar, Joint Secretary, Food & PDS, Krishi Bhawan.
8. Shri R. K. Tiwari, Executive Director, NOVOD Board, Gurgaon.
10. Shri Amit Bhatnagar, DGM, TRIFED, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, 2nd Floor NCUI Building, 3, Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi-16.
11. Shri Sanjay Lohiya, Joint Secretary (QS), Mission Director & Member Secretary.
Proceedings of the 1st Meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) held on 10th September, 2014 at Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi

The 1st meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of NMOOP was held on 10th September, 2014 under the Chairmanship of Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Agriculture Minister and Chairman, EC at Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Hall, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi.

The list of participants is annexed.

1. While welcoming the Chairman and other members of the Committee, Addl. Secretary (AKS) gave a brief background of the oilseed sector. He also suggested some new initiatives under the programme like a study on “Assessment of oil losses through Oil Cakes/Rice Bran” and educating the consumers about balanced use of vegetable oils in their diet, which otherwise generally includes excess quantity of invisible fat, and could help in curtailing the import of vegetable oils.

2. Joint Secretary (Oilseeds) & Mission Director NMOOP made a presentation covering demand and supply, targets, allocation, strategies, initiatives, area coverage, progress and major issues of concern in implementation of the programme.

3. Ex-post facto approvals

   - Guidelines of NMOOP: Approved.
   - Inclusion of SFAC as Central Seed Agency under MM-I: Agreed, subject to the condition that the seed is produced and supplied through FPOs with assured certification and quality. The Committee also desired that the inclusion of other similar agencies like NAFED, HIL, IFFCO and KRIBHCO as seed supplier under this programme may be examined with reference to their seed production capacities/capabilities.
   - Continuation of need based project staff of ISOPOM under NMOOP: Approved, subject to the condition that these posts will not be extended beyond 31st March, 2015.
   - Enhancement of 1% allocations to 5% allocations under “Local Initiatives” and change of nomenclature as “Mission Management Expenses”: Approved.
   - Relaxation of age limits of oilseed varieties: Approved, but the States were advised to tie up appropriate seed production programmes in advance to ensure availability of suitable varieties of seeds for next and future years.
   - Change of subsidy on supply of planting material of Oil Palm under MM-II: Approved.
   - Inclusion of NE States under NMOOP: Approved.
4. Monitoring of programme: Four presentations on oil palm, soybean, groundnut and sesame were made by the States of AP, MP, Gujarat and Rajasthan, as per highlights given below:

4.1 Oil Palm: A presentation indicating district wise potential, area covered, oil processing capacity, progress of implementation and issues relating to subsidy under various components of MM-I (Oil Palm) was made by Horticulture Commissioner, Government of Andhra Pradesh. So far, an area of 1.35 lakh ha has been covered under Oil Palm plantation in 8 districts of AP as against the potential of 4.29 lakh ha. An average yield of 12 MT/ha and maximum yield of 40 MT/ha of FFB have been recorded. Thirteen processing units with a crushing capacity of 240 MT FFB per hour have been installed in the State. He raised the following issues to attract the farmers for oil palm cultivation.

- Enhancement of subsidy on planting material, cost of maintenance, inter-cropping, drip irrigation and bore well at par with OPAE, a sub-scheme of RKVY.
- Increase in import duty of oil palm.

It was clarified that States/Agencies are free to supply indigenous or imported planting material as per their suitability & requirement, but the subsidy thereon would remain the same. However, proposal for revalidation of unspent balances of RKVY, enhancement of subsidy under micro-irrigation, and for advancing provision for maintenance cost from 4th year to 1st year would be examined in the Division.

4.2 Soybean: A presentation indicating rainfall pattern, area, production and productivity trends of soybean in MP, coverage and crop prospects of soybean during Kharif-2014, progress of fund utilization, initiatives taken by the State and suggestions for change in Guidelines of NMOOP was made by Joint Director (Oil Seeds), Government of MP. An area of 55.81 lakh ha has been covered under soybean during Kharif-2014 as against the highest coverage of 65.36 lakh ha during Kharif – 2013 due to delayed monsoon during current year. However, the current rain have significantly improved the crop condition and higher productivity of 1100 kg/ha is expected against the productivity of 765 kg/ha of last year (Kharif-2013). Technologies like inter-cropping of soybean with arhar, replacement of upland paddy and adoption of ridge-and-furrow system are popular in the state. The state government requested to consider the following issues under NMOOP.

- Age relaxation of soybean varieties up to 15 years.
- Ensuring timely supply of oilseed minikits.
- Allow power sprayers instead of Taiwan sprayers.
- Enhancement of subsidy on water carrying pipes.
- Enhancement of age from 5 to 10 years under Variety Specific Targetted Seed Production.
4.3 Groundnut: A presentation indicating rainfall situation, area, production and productivity trends, coverage during Kharif, and progress of implementation of NMOOP in Gujarat was made by Joint Director (Oil Seeds), Government of Gujarat. An area of 12.24 lakh ha has been covered under groundnut during Kharif-2014 as against the coverage of 17.48 lakh ha during Kharif -2013, due to delayed monsoon during current year. However, the crop condition is satisfactory and no major diseases/pests has been reported so far. An average productivity of 1673 kg/ha has been estimated for Kharif-2014. The state is celebrating Krishi Vikas Year-2014 with focus on micro-irrigation, supply of gypsum, mechanization, etc..

4.4 Sesame: A presentation indicating potential for Sesame cultivation in Rajasthan, constraints in production and future strategies was made by Additional Director Agriculture, Government of Rajasthan. An area of 4.42 lakh ha has been covered under sesame during Kharif-2014 as against the coverage of 3.96 lakh ha during Kharif 2013. The crop condition is satisfactory and no diseases/pests has been reported so far. The state requested for supply of small size seed storage bins.

4.5 In addition to aforesaid presentations, Commissioner of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra informed that the sowing of soybean was delayed in Maharashtra due to late onset of monsoon. However, an area of 37.48 lakh ha has been covered under soybean as against the normal area of 30.08 lakh ha and highest ever coverage of 39.00 lakh ha during Kharif-2013. The ongoing rains during September have brightened the prospects of soybean production in Maharashtra. He also requested for change of size and subsidy of seed storage bins and inclusion of sulphur 90% powder (FCO grade) instead of sulphur (80% WDG) under MM-I.

Joint Secretary (OS) informed that both the issues are being examined by the Department and a decision would be communicated shortly to all the States.

5. Comments by the EC members.

Agriculture Commissioner, DAC shared information about his extensive field visits undertaken in various States and reported good crop condition of soybean and groundnut during Kharif -2014.

AS & FA, while sharing information about his recent visit to MP, said that the crop condition of soybean is excellent in the State. He also said that demand for additional funds for large scale adoption of Micro-Irrigation System (MIS) could be justified in view of huge investment on import of vegetable oils.

Secretary (A&C) desired that all the States should undertake district and crop wise analysis of area, production and productivity of oilseeds and concentrate the activities of Mission in the potential districts for better impact.
Hon’ble AM and Chairman EC desired to know about the development of improved varieties/genotypes of Neem and Mahua and possibilities of rejuvenation of their old plantations. He also directed that possibilities for additional funds may be explored for large scale adoption of MIS in oilseeds. Other issues like increasing the import duty of palm oil and transfer of maintenance cost from fourth year to first year under oil palm component of NMOOP may be examined by the Department.

Secretary DARE & DG, ICAR informed that no improved varieties of Neem and Mahua have been developed by the Council. Such research work is carried out by the Indian Council of Forestry & Research Education (ICFRE).

6. Action Points

The action points emerging after the deliberations are summarized as under:

- A proposal for increase of import duty on palm oil may be prepared and send to Ministry of Finance (Action: Trade Division, DAC).
- A proposal for exploring the possibilities of additional funds for large scale application of MIS in oilseeds may be prepared and send to Ministry of Finance (Action: Oil Seed/NMSA Division, DAC).
- The request of the States for enhancement of subsidy on water carrying pipes may be examined (Action: Oil Seed Division, DAC).
- Replacement of word “Taiwan Sprayers” with “Power Sprayers” under the Guidelines of NMOOP (Action: Oil Seed Division, DAC).
- Examination of proposal to transfer cost of maintenance from 4th year to 1st year under oil palm component of NMOOP (Action: Oil Seed Division, DAC).
- Review of R&D work on improvement of genotype of Neem and Mahua carried out by ICFRE/CSIR/NOVOD Board (Action: ICAR).

The meeting was ended with Vote of Thanks to the Chair.
List of participants of first meeting of Executive Committee (EC) of NMOOP held on 10th September, 2014 under the Chairmanship of Hon’ble Agriculture Minister.

A. Members:
1. Shri Ashish Bahuguna, Secretary (A & C), DAC
2. Dr. S. Ayyappan, Secretary (DARE) & DG (ICAR)
3. Shri Avinash K. Srivastava, Additional Secretary, DAC
4. Shri Raghav Chandra, Additional Secretary & FA, (DAC)
5. Dr. J. S. Sandhu, Agriculture Commissioner, DAC
7. Shri Deepak Kumar, Joint Secretary, Food & PD, Krishi Bhawan.
8. Shri R. K. Tiwari, Executive Director, NOVOD Board, Gurgaon.
9. Dr. J. P. Mishra, Adviser (Agriculture), Planning Commission
10. Shri Amit Bhatnagar, DGM, TRIFED, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, 2nd Floor NCUI Building, 3, Sri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi-16.
11. Shri Sanjay Lohiya, Joint Secretary (O S), Mission Director & Member Secretary

B. Other invitees:
1. Dr. S. Arulraj, Director, Directorate of Oil Palm Research, Pedavegi, AP.
2. Shri Sanjay Khatal, Director (Comm.), N.S.C., Pusa Campus, New Delhi.
4. D.V. Barot, Joint Director, Govt. of Gujarat.
5. Shri Amar Singh P., Joint Director, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.
6. Shri Umakant Dangat, Commissioner of Agriculture, Govt. of Maharashtra.
7. Shri Sanjeev K. Chadha, Mission Director, Govt. of Odisha.
8. Shri P. Vnniaraajan, Dy. Director, Govt. of Tamil Nadu.
9. Dr. Shital P Sharma, Addl. Director, Govt. of Rajasthan.
10. Shri M. P. Singh, Mission Director, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh.
11. Shri T. K. Das, DDA (Oilseeds), Govt. of West Bengal.
12. Shri R.S. Dixit, Joint Director, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh.
13. Shri P.D. Sharma, Assistant Director, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.
14. Shri D.B. Deshmukh, Joint Director, Govt. of Maharashtra

C. DAC, Ministry of Agriculture, GOI:
1. Dr. D. P. Mallik, ADC (Crops), DAC
2. Dr. Anupam Barik, Addl. Commissioner, DAC
3. Shri M.N. Sukumar, Director (Oilseeds), DAC
4. Shri Karanjit Singh, Deputy Director (OS), DAC
5. Shri M.K. Nirbhheek, Under Secretary, DAC
6. Dr. J.P. Singh, Consultant, Oilseeds, DAC
7. Dr. Manoranjan Dutta, Consultant, Oilseeds, DAC
8. Shri Mahesh Chander, Programme, DAC
9. Shri T.P. Singh, Assistant Director, DAC
10. Shri Jitendra Kumar, Assistant Director, DAC
11. Smt. G. Sandhya Ranj, Assistant Director, DAC