

Report of the Regional CCM: December 15, 2013



Regional CCM Meeting in Kabul

Justice & Governance in Eastern Afghanistan (JGEA)
(Logar, Khost, Paktia)

Meeting Report

Fourth Regional Commission on Conflict Mediation

Meeting attendees

Members of Provincial CCMs:

- Hajji Mohd. Rasool Tanai (Khost)
- Hajji Shah Khan(Khost)
- Hajji Nawab Khan(Khost)
- Murad Khan Mangal(Khost)
- Mohd. Laiq Mangal (Paktia)
- Maulavi Mohd. Hanif (Paktia)
- Malik Mata Khan (Paktia)
- Abdul Malik(Paktia)
- Hajji Sangeen(Paktia)
- Pacha Zareen Khail (Logar)
- Hajji Mohd. Dawud Milma (Logar)
- Mohammad Riza Jawadi (Logar)
- Hajji Mohd. Qaseem (Logar)
- Dagarwal Nik Mohammad (Logar)
- Dr.Mohammad Deen (Logar)
- Hajji Abdul Rahman (Logar)

Date: December 15, 2013

Time: 9:30am-12:30pm

Facilitator: Dawud Shah Neiazee (Kabul Liaison Officer)

Overview

The fourth meeting of the RCCM was held on Sunday December 15, 2013 in JGEA support centre Kabul. 16 members from provincial CCMs and 3 provincial Liaison Officers attended the meeting. The meeting began with few verses of Holy Quran. The Kabul then welcomed the participants and shed light on the agenda of the meeting. The RCCM meeting started at 9:30am and finished at 12:30pm in the afternoon. The fourth meeting of the RCCM occurred soon after the third meeting, and so was used to both discuss major issues, and to follow up on issues discussed during the third RCCM meeting. Discussions proceeded as follows:

- First: Each CCM presented their topics and as well as their progress
- Second: Discussion and suggestions of RCCM members on topics selected by each CCM
- Third: suggestions and requests of the RCCM members

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Topics selected for RCCM

Following topics were selected for RCCM which were explained by the relevant provincial liaison officers and pointed the importance of the topics selected and the progress and efforts made by the provincial CCMs related to their resolution so far.

Logar CCM:

Inter-tribal and provincial conflict

1. Conflict over Khaki *dasht* (desert) between Kuchis and locals residents.
2. Conflict over Ashak Mountain and forest between the residents of Logar and Paktia provinces.

Paktia CCM:

Inter-tribal conflicts

1. Conflict over a township known as Askari famili where about 1000 families reside. Most of the residents have received some sort of documents and most of them have been residing for about 30 years. The conflict has three aspects which are as following:
 - The Government,
 - Salo Khail tribe and
 - The residents of the township
2. A piece of land located in Patan district where Zazi and Mangal tribes have a conflict, and which it is feared may escalate to a big fight.

Khost CCM:

Marriage and related issues

1. *Walwar* (Dowry price)
2. *Bad* (giving of a girl as compensation in murder cases)
3. *Mahr* (dower)
4. *Meeras* (inheritance)
5. *Badal* (Exchange Marriage)
6. *Hajj* (high expense thereof)

Suggestion and requests of the RCCM

Logar CCM topics and decision of RCCM

1. *Conflict over Khaki dasht (desert) between Kuchis and local residents*

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The RCCM members made the decision that for the time being the focus should be on how to maintain and enforce a ceasefire between the two conflict parties, in order to avoid violence: because, this is such a big conflict, where resolution in the near future is not possible without government involvement, and extremely unlikely before the 2014 presidential elections. To this point, the government has not been able to send the land clearance commission to the conflict site, because of insecurity and delays related to bureaucratic procedure.

2. *Conflict over Ashak Mountain and forest between the residents of Logar and Paktia provinces*

The Logar project team conducted a detailed study of the conflict where they found out that the conflict is in fact not among the residents of Logar and Paktia provinces. Rather, the conflict is among Mangali tribal members resident in Azra district Logar province. The RCCM decided that the Logar CCM by itself should approach the conflict and find a better solution.

Paktia CCM topics and RCCM decisions

1. *Conflict over a township known as Askari famili whereabouts 1000 families reside.*

The RCCM members decided that conflict is beyond the level of their efforts and is impossible to be resolved without government involvement (which, as in the Logar case, is not likely before the election). With that said, the current government does not seem able to address such land related issues, for at least the following three reasons: 1) the government is very busy in different transitional periods, 2) corruption, and 3) bureaucracy in the government. Nevertheless the Paktia CCM should keep their ears open to avoid violence.

2. *Conflict between Zazi and Mangal tribes over a piece of land located in Dand Patan district of Paktia*

Violence took place between Zazi and Mangal tribes and many people from both sides have been killed and injured during the fighting. The Paktia and Khost CCM members, along with government officials, together made their efforts and were able to arrange a ceasefire and prevent the conflict escalating to other districts of the province. The CCM members convinced the two parties to resolve it through peaceful means rather than violence, so finally both parties decided to refer the case to the Paktia provincial court for final decision. The RCCM advised the Paktia and Khost CCMs to follow up with the enforcement of the ceasefire between the two the conflict parties until the final decision is made by the court.

Khost CCM topics and RCCM decisions

The Khost CCM drew the attention of the RCCM to the issues of **Walwar** (Dowry price) **Bad** (giving of a girl in murder cases), the practice of **badal** (exchange of girls between two families), **Mahr** (dower) and **Meeras** (inheritance), along with **Hajj high expenses**.

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In fourth meeting the RCCM further decided that each provincial CCM should develop a set of guidelines for dealing with family issues (such as bride price, dowry, etc.). Each provincial CCM will develop its own guidelines in close coordination and consultation with *Ulama* (religious scholars), provincial councils, DoWA, and community leaders, and the draft guidelines will be shared with the RCCM when next it meets.

Demands/requests of RCCM members

The directors/heads of mines department, tribal affairs department, information and culture department and environmental protection department demanded from the Logar CCM to help them in preventing smuggling of mining extracts and historical items/assets. The issue has been shared with RCCM members and they decided that the issue is beyond their authority, but have the responsibility to preach in their communities through Mullahs/Imams to take part in preventing the smuggling of underground resources in Logar province and as well the two other provinces Paktia and Khost.

Absent from meeting

All constituent groups were asked to identify alternates to serve in the absence of a representative in the upcoming RCCM meeting.