

## **Situational analysis**

Number of important governmental shifts took place in Tajikistan at the end of January. The Head of the Government has appointed Ms. Rukiya Kurbonova as new Vice-Prime Minister on social policy issues on 26 January 2008. Before she worked as the mayor of Kurgan-Tube and earlier as a head of Healthcare department of the Government of Tajikistan.

Mrs. Khairiniso Yusufi (ex-Vice-Prime Minister and Chairman of CAAP Regional Steering Committee) was moved to position of the Chairman of the Committee on women affairs under the Government of Tajikistan

The Healthcare Minister, Ms. Ranokhon Abdurahmanova was dismissed “in connection with changing of the job”. Mr. Nucratullo Salimov who worked as the First Deputy Minister of health was appointed as Tajikistan’s Minister of health.

## **COMPONENT 1. REGIONAL COORDINATION AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

### **Sub-component 1.1. Regional HIV/AIDS Coordination and Policy Development**

The CAAP Annual Work Plan discussion was in a focus of the meeting which took place in Bishkek on January 11 between the CAAP Executive Director, Prof. Meimanaliev and newly appointed Minister of health of Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Mambetov M.A. and the Major State Sanitary doctor of the Republic, the Deputy health Minister of KR, Mr. Abdikarimov C.T. CAAP Component 1 Coordinator and Project National Coordinator in KR also participated in the meeting. The main directions of the Project’s activity were presented and a joint plan of activity for 2008 was discussed and signed.

### ***Sub-component 1.2. Surveillance and Regional Monitoring and Evaluation Systems.***

#### **Strengthening M&E system**

For the reported period Project M&E Specialist:

- Carried out revision of functional duties of national M&E specialists, specialists-coordinators of training programs. The letter-substantiation was prepared to be approved by World Bank.
- Started to collect database on the Project indicators which were approved by the World Bank December mission.
- The work-plan of the Project on M&E for 2008 was completed together with GAMET Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant, Mr. Boris Sergeyev. The revision of the Project Manual on M&E was discussed as well. Detailed plan on adaptation of MIS/CARHAP program (registration form of clients, trainings and report forms) was worked out.

National M&E Specialists held consultations and rendered methodical assistance to heads/coordinators of sub-projects to make final report as well as on the forms of program report. Preparatory work was done to forthcoming international conference: “Evaluation of HIV/AIDS situation and counteraction measures against spreading of HIV infection in Central Asian countries” in all National offices of the Project (confirmation of participants’ list, logistic issues). The Conference is scheduled to be held in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic on March 11-13. It is planned to be held in the framework of Project’s collaboration with international organizations-partners (CDC and GFATM).

The meeting on presentation of M&E Manual, national strategy on sharing of information and report of the department's PARC (planning, analysis, reaction and coordination) work took place in Tashkent on 15 January 2007.

### **Electronic supervision program**

The local consultant was hired to assist in creating electronic supervision system for HIV/AIDS cases in Central Asia;

Term of reference (ToR) to hire the international consultant on development of computer program of electronic supervision for HIV and AIDS cases was agreed with World Bank, the competition was announced;

Negotiations are being carried on with National Center of AIDS prevention in Ukraine to study specialists from CA countries ES System for HIV and AIDS cases which was inculcated in Ukraine.

### **Sentinel Epidemiological Surveillance (SES)**

- The list of trainers was agreed and negotiations with heads of Republican AIDS Centers in the Project countries were carried out to prolong the contracts with hired local specialists to hold events on SES and ES for HIV and AIDS cases in 2008.

- The seminar took place on advanced training system of securing and quality control of laboratory investigations (Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan on 15-18 January 2008).

- The seminar was prepared and held on analyzing of data in the program EpiINfo for new pilot sites of Uzbekistan (Tashkent, on 21-24 January 2008). Certifications were presented to all participants.

- Negotiations were carried out with firms-providers for SES tests of Russian production and the Company ABBOT. The agreement was achieved that providers of Russian tests will reregister tests in the Republic of Kazakhstan at the beginning of 2008 then they will register tests in Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Representatives of the Company ABBOT with the help of Project's National Coordinators will look for partners to register tests.

Inquiry was sent to each project participating country about certification of laboratory equipment to discover antibodies to HIV and further test for its validity after finishing guarantee time. Note: RGMU purchases certified laboratory equipment and that's why it is not a subject to be certified while delivering to the Project participating countries. After finishing guarantee time the equipment goes to over the organization that took it. There are orders of the Healthcare Ministries of each country to check delivered laboratory equipment for budget assets.

The letter-inquiry was prepared to get permission for import of second lot of tests for SES in Kyrgyzstan. The permission which was given for 2007 is valid for 2008 in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

Time of planned seminar (for pilot regions) on inculcation of data in EpiInfo program in Tajikistan (lack of electro energy) was postponed to April 2008 because of technical difficulties.

### **Communication Strategy Promotion**

Communication and Strategy Coordinator started to develop Project's communication strategy for 2008 taking into account comments and suggestions, given by the World Bank mission results of work (December 2007).

The following information was placed on the Project's web-site: Regional Technical Work Group (RTWG) on PLWH treatment and care issues working meeting in Tashkent (22-25 January); SPP 1st Grant round realization report as well as information about selection and signing the Framework Agreement with the winners of small grants of the 2nd RAF Grant Round.

Term of reference was developed to design "CAAP E-office" software program.

Information about RTWG working meeting in Tashkent on PLWH treatment and care issues appeared in some Mass-Media of Uzbekistan (in particular, newspaper "Busnes Vestnik Vostoka", IA Turkiston, Uzbekistan State Republican Radio and TV).

Annual Report of activity of Central Asia AIDS Control Project in 2007 was prepared.

### ***Sub-component 1.3. Human Resources Development***

National offices held preparatory work on holding meeting of Regional Technical Working Group on M&E planned to be conducted in Almaty on February 6, 2008 as well as the First regional training course on PLWH treatment and care in Tashkent (11-15 February 2008).

#### **Regional Training Courses (RTC)**

The first meeting of Regional technical working group on advancement of Regional Training Center (RTC) on issues of treatment, care and support of PLWH was held in Tashkent on January 22-24, 2008. Report was prepared and sent to all participants and interested parties.

Developed materials were discussed; training program for first training ToT course of the RTC was designed. It was agreed that a first basic ToT course of multi-disciplinary teams from four Project-member countries will take place in Tashkent on 11-15 February 2008.

MoU draft on collaboration between CAAP and WHO was prepared and sent to WHO European office for consideration.

The draft of joint action plan between the Project and the International organization AIHA was developed on advancement of RTC in Uzbekistan.

The list of participants including into Regional Technical Working Group on advancement of RTC in Uzbekistan was revised and renewed. Term of reference for RTWG members was reviewed and a new draft was sent to RTWG members for discussion.

The draft of joint action plan with the CARHAP was made. The plan will be revised and accepted after working visit of the Projects specialists to Vilnius (Lithuania) in the second part of February. The goal of the trip is to exchange of experience and the establishment of close collaboration with Training Center on harm reduction for the countries of European region.

International Organization of Migration (IOM) of Tajikistan has completed its work on developing training modules for RTC of Tajikistan.

Editing of 19 training modules of training course on harm reduction was completed in Kyrgyz Republic. Modules were sent to CARHAP and AFEW for review.

## **COMPONENT 2 Central Asia Regional AIDS Fund**

### **Monitoring 1st RAF Grant Round:**

Collection and analysis of monthly reports of sub-projects of the First RAF Grant Round is still going on. Final appraisal (planned for February 2008) of fulfillment of tasks for sub-projects who finished their activities will be given after conducting of final program monitoring by

visiting working group to the place of location and after provided reports of results of monitored sub-projects in the future.

Total sum of payment for 1st Grant round as of January 1, 2008, is 1 million 110 thousand USD/ It includes payments on large SPPs-\$ 732 900 USD; small SPPs- \$ 367 100 USD.

### ***Second Grant Round RAF:***

The procedures of signing Framework Agreements (FA) with grant recipients of small grants and UNDP country offices were completed in all the Project countries in January. FA were signed with 9 grant recipients in Kazakhstan, in Kyrgyz Republic -8, in Uzbekistan-29 grant recipients of small grants for the Second GR of RAF. Framework Agreements with grant recipients of small grants in Tajikistan will be signed in February 2008.

### ***Preparation To start 3-rd RAF Grant Round:***

- Term of reference was developed to hire the consultant on reviewing of RAF strategy; WB approved TOR.
- Production of 3<sup>rd</sup> Grant round information campaign video and audio spots has started.
- Placing additions and changes in the RAF directive documents together with the consultant.

### **Working meetings, business trips**

The group of representatives of legislative and executive power, NGO of the Project-participant countries and RAF Coordinator took part in the work of the First Asian Consultant Meeting on issues of HIV prevention among drug users. The meeting took place in Goa, India on January 28-31. The report about the trip was submitted to World Bank.

RTC Coordinator had a meeting with the Head of the mission of International Organization of Migration and its Regional Specialist in Kazakhstan. The theme of the meeting was: issue of collaboration in the area of promotion RTC on the work with migrants and members of their family.

M&E Coordinator held working meetings together with GAMET Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist Boris Sergeyev:

- 25 January Mr. Aleksey Ilnickii, UNAIDS specialist. Topic of the meeting : discussion of M&E Manual's draft for the Project of AIDS Control in CA; discussion of advancement plan of regional information database CARISA
- 25 January Mr. Baurzhan Zhushupov, CDC specialist; Topic of the meeting: discussion of registration form in the framework of sub-projects realization for vulnerable group of population; discussion of questionnaire for vulnerable group of population to fulfill monitoring and evaluation of sub-projects, working with these groups of population
- 21 January Ms. Anna Deryabina, Deputy Regional Director of the Capacity Project; Topic of the meeting was: holding of regional conference together for M&E national specialists in April 2008; discussion of plan of joint activities on advancement of regional information database (CARISA) on the national level in each Project participating countries.

ES and SES Coordinator took part in:

-as an observer in the meeting of Committee of Competition on application selection, held by AIDS Association-NGO of Kyrgyz Republic "Anti AIDS". Goal of the competition: providing financially the projects, oriented for strengthening of PLWH community and people, dealing with epidemic, with the purpose of drawing them into process of making decisions on national

and regional levels; as well as for the purpose of improving access of PLWH to services of prevention, treatment, care and support. The work is being held in the framework of large SPP realization of Regional AIDS Fund.

- in the meeting of round table on discussion of country report of Kyrgyz Republic on fulfillment of Declaration of adherence to fight against AIDS (UNGASS) for the period 2006-2007 with presenting the information about the Project's activity on introduction of SES and ES for HIV and AIDS cases and measures which were done in 2007.

National Coordinator in Kyrgyz Republic had meetings:

- with the representatives of Fund Soros-Kyrgyzstan and national coordinator of the project CARHAP. Following issues were discussed: Joint activity plan, sharing of information on the Project plans for 2008, discussion of joint activity and collaboration in the field of grant program (avoiding of duplication, sharing of information about grant recipients and others).
- took part in the First National Forum of AIDS-service NGOs of Kyrgyz Republic (Bishkek, 23-25 January 2008)

National Coordinator in Republic of Tajikistan had meetings:

- with Mr. Salimiv N.F., newly appointed Minister of Health and Mr. Mirzoev A.S., Mayor State Sanitary doctor of Tajikistan. The Minister of Health was informed with main directions of the Project activities. Further plans for collaboration for 2008 were discussed.
- with the representative of the Capacity Project to discuss the possibility of holding the Forum AIDS-service NGOs of Tajikistan in the second quarter of 2008. The working group was established to create the program draft of the Forum.

---

Project site [www.caap.info](http://www.caap.info)