JOINT STATEMENT Khanbogd Soum Tripartite Council

Khanbogd soum Umnugobi aimag

Community Interaction Center February 25, 2016

Khanbogd soum Tripartite Council (TPC) regular meeting, held at the Community Interaction Center on February 25, 2016, has been an extended meeting as not only TPC members but other parties also attended the meeting, making it special. In addition to Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO) facilitators, experts and researchers from Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) and Independent Experts' Panel (IEP) attended the meeting for the first time. MDT is contracted for a socio-economic study of Khanbogd soum herder households and is composed of researchers from JSL Consulting, University of Oxford and the Institute for Geography and Geo-Ecology of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences. The IEP, behind the Undai River diversion Phase 1 study, shall carry out the Phase 2 study. Also, leaders of Oyu Tolgoi Watch NGO, advisor to the Herders' Representatives of TPC attended the meeting.

The main agenda item of the meeting was socio-economic study of Khanbogd soum herder households, by MDT and IEP Researchers and Undai River diversion Phase 2 study, for which the Parties clarified the understandings regarding MDT work. The studies proposed during March and August, 2016 aims to map independently and objectively changes over the last decade in livelihood and socio-economic conditions of Khanbogd soum herders' households, as well as completing assessment on accumulative impacts at the Khaliv-Dugat River and Undai river basins, the main tributary of the Undai River.

Also, at the request by parties, Mr. Tuyen D. Nguyen, IFC Resident Representative, attended the meeting, where he was briefed about IEP Phase 1 study report. Mr. Scott Adams, CAO mediator made presentation on dispute resolution process, as well as on current status and the next stages regarding settlement process of complaints raised by Khanbogd soum herders.

The meeting attendees visited the OT mine site and attended the Joint Fact Finding Training organized by CAO between February 22 and 24 before the TPC meeting. The Joint Fact Finding Training provided information and awareness for the Parties and researchers towards recognizing the conflict/dispute, developing the assessment/study methodology, collecting and analyzing data and evidences, and cooperating on drawing solution options. The Parties agreed to apply the methodology in the MDT study. The TPC expressed its gratitude to Mr. Larry Dixon, Trainer, and CAO team for presenting the methodology that is helpful in strengthening trust among the parties and jointly solving the issues faced.

Khanbogd soum Tri-Partite Council

About the Tri-Partite Council

The Tripartite Council, composed of representatives from Khanbogd soum local government, herders' representation and Oyu Tolgoi company, has been officially established on June 8, 2015, as per Memorandum of Understanding signed with purpose of resolving complaints among the Parties. The Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO) guides operations of the TPC. The CAO is the independent recourse mechanism for IFC, the World Bank Group.