“IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE CHILDREN OF SAARC”

Report of the Follow-up Meeting
of
The Trilateral Convention of Stakeholders on
Missing Child Alert System

Jointly Organized by SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat (SRS)
&
Plan International Asia Regional Office

Hosted by the National Commission for Women and Children (NCWC)
(SAIEVAC Mechanism, Bhutan)
23rd to 25th September, 2013
Namsay Choling Resort
Paro, Bhutan
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The Follow Up Meeting (FUM) of the TLC MCAS was jointly organized by the SAIEVAC Regional Secretariat (SRS) and Plan International and hosted by the National Commission for Women and Children (NCWC), which is the SAIEVAC national mechanism for Bhutan.

The Meeting convened from the 23-25th of September in Paro, Bhutan was a follow up to the Trilateral Convention of Stakeholders on Missing Child Alert System, which was organized in February 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Missing Child Alert project led by Plan International launched its grounding activities by sharing the approach and outcomes of the feasibility study to wide range of stakeholders. The Bangkok Meeting held in February 2013 was also jointly organized by SAIEVAC and Plan International and was attended by a wide range of stakeholders such as senior representatives of the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of women and Child Development, the Ministry of Telecommunications, the National Informatics Centre of Govt. of India, the SAARC Law, SAIEVAC, UNICEF, IOM, INGOS, Civil Society organizations and organizations of survivors participated in the convention.

The FUM was attended by stakeholders (List of participants at Annex -1-) both Government and NGO from the participating Member States of Bangladesh, India and Nepal, with observers from different stakeholders in Bhutan and representatives of the SAARC Secretariat. Senior executives at the level of Secretary, Jt. Secretary and Deputy Secretaries represented the Governments of the three countries.

The Meeting was convened to review the activities undertaken so far and to expedite the process to ensure timely realizations of recommendations made by the tri-lateral convention. More specifically the meeting showcased the following objectives:

1. Formation of interim Technical Advisory Group and confirmation of the initial ToR for TAG.
2. To envision MCA project and develop collective strategies to sustain the intervention.
3. To Review the MCA regional and national level activities and develop roadmap

The FUM over two days not only reviewed the process, objectives and outcome of the TLC MCA Bangkok to contextualize the issues tabled for discussion in the Paro Meeting, but also devoted dedicated deliberations on the proposed formation of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) for the MCA and its broad ToR as well as more detailed elaboration of the Track Child India and how it can be scaled up with appropriate customization to meet the needs of Bangladesh and Nepal. The FUM after extensive and intense deliberations covering a wide range of issues endorsed the following set of recommendations:

1. The Meeting drew consensus on the formation of the TAG and possible list of agencies to be represented on the TAG. To this end the meeting further reinforced the following as preparatory steps to realize the final formation of the TAG:
a) National Task Forces/Committees be formed with relevant agencies represented building up on the existing mechanism being put in place by the respective MCA projects in Bangladesh, India and Nepal;

b) Request SAARC Secretariat to be a regular member of the TAG given the ultimate objective of SAIEVAC to not only reinforce its work in the MS but also support the mandate of SAARC in implementing the SAARC Convention on Trafficking;

c) The meeting of an Interim TAG be convened for 2 days in a neutral Country which could be either Thailand or Maldives sometime in mid January 13 or a mutually suitable timeframe for all the participating MS. The Interim TAG can finalize the ToR and other mechanisms for the institution of the TAG;

d) Organizing Agencies i.e. SRS and PLAN ensure adequate follow up and coordination with the respective MS to ensure that all the relevant agencies commit their participation;

e) The SRS and Plan circulate the Recommendations/Report from the Trilateral Convention along with the agenda in advance so that participants can prepare themselves adequately for the Meeting;

2. The Meeting also unanimously endorsed that processes to define/formalize the engagement of State/s on MCA through mutually agreed mechanism be initiated. In the case of Bangladesh it could be an MoU for which a proposal has to be presented to them for consideration. In the case of other two countries a suitable mechanism needs to be explored though a consultative process.

3. The meeting endorsed D.Net as a system integrator for the project with the role to identify specific areas of technological intervention to facilitate/ strengthen / scale up the existing practices on counter trafficking, develop scientific briefs for technological vendors and play a role of quality assurance monitoring, and facilitate communication and coordination of information among various stakeholders through web-based platform.

4. The SRS and Plan hold initial discussions and develop a way forward with the respective MS on the offer of NIC, GoI to provide support for the review and expanding the understanding and adaptation of the Track Child System; and

5. The SRS with support of Plan undertake a review/stock taking of Bilateral and Regional mechanisms/collaboration and see how the findings can be used to move the MCA system forward;
OPENING SESSION:

Opening Remarks and Objectives of the Follow Up Meeting and the Recommendations of the Trilateral Convention on MCA

The Follow-up Meeting of the ‘Trilateral Convention of Stakeholders on Missing Child Alert System’ started with the opening remarks by Dr. Rinchen Chophel, Director General, SRS. He extended a warm welcome to all the delegates to this very important Meeting as well as to the beautiful valley of Paro, Bhutan. He informed the forum that while the Meeting was trilateral, the SRS and Plan took the opportunity to invite senior officials from the different agencies of the Royal Government of Bhutan as Observers since the MCA cross border dynamics have equal implications to Bhutan. He expressed his hope that this will meet the consideration of the delegates from Bangladesh, India and Nepal. He also informed the Meeting that the basis for organizing meeting in Bhutan just before the SAIEVAC 3rd Technical Consultation on Harmful Traditional Practices and the 4th Governing Board Meeting of SAIEVAC was two pronged. One reason was to find the opportunity to brief the 4th Governing Board Meeting of SAIEVAC on the outcome of the Meeting in Paro and the second reason was because some of the delegates to the FUM were also participants to the above Meetings, which are being held in Thimphu, Bhutan.

Dr. Rinchen also expressed his most sincere appreciation to the presence of very senior Government officials from Bangladesh, India and Nepal accompanied by senior executives from the private sector and the NACGs. He said that this was an indication of the high importance accorded by the respective delegations to the issue of Missing children and to the efforts to find a meaningful and effective strategy to create responses.

Dr. Rinchen thereafter presented the Tentative Agenda of the FUM (Annex -2- ). He said that to ensure all the delegates particularly those who were not in the TLC Bangkok Meeting are brought on the same level of understanding, he made a brief presentation of the objectives, process, thematic consultations, and the key recommendations of the Bangkok Meeting. He
emphasized the significance of the key recommendations among others, from that conference to build up and operationalize the follow-up actions as follows:

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**TLC MCA OBJECTIVES:**

1) To review current regional, bilateral and trilateral efforts to combat human trafficking and find a place for the Missing Child Alert (MCA) system;

2) To form a Regional Technical Advisory Group for MCA that can provide technical direction for the interventions under MCA; and

3) To develop a cooperation framework among ministries of three Governments, SAIEVAC, UN agencies and Civil Society Organizations to lead anti-trafficking activities in Bangladesh, India and Nepal.

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**TLC MCA PROCESS:**

1. Overview of anti-trafficking movement and bottlenecks from the three countries;

2. Global initiatives and action on protecting children from exploitation and abduction: introduction to ICMEC

3. Feasibility study: Process, Outcomes, and Recommended technical options

**Feasibility Study: Key Recommendations:**

a) That existing systems should be strengthened to facilitate effective responses, as the total solution is wider and more contextual than merely technical;

b) That existing technology-based mechanisms should be incorporated into, rather than replace, regional solutions;

c) That it should be recognised that effective engagement of State Parties is regional, rather than bilateral or trilateral engagement, and that SAARC and other regional mechanisms like SAIEVAC, as well as CSOs, are necessary;

d) That a range of technical solutions is required for different specific places, as local solutions are context-dependent; and

e) That on-going research is required in a number of key program areas, including on the involvement of children and child-led organisations in preventing trafficking.

**Feasibility Study: Three technical options for implementing the MCA system, namely:**

1) A decentralised network of national MC systems,

2) A centralised cross-border child trafficking response system; and
3) Collaboration with Homelink/YaR.

The ‘Decentralized Model’ was found to require effective national MC Systems that can address internal trafficking...while the ‘Centralized Model’ was found to have a likelihood of faster development due to some countries lacking national systems and to possibly enable easier international reporting coordination.

THEMATIC CONSULTATIONS IN GROUPS:

1. Trilateral Cooperation on Action Against Trafficking: Role of State Parties;
2. Organising CSO and CBO response to cross border trafficking: Opportunities and Future Strategies; and
3. The Use of Technology and Role of Techno-experts: Way Forward.

Thematic exercise with focus on:

a) Prevention and Protection,
b) Setting Up Technological Breakthrough, and
c) Repatriation, Rehabilitation, and Reintegration of Traffic Victims and Legal Framework.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

• All three groups tabled a number of recommendations;
• All recommendations clearly elaborated in the reported;
• However, the TLC MCA had a key recommendation which will have a direct bearing on the rest of the recommendations.

Key/Overriding recommendation:

• The Group recommended that a facilitating group, like an Advisory Group of Members from the three countries, subject to later endorsement from Governments of the Member States, be formed wherein membership comprises of nodal officers from relevant ministries, NGOs and CSOs who will be entrusted with the responsibility to follow through the recommendations and action points, and communicate and reconvene periodically, wherein CSOs play the role of researchers to understand effectiveness and challenges in systems, policies and practices.

• The Group recommended that the size of the ‘Advisory Group’ be around 15 members, including NGO and CSO members from each country, and recommended that this Group should meet within three months of the current convention date.
Dr. Rinchen concluded his presentation by expressing his hope that the 2 days meeting will be able to realize the objectives set and reaffirm the collective effort to make South Asia a better region for children.

MISSING CHILD ALERT (MCA) PROJECT UPDATES AND REVIEWS:

Mr. Ashish Damle, the Regional Project Manager, MCA opened the technical session with the presentation on the project updates and reviews from the ‘Trilateral Convention of Stakeholders on MCA System’ which was held in Bangkok, Thailand from 26th to 28th February, 2013. He stated that since the DG SRS covered the Bangkok Meeting in some detail, he would concentrate on the project updates (Annex-3) since than and move forward to presenting plans and activities in the pipeline.

He pointed out some of the major achievements that have occurred since the Bangkok meeting. He also highlighted the key rationale behind the formation of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG)–its functions, salient features, role and responsibilities of the members, and the need of resources for TAG to go on.

His presentation in short covered the following areas:

KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Formal agreement with SAIEVAC on joint action
- Affirmative assurance on cooperation from:
  - Mr. Michael Moran, Asst. Director, THB, Interpol
  - Ms. Christina Albertin, Regional Representative UNODC for South Asia
  - Ms. Caroline Hummer, Programme Director, International Center for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC), USA
  - MWCD, MoHA of Bangladesh, India and Nepal and additionally NIC of India.
  - Formal agreement with D.Net to ensure technological intervention.
  - Formal Commencement of qualitative research with traffic survivors on 'Disclosure'
  - Subject expert Dr. P.M. Nair, (Retd. IPS) is on board as part-time consultant.
  - The call for proposals on 'Quality standards and assessment, mapping of service
Providers’ is announced.

The Result Areas

1. Protect & Prevent
2. Missing Child Alert System
3. Tracking, Rehabilitation and Repatriation
4. Advocacy

The Salient Features...

- Integrated-Holistic & sustainable approach
- Advancing and Strengthening of existing systems
- Protection of children is at center of intervention
- Use of Technology in all intervention areas
- Special focus on ‘Gender’ dimension
- Children are consulted at all times & at all levels
- Engagement of all duty bearers including State
DISCUSSIONS:

The discussions following the presentation made by Mr. Ashish on the Project update covered the following areas:

- The need of strengthening the existing system and build the human resources and to ensure the availability of adequate services for victims responses and assurance of the quality services;

- The need to focus on the social reintegration and to share the ideas and approaches of how such systems can be used and integrated;
• The need of bilateral and regional treaty and tools;

• Coordination to create and identify the Technical Advisory Group (TAG);

• The best practices related to improved coordination and collaboration between the various agencies working in CP has to be imparted;

• The National Action Plans existing in the different Member States be used to strengthen the coordination and to ensure full participation of the stakeholders;

• The need to understand/consideration of the digital divide issues.

Technical Advisory Group (TAG):

Mr. Ashish’s presentation on the TAG covered the following areas:

The Rationale:

• The TAG ensures joint action and co-ownership between State and civil society actors through mutual consultations and mentoring;

• The TAG is an effective mechanism for State to be part of supervising of the project as it progresses;

• The TAG is a platform for State representatives to identify bottlenecks in the process of convergence and invite subject expertise as and when required;

• The TAG helps creating opportunities for bi-lateral/ multilateral agreements to ensure effective coordination among different State agencies on the issue of counter trafficking; and
• The TAG helps formalising State endorsements to various sub-products of the project such as research outcomes, convention reports and key activities towards system development such as technological study of Track-Child etc.

The key tasks and deliverables for the TAG:

• To convene meeting once in every three months;

• Joint project monitoring visits in different locations;

• To facilitate formal linkages and cooperation with International agencies such as Interpol, ICMEC, Amber Alert etc; and

• To provide technical and strategic feedback on the sub-products such as research outcomes, system architecture and recommendations on bi-lateral agreements etc.

Who are the members of the TAG & how do they become member?

• **Statutory Members** (13 positions/ 4 from each country and 1 additional for NIC);
  
  o Statutory members are the designated high-level officers from following Ministries/ Departments of Bangladesh, India and Nepal:
    
    o Ministry of Women and Child Development
    o Ministry of Home Affairs
    o Ministry of External Affairs (SAARC Desk
    o Ministry of Telecommunications/ ICT
    o National Informatics Center (NIC) of India

• **Honorary members** {2 positions};
  
  o Honorary members are the high level dignitaries who can not only add value to project deliverables but can also be patron of the project on regional and international forums. Example: Dr. Sam Pitroda

• **Special Invitee** (3 positions temporary);
  
  o Depending upon agenda the TAG may extend invitation to specific subject expertise for a particular purpose and for limited time period.

• **Observer: (1 position optional);**
  
  o Sr. Member of Steering Committee may attend the meeting

Who convenes the TAG Meeting?
• SAIEVAC is a SAARC apex body and only Inter- Government agency dedicated to address Child Protection issues at regional level;

• SAIEVAC is proposed as most suited agency as convener for the TAG;

• SAIEVAC may designate competent person to convene TAG meetings at every quarter.

**Resources for functioning of TAG**

• It is proposed that SAIEVAC may provide the secretariat support to TAG;

• Expenses towards meetings that includes travel, stay, food and other logistic expenses will be covered by SAIEVAC from its grant on MCA;

• The members time is honorary and therefore compensated with due credits on every publication and other material produce for mass visibility.
What concrete Role do we expect from TAG?

- Endorsement to all ongoing processes/ activities under MCA at regional level;
- Endorsement and official recognition to all the publications and visibility material produce under MCA;
- Monitor and provide strategic directions on key issues such as 'convergence' to the Project Implementation Team and other;
- Joint action to ensure cooperation with key international agencies such as Interpol, CRC Committee, ICMEC etc

What next?

- Nominations and formation of the TAG;
- Announcement of the first TAG Meeting (19-20 Nov. 13 at Bangkok);
- Formal adoption of the draft ToR for the TAG;
- Endorsement to the current regional processes:
  - Qualitative Research on 'Disclosure' with survivors;
  - Development of minimum standards of quality for service provision to victims of trafficking, assessment and mapping exercise of service providers;
  - Regional legal review and mapping of legal provisions led by SAIEVAC jointly with SAARC Law;
  - Study of 'Track-Child' with a perspective of Technology
- Strategic directions for effective collaboration with key global actors...
  - Interpol;
  - ICMEC;
  - UNCRC Committee/ Special Rep. on violence against children
- Strategic Direction on organizing the regional meeting with law enforcement agencies of Bangladesh, India and Nepal on 'convergence strategies for counter- trafficking'.
ON THE ISSUE OF THE FORMATION OF THE TAG, THE FOLLOWING AREAS WERE COVERED IN THE DISCUSSIONS:

- Increasing the composition of TAG members and possibility of expanding membership to include both national and state level in order to make TAG more inclusive;

- The design of the TAG could be based on their needs and the nature of each country;

- Need of forming the first regional TAG, review the ToR and then establish the mechanism which will help and contribute at national level TAGs and also beyond that;

- It was also proposed that to start with the interim TAG which is supported by a national working group or technical team, and that the MCA process will have to be build into the plans;

- Proposing SAARC to become a regular member of the TAG because at the end of the day, SAIEVAC needs to draw the recognition from SAARC;

- It was recommended that the first interim TAG meeting to be held in the next three months. The date and place for the meeting to be confirmed;

- Bangkok proposed as possibly the best venue due to the same reasons why TLC was hosted there in February 2013. However Maldives was also considered a possibility. Suggestion was also made for the first interim TAG meeting to be held within 10th to 20th January, 2014.

- Agreement was reached that the Recommendations/Report from the Trilateral Convention along with the agenda will be sent in advance so that participants can themselves adequately for the Meeting;

- Consideration of the bilateral consultation between SAIEVAC and the countries, and then also with other key stakeholders so that everyone is ready to participate in the process prior to the meeting in January.
The representative from India, Dr. Subroto Rai Gupta presented on the ‘National Tracking System for Missing and Vulnerable Children’ that was designed and developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC). It was an initiative of Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. He informed that the major stakeholders, multi-sectoral interventions, and the e-services that are in function for tracking the missing child have been introduced.

He expressed the main objectives of the ‘Track-Child’ as:

i. To ensure timely tracking of ‘missing children’;

ii. To ensure ultimate repatriation and rehabilitation of the missing children;

iii. To ensure proper care and development of the children of the Child Care Institute (CCIs);

iv. To set up a framework for participating organization involved in the process.

He made an elaborate presentation on what Track Child (Annex -4-) is all about and how the whole process of development us undertaken, who were the stakeholders, what are the measures adopted by the system and the responses being generated so far. He also presented some statistics to highlight its functional utility.
Suggestive Road map

Issues
- Agreement at the Government level for regional co-operation on the issue
- Nodal Country to lead the initiative
- Identification of the agency & establishment of the Secretariat for implementation of the programme
- Policy & Data Sharing Protocol finalisation

Technological
- Collaboration with Interpol & ICMEC
- Advanced Matching Technology
- Face Recognition Software
- Multi-Sectoral Implementation
- Integration with other sectorial/digital databases

Administrative
- Extension of the System to SAARC Countries
- Finalization of Protocol of data sharing
- Finalization of protocol for repatriation
- Linkages with ICPS, Police & Civil Societies of the SAARC Countries

Policy Measures for implementing MCA
- Data Sharing protocol amongst the countries
- Technological standard finalization & acceptance

Proposed Regional Alert System

Possible Areas of Support from GoI
- Formulation of Policy guidelines
- Study & review the existing systems of Interpol & ICMEC
- Requirement Analysis & Preparation of Software Requirement Specifications
- Customisation of the TrackChild system as “Regional Alert System”
- Capacity Building
On the subject of how Track Child can become a regional digital tool for cross border collaboration in addressing the needs of the MCA, elaborated the following aspects.

The presentation was followed by intense discussions which brought to the fore the following aspects that required added focus or attention of the meeting and the project.

- Network of Immigration services that is most essential in terms of addressing trafficking, but the need to identify ways and means to link this critical services with the national information centers;

- The pressing need to establish coordination between SAARC immigration network as discussed in Nepal and the programmes and projects being spearheaded by SAIEVAC;

- The critical need to upgrade/reinforce information on missing children with Interpol. To find opportunities to build on the interest shown by Interpol to localize their system for use in the SAARC Region;

- The need to create/support convergence between various Law Enforcement Agencies both within the country and at the regional level;

- The plan in the pipeline for convening a meeting/consultation involving the agencies of Border Security, Immigration, customs etc. to be expedited. The TAG once established can than take the outcome generated out of such meetings forward in the future.

- The need to launch/implement continued advocacy targeted to already existing agencies that has a direct or indirect bearing on the MCA to make strategic shifts in their approach or plans. This can be made more successful and effective by creating a central data base that can provide the evidence for such changes;

- The Track-Child System and the GoI has the capacity as well as the rationale to support such a framework development and implementation in collaboration with the respective Member States and in partnership with SAIEVAC and Plan.
DAY-II: (25TH SEPTEMBER, 2013)

The 2nd day’s business session was initiated by a brief recap of the 1st Day. The recap was followed by a discussion on ‘International Cooperation on Counter Trafficking: Potential Opportunities under the MCA programme’ introduced by Mr. Ashish Damle Regional Project Manager, MCA.

The presentation made by Mr. Ashish covered the following areas:

A. Why do we need International Cooperation

- Exchange of information on lessons learnt.
- Enhancing the scope of intervention
- Potential opportunity to influence global processes such as TiP reporting, UN reporting on optional protocol
- To become lead resource depository of information on counter trafficking activities and contribute to the global processes.

B. Broad proposed strategies on international cooperation

- Identification of areas of common interest and expertise
- Developing concrete roles to realize the cooperation
- Allocation of resources to activities lead to the international cooperation
- Formalisation of cooperation agreements through bi-lateral/ multi-lateral MoUs.
- Initial focus on international cooperation can be given with respect to Interpol, ICMEC and Un committee on Rights of Child

He also laid emphasis on how we can promote or initiate value addition to the work we are doing and ensuring that the resources we expend are all well invested. For this the collective consensus among the participating Member States is a prerequisite and the creation of the TAG recommended as an effective mechanism to take this whole process forward.
The discussions covered the following areas:

• Need to continue the discussions on the issues of cross border collaboration and international cooperation in the Interim TAG meeting endorsed to be held in the beginning of 2014. The SRS and Plan were requested to announce the dates as soon as feasible.

• The meeting reinforces that the focus should be made on strengthening the existing system;

• The trafficking remains unknown/invisible when people migrate from one place to another or to other countries – need of efficient mechanism on this issue;

• The need to Introduce a ‘Log-In’ system to get the information of a child who has gone missing in somewhere;

• The critical need of capacity building at the grass root level;

• The possibility of reporting system through mobile as its use is large- SMS could be delivered in the local language;

• Lack of consistent flow of resources;

• Political instability highlighted as one of the major challenges.
Mr. Ashish Damle made a presentation on ‘Opportunities, bottlenecks, responsibilities and project governing structure of Envisioning Missing Child Alert (MCA) system’ (Ref. Annex -3- ). The presentation outlined the tragic events in the life of hypothetical character ‘Sheeba’ through five different settings contextualizing the different dimensions of trafficking and current forms of interventions and what difference MCA would have made in Sheeba’s life. The presentation also covered the bottlenecks that included legal constraints, lack of convergence, diversified range of issues, lack of consistent flow of resources and the political instability that hamper the functioning of the MCA, among others.

The discussion touched on the following aspects that are essential to be considered in the whole implementation phase of the MCA programme.

- Need of resource mobilization to further build the networking system and the need of research and development;
- The crucial need to understand the structures in different countries, in terms of establishing/creating networks as there are several other actors;
- Need for MCA programme to promote strategic alignment and partnerships;
- Need of descriptive proposal on how things should be done when it comes to multilateral/trilateral discussion in the future e.g formalizing the materials for the future discussions;
- Need to develop or review existing ToR covering major components such as health, psycho social, rehabilitations etc;
CONCLUSION:

Dr. Rinchen Chophel, Director General, SAIEVAC concluded the two days Follow-up Meeting of the Trilateral Convention of Stakeholders on MCA System by once again highlighting the very important nature of the meeting with the participation of very important dignitaries. He acknowledged the presence of the SAARC Secretariat in the Meeting and said that the recognition and support extended by SAARC to SAIEVAC is fundamental in the delivery of SAIEVAC commitments to the MCA Programme.

He highlighted that the key outcomes of the Paro which among others included the holding of the Interim TAG Meeting in early 2014, the need to form national level task forces for MCA, the endorsement to take up GoI’s offer to support the review and capacity building in relation to expanding the scope of the Track Child System, and the need to advocate for bilateral discussions on taking the MCA Programme forward more effectively in the coming days and months.

He expressed his thanks and appreciation to all the participants and the presenters for the successful outcome of the two days meeting. He also related how the whole South Asia can be grounded through the evidence based experience sharing. He vouched his confidence that the outcome of the two days meeting will not just be implemented but it will also serve as the basis for taking forward the dialogue at the national and regional level.

He assured the Participants that SAIEVAC and Plan will ensure that the dates and venue for the Interim TAG meeting will be announced as soon as feasible so that national level preparations can be undertaken with adequate time.

He also expressed his hope that the different dignitaries will extend their fullest support to SAIEVAC and Plan as we accelerate the pace of the MCA Programme implementation both as a build up for the TAG meeting but also beyond.

He hoped that the Paro Meeting provided an opportunity for all to also enjoy the beauty and serenity Bhutan has to offer.