



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

Royal Government of Bhutan

PRIME MINISTER

སྤ-༢/273

གཞུང་གྲོང་པ་ཀའ་རྒྱ།

གནད་དོན་ སང་རྒྱལ་ རྒྱ་གཞི་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་འཕུལ་པ་

༣ དེ་ཡང་ འབྲུག་གི་རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ཁྲིམས་ ༢༠༡༡ ཙན་མའི་ ལེན་ ༤ པའི་ དོན་ཆ་ ༢༧ པ་ ༡༡ དང་ ལ༡ པའི་ དགོངས་དོན་དང་ སྤྱི་ལོ་ ༢༠༡༥ ཟླ་ ༤ པའི་ཆེས་ ༢༥ ལུ་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་པའི་ རྒྱ་གཞི་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ ཞལ་འཛུགས་ ཐེངས་ ༤༡ པའི་སྐབས་ཆ་འཛུགས་གནང་ཡོད་པའི་ གནད་རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་གཞི་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་དང་ འགན་ཆད་དང་ འཕྲིལ་ རྒྱ་གཞི་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་ཐོན་ལུང་སྤྱོད་ རྒྱལ་མཐུན་འཛིན་སྤྱོད་འཐབ་ནི་གི་དོན་ལུ་ རྒྱལ་ཡོངས་མཐུན་འཛིན་གནས་ རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱིས་ སང་རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་འཕུལ་པ་མཛད་པ་ཡིན།

ལྷན་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་ཐོན་ཆད་དང་འཕྲིལ་ཏེ་ གཤམ་འཁོད་མཛད་པའི་ལས་ འབྲུག་མི་རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་འཕུལ་པ་ སང་རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་འཕུལ་པ་མཛད་པ་ཡིན། དེ་ལྟ་ཡང་།

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| ༡༽ རྒྱ་གཞི་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་ རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་ | ཁྲི་འཛིན། |
| ༢༽ སྤྱི་ལོ་ རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་ | འབྲུག་མི། |
| ༣༽ ཐེངས་ཐུག་ རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་ | འབྲུག་མི། |
| ༤༽ རྒྱལ་ རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་ | འབྲུག་མི། |
| ༥༽ ཐེངས་ཐུག་ཁྲིམས་ལྟར་ ཁྲིམས་དཔྱད། | འབྲུག་མི། |
| ༦༽ རྒྱ་གཞི་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་ ཁྲི་འཛིན། | འབྲུག་མི། |
| ༧༽ སྤྱི་ལོ་ རྒྱལ་ཁབ་ཆོག་སྤྱོད་ཀྱི་ ཁྲི་འཛིན། | འབྲུག་མི། |



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

Royal Government of Bhutan

PRIME MINISTER

- ༤༽ ཐུག་ཕུག་ རྫོང་ཁག་ཚོགས་འདུའི་ ཁྲི་འཛིན། འཕུས་མི།
- ༥༽ རྒྱ་ཁ་ རྫོང་ཁག་ཚོགས་འདུའི་ ཁྲི་འཛིན། འཕུས་མི།
- ༡༠༽ ལྷ་ རྫོང་ཁག་བདག་སྐྱོང་གི་ མཐའ་འཁོར་གནས་སྤངས་འགོ་དཔོན། འཕུས་མི།
- ༡༡༽ ལྷ་རྩ་ རྫོང་ཁག་བདག་སྐྱོང་གི་ མཐའ་འཁོར་གནས་སྤངས་འགོ་དཔོན། འཕུས་མི།
- ༡༢༽ ཐུག་ཕུག་ རྫོང་ཁག་བདག་སྐྱོང་གི་ མཐའ་འཁོར་གནས་སྤངས་འགོ་དཔོན། འཕུས་མི།
- ༡༣༽ རྒྱ་ཁ་ རྫོང་ཁག་བདག་སྐྱོང་གི་ མཐའ་འཁོར་གནས་སྤངས་འགོ་དཔོན། འཕུས་མི།
- ༡༤༽ ཐུག་ཕུག་ཁྲོམ་སྡེའི་ མཐའ་འཁོར་གནས་སྤངས་འགོ་དཔོན། འཕུས་མི།
- ༡༥༽ རྒྱལ་ཡོངས་མཐའ་འཁོར་གནས་སྤངས་ལྷན་ཚོགས་ རྒྱུ་ཐོན་ཁུངས་མཉམ་འབྲེལ་སྡེ་ཚན་གྱི་ མཐའ་འཁོར་གནས་སྤངས་གཙོ་འཛིན་འགོ་དཔོན། འཕུས་མི་དྲུང་ཆེན།

ལྷ་རྫོང་བདག་འདི་ ལང་རྒྱུ་རྒྱ་གཞི་ཚོགས་རྒྱུ་འདི་གི་ཁྲི་འཛིན་དང་པ་འབད་བསྐོ་བཞག་འབད་ཡོད་རུང་ ཚོགས་རྒྱུ་གི་ཁྲི་འཛིན་འདི་ ལོ་བསྟར་བཞིན་དུ་ རྫོང་ཁག་བཞི་གི་རྫོང་བདག་རྒྱ་གི་ནང་དོ་ལུ་ སྒྲིལ་བཞེད་འབད་ནི་ཡིན་པ་དང་ དེ་ཡང་ དེ་ཕྱིན་ཡིག་གི་ གསལ་བྱེད་གྱི་འགོ་རིམ་དང་བསྟུན་ཏེ་ དང་པ་ར་ རྒྱ་ཁ་ དེ་ལས་ ལྷ་རྩ་དང་ དེ་གི་ལུ་ལས་ ཐུག་ཕུག་རྫོང་ཁག་གི་རྫོང་བདག་རྒྱ་གི་རིམ་པ་བཞིན་དུ་འབད་ནི་ཡིན། ལུ་མམ་གྱི་ཁྲི་འཛིན་གྱི་འགན་འཁུར་འདི་གིས་ སྤྱི་ལོ་ ༢༠༡༢ གྱི་ཟླ་ ༡ པའི་ཚེས་ ༡ ལས་འགོ་བཙུགས་ཏེ་ཕྱི་ལོ་འགོ་བཙུགས་ཡིན།

རྒྱལ་ཡོངས་མཐའ་འཁོར་ལྷན་ཚོགས་ཀྱིས་ ལོགས་སུ་གསལ་བསྐྱགས་མ་འབད་རྒྱུ་ རྒྱལ་ཡོངས་མཐའ་འཁོར་གནས་སྤངས་ལྷན་ཚོགས་ཡིག་ཚང་གི་འོག་ལུ་ཡོད་པའི་ རྒྱུ་ཐོན་ཁུངས་མཉམ་འབྲེལ་སྡེ་ཚན་འདི་ ཚོགས་རྒྱུ་གི་ཡིག་ཚང་འབད་ཆ་འཛིན་གྱུ་བཞེད་པ་དང་ མཐའ་འཁོར་གནས་སྤངས་འགོ་དཔོན་གཙོ་འཛིན་གིས་འཕུས་མི་དྲུང་ཆེན་གྱི་འགན་ཁུར་འབག་དགོ།



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

Royal Government of Bhutan

PRIME MINISTER

གཙང་ཆུའི་ཆུ་གཞོང་ཆོགས་ཆུང་འདི་གི་ཁྲི་འཛིན་དང་། འཕུས་མི་ཆུ་གིས་ ཆོགས་ཆུང་གི་ལྷ་འགན་ཆུ་ བཀའ་ཆུ་འདི་
དང་ མཉམ་སྦྲགས་ཡོད་པའི་འགན་ཚད་དང་འབྲིལ་ཏེ་ ཆུ་ལ་བཞིན་དང་ལེན་འབད་དགོ་པའི་བཀའ་ཆུ་ལུ། རང་ལུགས་གནམ་
ལོ་ མེ་ལོ་སྤེལ་ལོ་ ཟླ་ ༣ པའི་ཆེས་ ༥ ལུ།

(དག་ཤོས་ཆེ་རིང་སྟོབས་ཆུས་)

ཆུ་ལ་ཡོངས་མཐའ་འཁོར་ལྷན་ཆོགས་ཀྱི་ཁྲི་འཛིན།

ལན།

- ༡༽ ཆུ་ལ་ཡོངས་མཐའ་འཁོར་ལྷན་ཆོགས་ཀྱི་ འཕུས་མི་ཡོངས་ལུ།
- ༢༽ ཆུ་ལ་ཡོངས་མཐའ་འཁོར་ལྷན་ཆོགས་ཀྱི་ ཁྲི་འཛིན་འོག་མ་ ས་ནམ་སློན་པོ་ལུ།
- ༣༽ ཆུ་ལ་ཡོངས་མཐའ་འཁོར་ལྷན་ཆོགས་ཡིག་ཚང་གི་ རྩུ་ཆེན་ངོ་ཚབ་ལུ། དང་ལེན་ཆེད།



PRIME MINISTER

དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

Royal Government of Bhutan

C-2/273

14 April, 2016

[Translated Text]

Government Order

Sub: establishment of Wangchhu Basin Committee (WBC)

In accordance with Chapter 6 Section 27 a) and b) of the Water Act, 2011 and as per the framework and terms of reference for River Basin Committee approved during the 41st Commission Meeting held on 25 June 2015, the National Environment Commission (NEC) hereby announces the establishment of **Wangchhu Basin Committee (WBC)** for proper coordination and management of water resources within the basin.

In accordance with the decision of the Commission, the Wangchhu Basin Committee (WBC) shall comprise the following representatives of the four dzongkhags:

1. Dasho Dzongdag, Dzongkhag Administration, Haa, Chairman
2. Dasho Dzongdag, Dzongkhag Administration, Paro, member
3. Dasho Dzongdag, Dzongkhag Administration, Thimphu, member
4. Dasho Dzongdag, Dzongkhag Administration, Chhukha, member
5. Dasho Thrompon, Thimphu Thromde, member
6. Chairman, Dzongkhag Tshogdu, Haa, member
7. Chairman, Dzongkhag Tshogdu, Paro, member
8. Chairman, Dzongkhag Tshogdu, Thimphu, member
9. Chairman, Dzongkhag Tshogdu, Chhukha, member
10. Environment Officer, Dzongkhag Administration, Haa, member
11. Environment Officer, Dzongkhag Administration, Paro, member
12. Environment Officer, Dzongkhag Administration, Thimphu, member
13. Environment Officer, Dzongkhag Administration, Chhukha, member
14. Environment Officer, Thimphu Thromde, member
15. Chief Environment Officer, Water Resource Coordination Division, NECS, member secretary.



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

Royal Government of Bhutan

PRIME MINISTER

The Chairperson of the Committee shall rotate among the Dzongdags of the four dzongkhags on an annual basis. Haa Dzongdag shall serve as the first Chairperson of the Wangchhu Basin Committee. The subsequent Chairpersons shall assume responsibilities in alphabetical order i.e., Chhukha, Paro, and Thimphu. The next Chairperson shall assume responsibility beginning 1st of July 2017.

Until further notice from the NEC, the Water Resources Coordination Division of NECS shall be the Secretariat to the Committee and the Chief Environment Officer of the Division shall be the member secretary.

The Chairman and members of the WBC are hereby directed to conduct the affairs of the Committee in accordance with the Terms of Reference (TOR) attached to this order.

This order shall be effective from 2nd April 2016.

Sd/-

(Dasho Tshering Tobgay)

Prime Minister &

Chairman, National Environment Commission

CC:

1. Hon'ble Members of National Environment Commission for kind information
2. Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Forest, and Vice-chair, for kind information
3. Offtg. Secretary, National Environment Commission Secretariat, for necessary action.



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

Royal Government of Bhutan

PRIME MINISTER

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE WANGCHHU BASIN COMMITTEE AND ITS SECRETARIAT

.....

1. The rationale

The boundaries of Water Resource Management (WRM) has greatly expanded over the decades (from water to water+ecology, then to water+ecology+institutions, and now to water+ecology+institutions+other concerns). There remains a strong sense that the most logical unit for management is the river basin, hence the need to set up basin-scale organizations for management and coordination. The coordination model being developed here does not necessary (actually, not politically realistic) aim for creating unitary basin organizations that take over the role of water resource management from existing administrative institutions, even as efforts continue to streamline the patchwork of such institutions. Standalone basin organizations would also be against the concept of cross-sectoral 'integration' and holistic views propagated by Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM).

In IWRM, the river basin is the most logical unit for coordinated management of water resources (eg. for proper water resource accounting and allocation). A river basin organization is the most appropriate institutional mechanism for ensuring such coordination at the basin level. The aim of coordination is to ensure that policies and programs in the basin- involving multiple actors and stakeholders - are characterized by minimal redundancy, incoherence, conflict and gaps. Coordinated planning and development is, thus, the underlying IWRM principle adopted in Bhutan; and through a multi-stakeholder approach this coordination task is assigned to the River Basin Committee (RBC) at the basin level.

The Water Act of Bhutan 2011, mandates National Environment Commission (NEC) to establish RBC for each basin for the purpose of proper coordinated development, management, and conservation of water resources. The Water Act 2011 and Water Regulation of Bhutan 2014, provides broad guidelines on the composition of the RBC and their functions.



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

Royal Government of Bhutan

PRIME MINISTER

The terms of reference have been elaborated based on the guidelines in the Water Act and Regulation. The discussion from the stakeholders recommends that the members of the RBC shall be drawn from within the basin and shall comprise of incumbent chairperson of the DzongkhagTshogdu, Dzongdags, Thrompons of class A Thromde, Dzongkhag environment officers and a representative from the National Environment Commission Secretariat (NECS). Individual stakeholders shall be invited by the RBC during deliberation of matters relevant to the stakeholders' specific concern. A representative from NECS shall serve as member-secretary.

The composition of RBC, terms of reference and its secretariat's functions have been endorsed by the NEC during the 41st Commission meeting held on June 25, 2015. The Commission also approved to establish Wangchhu Basin Committee as first RBC for piloting proper coordination and management of water resources within the Basin.

2. Composition of Wangchhu Basin Committee(WBC)

As approved by the NEC during its 41st Commission meeting held on 25 June 2015, the WBC shall comprise the following members:

1. DashoDzongda, Dzongkhag Administration, Haa, Chairman
2. DashoDzongda, Dzongkhag Administration, Paro, member
3. DashoDzongda, Dzongkhag Administration, Thimphu, member
4. DashoDzongda, Dzongkhag Administration, Chhukha, member
5. Chairman, DzongkhagTshogdu, Haa, member
6. Chairman, DzongkhagTshogdu, Paro, member
7. Chairman, DzongkhagTshogdu, Thimphu, member
8. Chairman, DzongkhagTshogdu, Chhukha, member
9. Dasho Thrompon, ThimphuThromde, member
10. Environment Officer, Dzongkhag Administration, Haa, member
11. Environment Officer, Dzongkhag Administration, Paro, member
12. Environment Officer, Dzongkhag Administration, Thimphu, member
13. Environment Officer, Dzongkhag Administration, Chhukha, member
14. Environment Officer, ThimphuThromde, member



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

Royal Government of Bhutan

PRIME MINISTER

15. Chief Environment Officer, Water Resource Coordination Division, NECS, member secretary.

The Commission appoints Dasho Dzungda, Haa as the first Chairperson of the WBC, however, the position of WBC chairperson shall be rotated annually among the Dzongdags of the districts covered by the basin, and Chief Environment Officer of Water Resource Coordination Division shall serve as member secretary. The WBC shall meet at least once every four months and the quorum of the meeting shall be two third. The WBC is expected to take a consensus approach in adopting policy positions and making decisions.

3. Functions of the Wangchhu Basin Committee

The functions of the WBC are as follows:

1. Promote community participation in the protection, use, development, conservation, management and control of water resources in its area of operation through education and other relevant activities, specifically through:
 - Formulating rules and procedures for the establishment and operation of community-level Water Users Associations;
 - Promoting and rewarding positive behavioral changes toward efficient water use and protection/maintenance of water sources;
 - Raising community awareness on water-related issues, such as wasteful water consumption, unhygienic sanitation, improper disposal of solid and liquid wastes, water borne diseases, and environmental damage;
 - Awareness-creation on the various technical options of efficient water distribution and avoidance of losses;
 - Encouraging users to pay for water-related services within the scope of existing regulations;
 - Promoting community adherence to directives from the WBC in resolving water-related disputes;
 - Provide regular (say annual or bi-annual) platform to inform and hear from stakeholders on matters related to water management in the basin.



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

Royal Government of Bhutan

PRIME MINISTER

2. Prepare a River Basin Management Plan

- Assemble information required to prepare the basin plan;
- Consolidate water resources management plans prepared at the Gewog level, and ensure that these are reflected in the basin plan (i.e., checking that the plans do not draw more water than is available);
- Provide detailed specifications of programs and projects incorporated in the basin plan, including a proposed “responsibility framework” that identifies the appropriate level of plan implementation (i.e., by national agency or local administration);
- Ensure that the basin plan is consistent with the principles and objectives of the National Integrated Water Resources Management Plan (NIWRMP), and that the water-related Key Result Areas (KRAs) and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) incorporated in the GNHC’s medium term planning guidelines are reflected in the basin plan.

3. Monitor and report to the Commission on the effectiveness of policies and action in achieving sustainable management of water resources in its area of operation

- Review the district-level integrated water use management and safety plans prepared by the respective Dzongkhag administrations based on the basin plan, and monitor their implementation for reporting to the NEC;
- Review the management/safety plans prepared by the Class A Thromde Administrations in the basin to ensure efficient urban water supply and effluent disposal, including urban drainage systems, and monitor their implementation for reporting to the NEC and the Ministry of Works and Human Settlements.

4. Collect, manage and share such data as are necessary to properly manage the basin in coordination with the Commission

- Establish baseline data on the water security indicators for the basin, following the framework set up by the NEC and GNHC for a national water security indicator system;



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

Royal Government of Bhutan

PRIME MINISTER

- Based on the basin plan implementation reports of the Dzongkhag and Thromde administrations, consolidate data to periodically update the water security indicators for the river basin, and report these to the NEC and GNHC, as well as to the basin consultative council;
 - Facilitate the exchange of data and information among agencies operating in the river basin, and among the district and Gewog level administrations.
5. Help resolve cross-sectoral and Dzongkhag trans-boundary issues relating to water resources in its area of operation
- Serve as forum through which issues/disputes related to water sharing and distribution among districts and Gewogs within the basin can be discussed and resolved in an informed and consultative manner;
 - Establish procedures/rules for hearing and resolving trans-boundary water allocation issues;
 - Monitor and report to the NEC on adherence of parties to agreed trans-boundary water resources sharing.
6. Perform any such additional functions as the NEC may direct.

4. Functions of WBC Secretariat

The functions of the WBC Secretariat is assigned in the interim period to the Water Resource Coordination Division in NECS. The secretariat shall prepare the meeting agenda for the basin committee, gather information needed to brief the committee on issues to be tackled, document proceedings, and consolidate the water plan for the basin (derived from the district and Gewog plans). As mandated by the WBC chairperson, the secretariat may summon representatives from the sectoral competent authorities to serve as resource persons. The latter shall give advice on technical matters, and ensure coordination of the basin plan with sector-level plans and programs for water resources development and management. The Secretariat shall draw support from sectoral Competent Authorities on technical matters.



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

Royal Government of Bhutan

PRIME MINISTER

The secretariat shall also act as an administrative support unit to the WBC. It is responsible for following through and monitoring implementation of measures authorized or directed by the basin committee; work with the district and Gewog administrations to monitor water use/issues in the basin, including water infrastructure activities and related programs in the basin (in coordination with sectoral competent authorities). The Dzongkhag Environment Officers of respective Dzongkhags in the basin, coordinated by the member Secretary of the WBC, shall assist in carrying out secretariat functions.

Specifically, the functions of the WBC secretariat are as follows:

1. Assist the Chairperson of the WBC in preparation of annotated agenda of WBC meetings; draft minutes of the meetings and maintain records of meetings;
2. Prepare and propose annual operational budget for WBC, seek WBC approval and submit to WRCD, NECS for timely inclusion in the annual budget proposal;
3. Assist the WBC in applying the water security performance indicator system for the basin;
4. Coordinate with the concerned Dzongkhag administrations and national sectoral agencies to ensure that basin plan items are being implemented;
5. Advise the WBC in evaluating impacts of development plans or actions proposed by local administrations and national sectoral agencies operating in the basin;
6. Assist the WBC in preparing water security and water-related reports to the NEC and GNHC;
7. Facilitate conveyance of advisories or directives of the WBC to the district and Gewog administrations, as well as collate responses;
8. In coordination with the NECS, maintain a water database for the basin, and coordinate the updating of information collected by local administrations and sectoral agencies operating in the basin;
9. Establish a "knowledge hub" for matters pertaining to basin water resources management and coordination;
10. Document successful IWRM interventions in the basin for reporting to the WBC, as well as dissemination to national policy-makers, stakeholders and the media;



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

Royal Government of Bhutan

PRIME MINISTER

11. Facilitate networking and partnerships with NGOs, communities, state enterprises and private organizations operating in the basin;
12. Identify needs and facilitate training and capacity building (with assistance from the NECS) among local administration staff on integrated water resources planning and management;
13. Coordinate with the Dzongkhag and Gewog administrations to collect, compile, check, sort and analyze data about the status of water resources in the basin, and the ongoing implementation of basin plans;
14. Prepare necessary M&E forms and formats to collect data and information on the status of water resources and water security in the basin;
15. Monitor performance of local administrations in implementing their assigned roles under the river basin plan, and report to the WBC.

As noted above, the WBC shall convene a consultative assembly to deliberate on the basin plan and, on need basis consult stakeholders on specific water management issues that arise and that have basin-wide implications.