

4b. Matters Arising from PSC 5 (KL, December 2013)

Action Points	Progress
<p>1. The Meeting noted that in the final account closing, it will be important to make sure that all transactions are clearly documented in the financial report. The Project Director reminded all countries to be cautious on the issue of fixed assets, as they will be scrutinized during the final evaluation.</p> <p>*The Project Director advised all countries to register and label all fixed assets properly, and to submit a statement certifying that the fixed assets are still in good condition by the end of 2013 and completion of the project in 2014.</p>	
<p>2. The Meeting noted that Philippines conducted community interviews and filming for video production for IFAD peatland communication materials. The Meeting further noted that Philippines' project office was affected by Typhoon Haiyan in November 2013 and so most, if not all, of its project documents were destroyed and cannot be submitted to IFAD for financial reporting purpose.</p> <p>*Philippines was requested to report on the extent of loss of records and any funds by 31 January 2014.</p>	
<p>3. The Meeting noted that Viet Nam has submitted its National Action Plan to Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) of Viet Nam. Viet Nam has also worked with local community to develop a draft peatland distribution map in Lower Mekong Delta and U Minh Ha region. Viet Nam informed the Meeting that according to the tax regulation of the Ministry of Finance of Viet Nam, the project needs to pay withholding on payments to consultants under the project and this was delaying the finalization of the project accounts.</p> <p>*Vietnam to pay consultants and finalise accounts.</p>	
<p>4. Lao PDR was requested to submit a specific proposal by early January 2014 for consideration.</p>	
<p>5. Viet Nam also informed the Meeting that they will consider the APFP component completed by 31</p>	

<p>December 2013 and that there will be no new activities for January-June 2014 other than translating reports for submission to GEC and finalizing an outstanding payment of USD18,000 to consultant by January 2014 for work commissioned in 2013. Nevertheless, *Viet Nam was still requested to submit a work plan for 2014 including the outstanding payment to consultant.</p>	
<p>6. It was noted that the final AWPBs to be prepared by each component should consist of three main parts, namely Part 1: The Narrative Plan, Part 2: AWPB Summary Table and Annex: Procurement Plan. The Meeting agreed that complete documentation of AWPB be submitted to the RPEA by 24 December 2013 for APFP and by 2 January 2014 for SEApeat.</p>	<p>AWPB duly submitted and approved by IFAD.</p>
<p>7. The Meeting noted that EU and IFAD/GEF indicated their interest to provide financial support for the implementation the ASEAN Programme on Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems (2014-2020). ASEAN Secretariat will take the lead in organizing further follow-up meetings on the Programme in 2014, together with various partners.</p>	