

Minutes 5th meeting regarding 4-lateral consideration of
risk-based flood management approaches,
April 14th 2011, Rotterdam, the Netherlands

Participants

- Mr. David Rooke, Environmental Agency
- Ms. Lisa Bourget, Institute for Water Resources (US Army Corps of Engineers)
- Mr. Kenichiro Tachi, River Bureau, Ministry of Land Infrastructure Transport and Tourism
- Dr. Koichi Fujita, River Division, National Institute for Land and Infrastructure Management
- Mr. Hirosato Yoshino, River Bureau, Ministry of Land Infrastructure Transport and Tourism
- Mr. Jos van Alphen, Staff Delta Program Commissioner
- Mr. Max van den Berg, Rijkswaterstaat, Center for Water Management (chairman)
- Mr. Durk Riedstra, Rijkswaterstaat, Center for Water Management

Risk Based Flood Management Approaches

(as being practiced in Japan, Netherlands, United Kingdom, and United States)

During the last meeting in Washington DC on December 2nd 2010 agreements have been made in order to update the document *Risk Based Flood Management Approaches (as being practiced in Japan, Netherlands, United Kingdom, and United States)*. Progress has been made by additions from the USA, UK and the Netherlands (no additions were necessary from Japan). It is decided that the document version that Jos sent on March 31th 2011 will be discussed (and not the minutes of the previous meeting).

General remarks

- An executive summary is still lacking;
- The concluding remarks and best practices are left blank. Are the practises in the document already best practises or only a list of activities the four countries perform? It is agreed that the listed practises are best practises, since the participating countries submitted them as their best practices to be shared with others.
- To frame the importance of the document the recent tsunami disaster should be mentioned briefly (because of the world wide attention). Although it is not a flood lessons can be learnt. Like Katrina (2005), the UK floods in 2007 and the coastal flood in France in 2010 such a disaster will probably be a driver that results in new policy development. An other aspect of the Japanese disaster is the discussion to what extreme event a country should be protected (events based on historical data or a probabilistic approach?).
- Each chapter needs a short introduction. **Jos** included a proposal; **Lisa** will make comments to it.
- Include as much as possible references in text (preferable websites rather than literature). Further figures and pictures where appropriate, will improve the lay out of the document (but can be deleted by the editor if necessary): **All**.

- A disclaimer will be added that the report is not an official governmental document. In order to get clearance to use the logos of the participating institutions this clearance should be asked (**all**).

Chapter 1: Introduction

- **Jos** will provide a text in response to **Lisa**'s comment with regard to figure 1 (diagram page 6), which includes a text about 'policy drivers';
- The table on page 4 will be deleted. In the text will be referred to the characterization of flood risk in each country in Annex 2. This table should be improved by *every country*. **Kenichiro** takes the lead.

Chapter 2 Risk assessment

- Jos' proposal for some editorial changes that further improves the structure of the report (see textbox below, copied from his e-mail dated March 31th) is approved.

[...]
1) Introduction: leave out the description of the meetings, add (proposed) text explaining the benefits of collaboration between these 4 countries

2) Risk assessment: add (proposed) text why this is relevant on national and regional level, as introduction to the examples. transfer 2.1.1 (Tokyo) to regional (2.2) include 2.3.3 (climate change adaptation strategy in Japan); 2.1.2 at the end, as an example of uniform measurement method; 2.3: specific items: include climate change in existing texts of UK, Japan and NL. I propose to include existing text on climate change: in par. 4.2: Exec. aspects / protection; 2.3.2 Preparation of charts.. transfer to 2.1 (National method) 2.3.4 Aging infrastructure: transfer to 4.2 in section on "protection"

3 Include (proposed) text as introduction to the examples; 3.2.1 (Comprehensive measures in Japan) transfer to 3.1 (national level); 3.3.1 maybe rephrase in "non structural measures vs. (repair) of structural protection works"

4 Cluster (as proposed) the large amount of items into: 4.1: Land use, 4.2: Protection, 4.3: Preparation, response, 4.4: Recovery, 4.5: Governance, 4.6: Financial aspects, 4.7: Legal aspects, 4.8: Research and education.

[...]

- The actualized text proposed by Durk (with regard to the Dutch activities) will replace the text in chapter 2.1.4 (national risk assessment, new flood protection standards), 2.2.1 (FLORIS) and chapter 3.1.3 (policy development and selection of measures 3)
→ **Durk**
- Chapter 2 should start with an explanation why distinction is made between a national and regional level: measures are taken on different levels as a result of a national (a high level principle) or regional policy → **Jos**
- Each paragraph starts with a list of topics. These lists will be maintained since it increases the readability of the document. For each topic the number of the paragraph applicable will be added.
- 2.1: The introduction in this paragraph about budgets is not appropriate from USA and UK's point of view. **Lisa** will provide new text; **David** will make comments to this proposal.
- 2.1.5: a reference to the UK Foresight study will be added (**David**).
- Paragraph 2.3 will disappear completely; texts will be relocated (**Jos**):
 - o 2.3.1 'climate change' and 2.3.4 'aging infrastructure' will be transferred to chapter 4 (maintenance, see further);
 - o 2.3.2 'adaption strategies, Japan' will be transferred to paragraph 2.1;
 - o The paragraph on 'demographic developments in Japan' (text from the OECD report) will be included in the text about the national level (chapter 2.1; **Kenichiro**)
 - o The paragraph about 'Land use change' (UK) will be included in the paragraph about the Foresight study.

Chapter 3 Policy development:

- In paragraph 3.1 a text about USA's new policy about "encouraging economic development and protect the environment as well" (Lisa's presentation) will be provided (**Lisa**).
- **David** will provide text about policy development in the UK.
- The Japanese contribution for this chapter could be the 'Basic river improvement plan'-framework and the 'catchment'-approach (the soft framework; **Kenichiro**). The text about 'comprehensive flood control measures' (3.2.1) can also be incorporated in this paragraph.
- For the regional policy development (3.2) the Tsurumi case from Japan can be used (**Kenichiro**).
- 3.3: The Dutch contribution about cost benefit analysis will be incorporated in the 'national risk assessment' paragraph, since the CBA is part of the assessment as well (information about the approach of the 1st delta committee will be included as well) → **Durk/Jos**.
- The Japanese and UK contribution about CBA has been cancelled.
- The item "*Periodic evaluation of policy and accomplishment of policy objectives*" has not been discussed (and stays optional?)

Chapter 4: Executive aspects

- An extra paragraph 'Maintenance' will be added between the paragraph about protection (4.2) and preparedness (4.3); In this new paragraph the following items will be considered:
 - o Levee reinforcements in the Netherlands (**Jos**)
 - o Aging infrastructure (from paragraph 2.3.4)
 - o Strategic river channel improvement in Japan (**Kenichiro**)
 - o Recent development in the UK ("Asset management", text to provide by **David**)
- 4.3 Preparedness: **David** provides text about the Watermark exercise;
- 4.5 Governance: in this paragraph text about the federal interagency floodplain management task force (the second part of Lisa's presentation) will be included (**Lisa**);
- 4.6 Flood Insurance: A comparison between the UK and USA will be provided by **David**.

Chapter 5: Concluding remarks, best practices

- In this chapter (or somewhere else?) text should be provided about dealing with the results of the Washington DC meeting (international policy-oriented discussions) → **Lisa**
- An example of international cooperation is the *International Levee Manual*. **Lisa** will provide text, which will be reviewed by the other participants.

Annex 2 Characterization of flood risk in each country

- The table should be improved by *every country* (see comments on chapter 1)

Annex 3 Participants

- In this annex not only the participants of the meetings should be mentioned, but others should receive acknowledgement for their contributions as well.

Annex 4: Flood Risk Related Terms

- The spreadsheet Lisa sent March 4th 2011 will be used for this annex.
- The original definition of *flood risk management* from ‘Washington’ will be added (not the one used in the introduction of chapter 2, which is not understood by everyone): **Lisa**.
- The definition of *flood plane* will be reconsidered by Japan (**Kenichiro**).
- Through the document different risk terms are used. It is decided to use *risk approach* in stead of *risk-based*, *risk-informed* etc.

Planning

- April 29th: the proposed editorial changes by Jos (e-mail dated March 31th 2011) will be edited and send to all the participants (**Durk/Jos**);
- June 15th 2011: All the agreed additions listed above will be sent to Lisa: **All**
- July 2011: **Lisa** finalizes the report.

ICFM5 September 27-29th 2011, Tsukuba-City

- The report will be presented by Lisa in a plenary session.
- How to provide the report: prints (25 – 1,000 copies?) or a download from a website? It is decided to provide at about 25 copies for each country (4x 25) and another 25 available for the conference in Tsukuba. Since the internal Tsukuba website is not accessible for third parties, a solution can be found in making the information for example per country available on an own website. This should be communicated well in Tsukuba (paper and presentation).
- There is a possibility that ICFM5 will be transferred to Tokyo. The alternative option of postponing the conference a few weeks is less preferable. **Kenichiro** will provide information soon.

Cooperation after ICFM5

- After the conference the cooperation between the four countries will continue on a bilateral basis.