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PROGRAMME Quarterly PROGRESS REPORT
Period: Q4 2015

Project Number and Title: project 00093037 - Support to the Electoral Process in the Federal Republic of Somalia	PROJECT START DATE¹: 17-06-2015	AMOUNT ALLOCATED by MPTF <i>(please indicate different tranches if applicable)</i> Allocation for 2015 Total: \$2,612,622. 1 st Tranche – 148,500.48 2 nd Tranche – 1,156,221 3 rd Tranche – 1,307,801 Received - 2015- US\$ 2,612,522	RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION MOIFA and NIEC
Project ID: project 00093037			
Project Focal Point: Name: Filip Warnants E-mail: Filip.warnants@undp.org	EXTENSION DATE: 31 Dec 2015)	FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS \$ 0	Gender Marker:2
PSG 1: Inclusive Politics	PROJECTED END DATE: 31-12-2015	EXPENDITURES as of 31 December 2015 \$ 2,629,347 (101%)	IMPLEMENTING PARTNER(S): UNDP
Priority/Milestone: PSG priority 3: Prepare for and hold credible elections by 2016			
Location: National - Mogadishu	Sub-National Coverage Areas (if applicable):		
SITUATION UPDATE: Joint Programme for Support to the Electoral Process in the Federal Republic of Somalia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2015, UNDP rolled out the “Joint Programme for Support to the Electoral Process in the Federal Republic of Somalia”. The Joint UNSOM/UNDP Programme was signed on 17 June 2015 and had an initial duration of six months. It brings together the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) to support 			

¹ The date project funds were first transferred.



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Somalia to prepare for and hold credible elections through the provision of support to the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC), the development of the legal framework for elections and support to promote better understanding of the electoral process.

- The Joint Programme contributes directly to the Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goal of Inclusive Politics (PSG 1) to “achieve a stable and peaceful federal Somalia through inclusive political processes”. The Joint Programme is implemented by the United Nations Integrated Electoral Support Group (IESG), jointly consisting of UNSOM and UNDP personnel and resources, and working in partnership with the Ministry of Interior and Federal Affairs (MoIFA) and NIEC. The Programme builds on the work of its precursor, the electoral Project Initiation Plan (PIP) which set the ground work in 2014 and early 2015 for establishing the Joint Programme.
- Funding for the Joint Programme is channelled through the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) with contributions received in this quarter from the Department for International Development (DFID)/United Kingdom, Italy, Norway and Sweden and finalization of an agreement with the European Union anticipated in the next quarter. In addition to contributions received through the MPTF the Joint Programme also benefits from in-kind contributions and funding support from UNSOM through the UN Integrated Electoral Support Group (IESG) and from UNDP core resources. The IESG comprises both UNSOM and UNDP staff who work together to implement and deliver the Joint Programme. UNSOM provides half of the IESG’s staff, the IESG office and much of the IESG office equipment and security convoys.

2016 Electoral Process

- Further to an earlier electoral needs assessment mission (NAM) undertaken in late 2013, the United Nations Department of Political Affairs deployed a pre-assessment team from 6-12 July 2015 to take stock of the situation in Somalia with regard to preparation for elections in 2016. The team noted that its interlocutors identified major challenges to conducting “one person one vote” elections in the originally envisaged timeline of 2016. The primary factor cited by those whom the team met was that overall progress in “Vision 2016” has come more slowly than originally expected.
- At the second High-Level Partnership Forum (HLPF), held in Mogadishu on 29 and 30 July 2015, Somali leaders and constitutional institutions both at the federal and state levels were commended for their determination to deliver an electoral process in 2016. The HLPF agreed to a consultative process that would identify electoral options and endorsed guiding principles for the electoral process in 2016. Subsequently, in the last quarter of 2015, federal and regional leaders held a series of national and regional consultative forums to discuss the most appropriate electoral model to ensure a transparent political transition in 2016.
- The second Programme Board meeting took place on 10 September 2015 at which donor partners extended the Joint Programme until 31 December 2015 and agreed to expand the scope to include a separate output to support the Consultative Process and the 2016 electoral process. As a result of this decision the Joint Programme will adopt a twin-track approach: (i) support to the consultative process and implementation of the 2016 electoral process; and (ii) support to prepare and develop capacity to conduct universal elections and referendum in due course.
- The Joint Programme provided technical and logistical support to the preparations and conduct of the first National Consultative Forum in October; the Regional Consultative Forums in Kismayo, Garowe, Cadaado, Baidoa, and in Mogadishu for the Somalilander community, Banadir, Hiraan and Middle Shabelle in November; the diaspora consultation in Nairobi and the second National Consultative Forum in December. The Joint Programme continues to support the consultative process to reach agreement on the most appropriate electoral model to ensure a transparent political transition in 2016.



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Long-term electoral capacity building

- Another key component of the Joint Programme comprises the provision of long-term institutional capacity development support to the NIEC in order for Somalia’s Federal Electoral Management Body to fulfill its electoral mandate. Expert advice during the drafting of the NIEC Law in 2014 and 2015 was provided by the IESG through the PIP. On 6 July 2015, the NIEC commissioners were endorsed by Federal Parliament and took their oath before Parliament on 21 July 2015. The selection and appointment of the Commissioners took place in line with procedures specified in the NIEC Law, adopted in February 2015. Subsequently, the nine-member commission, which includes two women, chose its chairperson, Ms. Halima Ismail Ibrahim, and deputy chairperson, Mr. Sayid Ali Sh. Mohamed.
- The appointment of the commissioners in July 2015 was a key milestone in the electoral process and enabled capacity development support to the NIEC to commence. The IESG advisers have been meeting regularly with the commissioners and work closely with the NIEC. Different workshops have been held with the commissioners and study tours to witness first-hand the electoral processes in Tanzania and Turkey were conducted to build the NIEC’s institutional and electoral management capacity. As a direct result of these workshops the NIEC held its first press conference in Mogadishu on 10 August 2015, its 2nd press conference in Nairobi on 2 October 2015 and developed and shared its Vision and Mission statement and 12 month Action Plan on 2 October 2015. The Joint Programme also enabled the NIEC to move into its interim office in August 2015 which was constructed, furnished and equipped through the Joint Programme.
- The Joint Programme further supports MOIFA in its electoral related democratization role. With the assistance of the Joint Programme, MOIFA organized in November 2015 a three-day consultation to discuss the draft Political Party Law with representatives from the federal state and the regions, as well as civil society. The JP also supports a full-time senior electoral advisor to MOIFA.

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT RESULTS MATRIX

SUB-OUTCOME STATEMENT

Prepare for and hold a credible electoral process to ensure a transparent political transition in 2016

OUTPUT 1 – PHYSICAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NIEC

OUTPUT INDICATORS (if available for the reporting period)

Indicator	Geographic Area	Baseline	Projected Target (as per results matrix)	Quantitative results for the (current quarter) reporting period	Cumulative results since project commencement (quantitative)
NIEC physically established	Mogadishu	No NIEC in place	NIEC physically established and functional	(temporary) NIEC offices further operationalized	NIEC Commissioners appointed and (temporary) offices established



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Sources of evidence

- Parliamentary decision on the appointment of the NIEC Commissioners.
- Construction of the NIEC office: On the spot monitoring by the Joint Programme and certification of completion of construction provided by the contractor.

NARRATIVE OUTPUT 1

After the Joint’s Programme predecessor, the Project Initiation Plan (PIP), had provided expert advice during the drafting of the NIEC Law, which was passed in February 2015, the Federal Parliament appointed on 6 July 2015 the nine Commissioners of the NIEC who took their oath before Parliament on 21 July 2015. The selection and appointment of the Commissioners took place in line with procedures specified in the NIEC Law. Two out of the nine Commissioners are women which is partly in keeping with strong recommendations from advisers for a minimum number of women in the Commission during drafting of the NIEC Law.

The NIEC became functional and operational from August onwards as the Commissioners moved to its temporary office which was constructed, furnished and equipped by the Joint Programme

OUTPUT 2 – NIEC SUPPORTED TO DEVELOP CAPACITY TO CONDUCT ELECTIONS AND REFERENDUM

OUTPUT INDICATORS (if available for the reporting period)

Indicator	Geographic Area	Baseline	Projected Target (as per results matrix)	Quantitative results for the (current quarter) reporting period	Cumulative results since project commencement (quantitative)
1. NIEC Secretariat organizational structure in place 2. Number of briefings, workshops, study tours and/or training sessions held for the NIEC	Mogadishu	1. No NIEC organizational structure in place 2. No capacity development carried out so far	1. NIEC organizational chart and ToRs developed 2. At least 1 briefing or workshop for the NIEC to be held in six months	1. Org chart and TORs for advisory functions drafted in anticipation of a Secretariat established under the Civil Service structure. 2. Election study tours to Tanzania and Turkey to witness first-hand electoral processes + a workshop on	1. NIEC organizational chart and ToRs in draft 2. Four workshops and two study tours provided to the NIEC.



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				Communications	
Sources of evidence					
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Internal reporting and photographs of the workshops.• NIEC Action Plan and Vision and Mission Statement.• Tanzania elections study tour report and Turkey elections study tour report					

NARRATIVE OUTPUT 2

The Programme has supported four separate workshops on electoral principles, electoral management and strategic planning for the NIEC, as well as two international elections study tours. This enabled the Commissioners to acquire a deeper understanding of the steps and tasks involved in organizing elections and its role and responsibilities. It also supported them in developing an Action Plan as well as the NIEC’s Vision and Mission statement. The workshops also empowered the Commissioners to hold its first press conference in Mogadishu on 10 August 2015.

The four workshops provided by the Joint Programme comprised sessions on: electoral principles (3 August); electoral management and NIEC role and responsibilities (9-10 August); team building and strategic planning (28 September-2 October); and a Communications Workshop (8 October). The strategic planning workshop resulted in an Action Plan and a Vision and Mission statement, which was presented to donor partners and the public in a press conference on 2 October 2015. The 12 month Action Plan sets out and prioritizes the NIEC’s key activities with an accompanying timeline. The NIEC’s Vision and Mission statement outlines its goal of building trust in the electoral process and safeguarding the aspirations of the Somali people.

The two elections study tours supported by the Joint Programme (Tanzania - 25 October, and Turkey - 1 November), allowed the Commissioners to witness first-hand the conduct of a national election on 25 October. During their study visit, the NIEC focused on getting an awareness of the scale and scope of an operation that was conducted in tens of thousands locations and which required over hundreds of thousands people to operationalize. The NIEC gained a deeper understanding of the electoral operation and learnt insights into methods and systems. The Commissioners were given an overview of the voter registration system, taken through the observation accreditation steps as well as polling, counting and tabulation procedures; and visited warehouses to observe the distribution of electoral materials

Specifically, from 21 to 28 October, the Joint Programme supported the NIEC to visit Tanzania to witness first-hand and for the first time the conduct of a national election on 25 October. The NIEC was accredited with observer status by the National Electoral Commission (NEC) to facilitate the conduct of its study tour. The NIEC split into two groups – one staying in Dar es Salaam and the other moving to Zanzibar to visit the Zanzibar Electoral Commission (ZEC). The NIEC was given the opportunity to meet the Chairpersons of the NEC and ZEC, the director of the Information Technology department, and several electoral district officers. In addition, the NIEC had a meeting with members of the regional intergovernmental body, the East African Community (EAC). The UN Resident Coordinator in Tanzania and former UNDP Country Director of Somalia, Alvaro Rodrigues, encouraged the NIEC members with their important task to prepare for future elections in Somalia. While in Zanzibar, NIEC Chairperson Halima Ismail Ibrahim had the opportunity to meet former Nigerian President, Jonathan Goodluck, who attended the Tanzanian elections in his capacity as Chairman of the Commonwealth Election Observer Mission for the 2015 elections. Chairperson Halima Ismail Ibrahim provided updates of election-related developments in Somalia, including the establishment of the NIEC.



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Former President, Jonathan Goodluck encouraged the NIEC Commissioners to stay committed to the course of promoting sustainable peace through the ballot box.

From 1 to 10 November, the NIEC Commissioners were invited by the Government of Turkey on an Elections Study Tour to visit the country's General Elections. The Joint Programme facilitated the travel and assisted the Commissioners in their meetings with Turkish electoral officials. The study tour to Turkey allowed the Commissioners to compare electoral operations and challenges in two different countries with different political and electoral dynamics.

The Study Tours were preceded by a pre-mission briefing that the IESG had provided to the Commissioners on 15 October. This briefing focused on the political and electoral background in Tanzania, including the existence of two electoral management bodies, the NEC and ZEC, and gave an overview on the principles of elections observation. In addition, the IESG presented the NIEC with an introduction on electoral public outreach and various models of organizational structures for the NIEC Secretariat. This all helped them in better understanding the complexity of an election, which they were about to observe during the study tours.

In anticipation of a Secretariat established under the Civil Service structure, the Programme has been closely working with the NIEC on its organizational structure and is advising the NIEC on ToRs for key staff including the ToR of the Secretary-General who will head the NIEC Secretariat. To date, the Secretariat has not been yet established. One of the major challenges is the approval of a civil service structure and the lack of a budget approved by the government.

OUTPUT 3 – LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR ELECTIONS AND REFERENDUM DEVELOPED

OUTPUT INDICATORS (if available for the reporting period)

Indicator	Geographic Area	Baseline	Projected Target (as per results matrix)	Quantitative results for the (current quarter) reporting period	Cumulative results since project commencement (quantitative)
1. Number of meetings and/or workshops with the parliamentary committee and Somali authorities responsible for drafting electoral	Mogadishu	1. 4 meetings held in January 2015 with the parliamentary committee 2. No consultations / roundtables held so far	1. At least 5 meetings to be held in six months 2. At least 1 consultation/ roundtable to be held in six months	1. NA. 2. 1 workshop organized by MOIFA with support of the JP to discuss the draft Political	1. Due to the political attention given to the Consultative Process there was no progress in drafting of electoral



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legislation 2. Number of consultations and roundtables with stakeholders supported by the UN				Party Law with representatives from the federal state and the regions, as well as civil society (21-23November).	legislation after the NIEC Bill was passed in February 2015. 2. 1 workshop organized by MOIFA with support of the JP to discuss in a consultative manner the draft Political Party Law.
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<p>Sources of evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Political Party Law • MOIFA activity report on the consultations on the draft law on Political Parties • Translated documents.

NARRATIVE OUTPUT 3

The Joint Programme assisted MOIFA in bringing the draft Law on Political Parties one step further to submission to Parliament by supporting MOIFA’s workshop with representatives from the federal state and the regions, as well as civil society to discuss the draft Law in a consultative manner (21-23November).

Following 14 public consultations conducted by a parliamentary ad-hoc committee in the months before, MoIFA held a national consultation from the 21 to 23 November 2015, to consolidate further comments on the draft of the Political Party Law. MoIFA invited intergovernmental organizations and representatives from all regions and other relevant stakeholders for their input on the law. The outcomes of the consultation are feeding into the overall finalization of the draft political parties law before being submitted to the Council of Ministers and then on to the Federal Parliament.

Over 200 delegates which included 40 females participated in the consultation. Different federal and state ministers and other dignitaries were present, as well as delegates from Jubbaland, Galmudug, South West, Hiraan and Middle Shabelle regions. Participants from Puntland were invited but were unable to attend the consultation. Civil Society Organization participants included representatives from Banadir Women, Somali National Women and Somali South Central Civil Society Organization (SOSCENSA). Participants also included traditional and religious leaders and representatives from youth organizations.



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Discussions focused on the following three main issues pertaining to the regulation of political parties:

1. Registration procedures and requirements of political parties;
2. The scope of the draft law: should Political Parties register at regional level only or only federal level? Should their office be at local or regional or federal level? Should there be a distinction between parties that predominately work or are based in one federal member state and a party with offices in more than one state (therefore more nationwide application)?
3. The regulation space given to Political Parties according to this law: Should the state regulate the internal affairs of apolitical party or should political self-regulate? What aspects of a political party should the state regulate and what aspects should be left to political parties themselves to regulate?

Subsequent discussion in the course of next two days focused on the finance and funding of Political Parties, the dispute resolution mechanism in Somali Draft Law and who should responsible for registering political parties.

Overall, the participants of the consultations played a key role in contributing to the objectives of the consultations on the draft political parties' law. They highlighted the need to harmonize the draft legislation with the other important electoral related legislations and legal frameworks to enhance Somalia's overall democratization and political process. The participants also highlighted the need for the finalization of the draft law to take into account the on-going constitutional review process.

The consultation was facilitated by a team from MOIFA with the support of UNSOM/UNDP Joint Electoral Support Programme.

In a separate activity the Joint Programme completed the translation of six electoral-related historic Somali laws from Italian into English as a step towards producing a compilation of Somalia's historical election laws.

OUTPUT 4 – INCREASED UNDERSTANDING OF THE ELECTORAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND ELECTORAL PROCESSES AMONGST STAKEHOLDERS

OUTPUT INDICATORS (if available for the reporting period)

Indicator	Geographic Area	Baseline	Projected Target (as per results matrix)	Quantitative results for the (current quarter) reporting period	Cumulative results since project commencement (quantitative)
1. Number of roundtables and/or workshops to enhance understanding of electoral systems and electoral processes held for	Mogadishu	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No roundtables/workshops held so far 2. No lexicon 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At least 1 roundtable/workshop to be held in six months 2. Lexicon developed 3. At least 1 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NA 2. 480 terms and their definitions have been translated from English into Somali as the first step in 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introductory 3 day BRIDGE training on Strengthening Democratic Processes provided to 22 MOIFA staff (20



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<p>Somali authorities and stakeholders</p> <p>2. Development and printing of an English-Somali lexicon of electoral terminology</p> <p>3. Development and printing of electoral-related material and factsheets; and printing of the NIEC law</p>		<p>exists so far</p> <p>3. No electoral-related factsheets developed so far</p> <p>NIEC law and its English translation not disseminated widely</p>	<p>factsheet to be developed in six months</p> <p>NIEC law printed</p>	<p>developing a lexicon of electoral terminology.</p> <p>3. 300 copies of NIEC Law printed in both English and Somali for distribution to electoral stakeholders. A factsheet to promote public awareness on the role of the NIEC has been developed to share with government and non-government stakeholders.</p>	<p>men and 2 women) from 4 to 6 August 2015.</p> <p>2. 480 terms and their definitions have been translated from English into Somali as the first step in developing a lexicon of electoral terminology.</p> <p>3. 300 copies of NIEC Law printed in both English and Somali for distribution to electoral stakeholders. A factsheet to promote public awareness on the role of the NIEC has been developed.</p>
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Sources of evidence

- BRIDGE certificate and link to the BRIDGE website <http://www.bridge-project.org/en/news2/africa/1437-first-bridge-course-in-somalia-a-new-dawn-a-ray-of-hope.html>
- Printed copies of NIEC Law (English / Somali); Factsheet copies
- Translated draft electoral lexicon.

NARRATIVE OUTPUT 4

From 4 to 6 August 2015, the Joint Programme organized a three day introductory BRIDGE workshop on Strengthening Democratic Processes for 22 members of the Ministry of Interior and Federal Affairs (MOIFA). As a result of this training the Ministry is better positioned to develop and implement a work plan to support Somalia’s democratic transition.

BRIDGE (Building Resources In Democracy, Governance and Elections) is an internationally recognized electoral



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training course. The thematic areas covered in the workshop included democratic principles, the electoral architecture (legislative framework – including international and regional instruments), electoral systems, the electoral cycle, working with stakeholders, public outreach and civic education. In addition, the Joint Programme is supporting the development of a lexicon of electoral terminology with MOIFA and NIEC and has so far translated 480 electoral terms and their definitions from English into Somali.

OUTPUT 5 – COORDINATION OF ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE

OUTPUT INDICATORS (if available for the reporting period)

Indicator	Geographic Area	Baseline	Projected Target (as per results matrix)	Quantitative results for the (current quarter) reporting period	Cumulative results since project commencement (quantitative)
1. Number of coordination and information-sharing meetings held 2. Matrix mapping out electoral assistance undertaken by different providers	Mogadishu	1. Only bilateral information-sharing meetings held so far 2. No matrix developed so far	1. Coordination mechanism established and functioning 2. Matrix developed and updated regularly	1. The following coordination meetings brought together the government, donor partners, and the UN to discuss electoral matters and included electoral information sharing by the JP: electoral coordination meeting with donor partners and electoral assistance providers (2 October); PSG1 (Sub) Working Groups on electoral process (9/10	1. The following coordination meetings brought together the government, donor partners, and the UN to discuss electoral matters and included electoral information sharing by the JP: electoral coordination meeting with donor partners and electoral assistance providers (2 October); PSG1 (Sub) Working Groups on electoral process (9/10



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				December); PSG Action Plan workshop in Nairobi to review electoral targets (15-17 December) Ongoing bilateral meetings. 2. A draft matrix is being developed.	September + 9/10 December); PSG Action Plan workshop in Nairobi to review electoral targets (15-17 December) Ongoing bilateral meetings. 2. A draft matrix is being developed.
Sources of evidence Parliamentary decision on the appointment of the NIEC Commissioners. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of PSG1 Sub Working Group and Working Group meetings. PSG1 annual review matrix IESG newsletters. 					

NARRATIVE OUTPUT 5

The first meeting of the NIEC Commissioners with partners and electoral assistance providers took place on 2 October in Nairobi organized by the Joint Programme. This meeting facilitated the Commissioners (eight out of the nine commissioners were present) to engage with donor partners and assistance providers including the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA) and Interpeace. The NIEC shared its action plan, answered questions on its role and priorities and Commissioners were informed about the work of other assistance providers. The meeting was a first step for those participating to gain a better understanding of the priorities of the NIEC, donor partners and the work of other assistance providers.

The Joint Programme participated in the coordination meetings of the PSG1 Working and Sub-Working group meetings as well as the PSG Action Plan workshop to review electoral targets (15-17 December). These meetings strengthened the coordination amongst all partners in better understanding the electoral challenges for 2016, as well the foundation being built towards future universal elections.

To improve information sharing, the Joint Programme shared two newsletters (July-August) (Sept-Oct) with donor partners on the latest electoral developments. Coordination has been also undertaken with EISA for its support to the NIEC to hold briefings with civil society and with Strengthening Somali Governance (SSG) on its support to the consultative process on electoral options.

OUTPUT 6 – SUPPORT TO THE 2016 ELECTORAL PROCESS



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OUTPUT INDICATORS (if available for the reporting period)					
Indicator	Geographic Area	Baseline	Projected Target (as per results matrix)	Quantitative results for the (current quarter) reporting period	Cumulative results since project commencement (quantitative)
1. Number of consultative rounds held at federal and state/regional level	Nationwide	1. NA	1. Consultative Process held at federal level and in <u>all</u> states and regions (at least 6 consultations)	1. Two National and 6 regional consultations held.	1. 1. Two National and 6 regional consultations held
<p>Sources of evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint communique by federal and regional leaders on the launch of the National Consultative Forum (21 September) • Communique First Plenary Meeting of the National Consultative Forum (19-20 October) • Communique Second Plenary Meeting of the National Consultative Forum (15 December) • UNSOM communiqués (press statements, facebook) • Facilitation Guide on the Somali National Consultative Forum on the Electoral Process in 2016 • Press releases by African Union United Nations IST 					
<p style="text-align: center;">NARRATIVE OUTPUT 6</p> <p>This output was endorsed at the Programme Board meeting on 10 September 2015 to support the Consultative Process to arrive at an electoral option and to support the implementation of that option in 2016 when the term of the Federal Parliament and Government expires.</p> <p>Support provided by the Joint Programme enabled the FGS, state and regional administrations to organize national and regional consultations that were critical steps towards the goal of achieving agreement on the most appropriate electoral option for Somalia. This technical and logistical support enabled an inclusive consultative process to take place facilitating over 3,000 people across Somalia to participate in consultations and have their views heard on possible electoral options to be adopted in 2016. Specifically this support included the provision of technical advice as well as logistical support for the organization of two national and six regional consultative forums.</p> <p>Support for the Consultative Process commenced with the provision of logistical support for the high-level meeting of federal and regional leaders in Mogadishu from 19-21 September, which culminated in the launch of the National Consultative Forum (NCF) and its first plenary session on 20 October. This was followed by a series of regional consultations (RCF) in November and early December in Garowe (Puntland), Kisamyo (Jubbaland), Baidoa (ISWA), Cadaado (Galmuduug), Mogadishu (Hiraan and Middle Shabelle, Benadir, and the Somalilander community) and Nairobi (diaspora).</p>					



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For the second plenary session of the NCF on 15 December, Somali representatives gathered in Mogadishu, including senior leadership of the Federal Republic and from Puntland, the Interim South-West Administration, Jubbaland, Galmuduug, Benadir, Hiraan and Middle Shabelle, and of Somali civil society, including women and youth. The NCF reviewed the conclusions from the public consultations held across Somalia on 15, 16 and 22 November and with Somalis in the diaspora on 5 December. It welcomed the consultative process as a major exercise of participatory politics, manifesting the principal values of democracy. The NCF welcomed the free expression of many different and often divergent views in the course of the public consultations.

The Joint Programme provided senior advisors and extensive logistical support to the Task Force and Technical Support Team who conducted the Consultative Process.

OUTPUT 7 – PROJECT MANAGEMENT

OUTPUT INDICATORS (if available for the reporting period)

Indicator	Geographic Area	Baseline	Projected Target (as per results matrix)	Quantitative results for the (current quarter) reporting period	Cumulative results since project commencement (quantitative)
1. Core programme management staff recruited by September 2015 2. Full programme document developed after the establishment of the NIEC and in line with recommendations of a follow-up UN Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) in 2015	Mogadishu	1. Minimal programme staff in place 2. Project Initiation Plan (PIP) set up in 2014 and Joint Programme being set up	1. Core project management staff recruited by September 2015. 2. Full programme document developed	1. At the end of Q4 2015, the IESG had been fully staffed according to plan. 2. At the Programme Board meeting on 10 December, given the uncertainties around the 2016 electoral process, the Board approved a Work Plan for Q1 2016 in anticipation of a full programme document.	3. At the end of 2015, the IESG had been fully staffed according to plan. 4. The new Programme Document plan for 2016 (six months) includes an output to support the 2016 electoral process.

Sources of evidence



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- Minutes of the Programme Board meeting of 10 September 2015 and 10 December 2015
- IESG organigram and HR files.
- Report of the UN electoral pre-assessment mission (PAM) 12 July 2015

NARRATIVE OUTPUT 7

At the end of 2015, the IESG had been staffed on the UNDP side with a Deputy Chief Electoral Adviser, Chief Electoral Operations Advisor; Training and Capacity Development Advisor; Operations Specialist; Planning, Implementation and Coordination Specialist; Finance Specialist; national Procurement Officer and Programme Officer. On the UNSOM side, a Director, four Electoral Advisors, an Administrative Specialist and a national support staff were brought on board.

At the second Programme Board meeting on 10 September 2015, the Board agreed to expand the scope of the Programme by adding a separate output for the Consultative Process and adopting a twin-track approach to support (i) the consultative process and implementation of the 2016 electoral process; and (ii) to prepare and develop capacity to conduct universal elections and referendum in due course. Given the uncertainties at the end of 2015 around the 2016 electoral process, the Programme Board approved on 10 December the Work Plan for Q1 2016, in anticipation of a full programme document.

Other Key Achievements *(please use this section to highlight your key achievements for the quarter using bullet points if preferred)*

Challenges (incl: Delays or Deviations) and Lessons Learnt: *(if any, briefly describe the delays or changes in focus, approach or targets, and provide a short justification for the change (1-2 paragraphs))*

The biggest challenge faced by the Joint Programme in 2015 was the uncertainty surrounding the Consultative Process and the 2016 electoral process. Planning and the conduct of the national and regional consultations took place in an extremely compressed timeframe with considerable uncertainty as to the scope and extent of the support required and the dates of individual consultations.

The completion of a longer-term programme document that would lay out the support to the electoral process in 2016 and towards future universal elections will need to wait until an electoral option has been chosen and this has made long-term planning for capacity development and other support more challenging.

A key lesson learnt that has enabled the Joint Programme to succeed in delivering support amid considerable uncertainty and tight timelines has been to incorporate flexibility in work plans to be able to respond to changing priorities.

Peacebuilding impact *(for Joint Programmes receiving PBF funding only – briefly describe impact – achieved and/or intended – of activities that have been undertaken on peacebuilding and stability, with supporting evidence if/when available and relevant; include in particular assessment of theory of change – and the extent to which it is being validated or challenged – and assessment of gender related impact)*

After the High-Level Partnership Forum in July concluded that a “one person one vote” election for 2016 would not be feasible, it agreed that a consultative process through national and regional forums would be launched to discuss and identify the most appropriate electoral model to ensure a transparent political transition in 2016.

The support of the Joint Programme to these consultative forums ensure that dialogue is ongoing amongst the different Federal and Regional leaders of Somalia to find a model suitable to renew the mandate of the Federal Parliament and the Government in mid-2016.



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A credible electoral process in 2016 is one of the pillars identified in the the Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Goal of Inclusive Politics (PSG 1) to “achieve a stable and peaceful federal Somalia through inclusive political processes”. In this respect, an electoral process accepted by all for a new Parliament and Government in 2016 would be a very significant factor in determining Somalia’s statebuilding process next year.

Additional Information (*Optional*)