Dear colleagues,

With the introduction of our MPTF Newsletter for Q2 2016, we are also celebrating the one-year anniversary of the launch of the UN MPTF’s Joint Programmes for Somalia. Looking back at a dynamic year, the MPTF has opened up various opportunities for us to work collectively with other agencies and UNSOM on Somalia’s priorities – hence, as of Q2 2016, UNDP is engaged in ten out of the eleven joint programmes currently supported under the UN MPTF.

In April, the new Support to Emerging Federal States (StEFS) programme started to provide capacity support to the new state governments in their establishment of functioning institutions and promotion of inclusive political dialogue, citizen engagement and state accountability, taking over from the former State Formation Programme. Additionally, the Parliament Support Programme has now expanded to support six parliaments, including those in the new federal member states. The Joint Programme on Local Governance and Service Delivery (JPLG) has been expanding its activities in the new federal states, and reorienting towards supporting the Government’s new Wadajir framework for local governance. This reiterates our focus on the new states and bringing governance closer to communities across Somalia.

In addition to these priorities, UNDP is actively integrating and mainstreaming the role of women and young people into these joint programmes. This has translated into numerous community outreach activities and trainings focused on women’s interests and advocating for the 30% women’s quota in parliament, as well as support to the recently established Somali Youth Parliament by enhancing its members’ capacity to engage in democratic processes and practices.

UNDP has furthermore sought to marshal support of the international community for the Government’s preparation of its first National Development Plan (NDP) since the 1980s, through our Joint Programme on Capacity Development. The NDP will serve as an important vehicle to better prioritise longer-term poverty reduction, growth, and expansion of services, in alignment with the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Looking ahead, we are committed to further supporting the Government, in consultation with the states, to finalise the NDP, and will continue to enhance and expand our work on building capacity of federal and sub-federal institutions, supporting emerging states and local governance, and supporting the Government’s delivery of Somalia’s 2016 electoral process, a critical part of furthering Somalia along its state-building and peace-building trajectory.

– George Conway, Country Director UNDP Somalia

UN MPTF Secretariat Update

- Additional donor resources have been committed (i.e. signed agreements) for $19 million, including $13 million in un-earmarked funding from the Peacebuilding Fund.
- We welcome Germany as our latest MPTF donor.
- The development of a new Joint Programme on Social Protection, with support from the Italian Government (the Joint Programme was subsequently included in the pipeline by the SDRF Steering Committee on 13 July).
- The latest Joint Programme to join the MPTF, on Sustainable Charcoal Reduction & Alternative Livelihoods, has started implementation in Q2.
- The development and presentation of the consolidated UN MPTF risk profile on 24 June.
- The MPTF Report for Q2 was issued to donors on 31 July.

Fund Capitalisation

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<tr>
<th>Multi-year Pledges</th>
<th>In-hand Contributions</th>
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<td>USD 147.3 million</td>
<td>USD 101 million</td>
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- Denmark: USD 19.4 million
- European Union: USD 35.3 million
- Germany: USD 5.2 million
- Italy: USD 2.9 million
- Norway: USD 10 million
- Sweden: USD 24.9 million
- Switzerland: USD 6.4 million
- United Kingdom: USD 19 million
- UN Peacebuilding Fund: USD 24.2 million
Highlights from the Joint Programmes

SUPPORT TO EMERGING FEDERAL STATES (StEFS)

In April, the State Formation Programme transitioned into the Support to Emerging Federal States Programme, which is foreseen to end in March 2018.

The Joint Programme supported a reconciliation conference for Lower Shabelle, resulting in the ‘Ramadan Ceasefire Committee’, which will monitor ceasefire compliance. In addition, the Programme supported a number of outreach activities to increase accountability of state administrations towards their citizens and to create space for dialogue.

After discussions in Q1 on the role and setup of the Boundaries and Federation Commission (BFC), the Commission, supported by the Joint Programme through an international consultant, is now operational and conducting consultative meetings and workshops with key stakeholders.

The StEFS has also been providing support to strengthen core public sector capacities such as the initiation of strategic planning processes for both Galmudug Interim Administration (GIA) and Interim South-West Administration (ISWA), support through an international consultant to assist Jubbaland State of Somalia (JSS) with the development of institutional policies and procedures, and continued support for embedded technical advisors/officers and interns in emerging state administrations.

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

The Joint Programme has been actively supporting the 30% women’s quota in the parliament, for example by supporting the Oversight Committee of the Federal Parliament (OC) in organising a one-day workshop in Mogadishu focusing on women’s interests, with many influential women’s organisations, civil society organisations and administrations participating.

The OC also conducted a workshop for over 80 young people, giving them an opportunity to express their views and recommendations on the revision of the Provisional Constitution.

Support has further been extended to the Galmudug Ministry of Constitutional Affairs in line with the Programme’s objective to strengthen regional stakeholders’ ability to function and actively participate in the Constitutional Review Process.

PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT

The Parliamentary Support Programme has extended its partnership and support to the Somaliland Upper House, and the Jubaland and Galmudug Legislative Assemblies, based on the varying priorities and needs of each parliament. The latter was provided with a three-day workshop for over 50 Members of Parliament on the fundamentals and techniques of legislative drafting. The Galmudug Parliament expressed its gratitude to the programme, as participants learned how to enhance the quality of laws and consider social, economic, political and environmental impacts by performing a Regulatory Impact Assessment.

In Somaliland, 21 members of the Somaliland House of Elders (the Guurti) received training on procedural and administrative functions. The training is part of an initial set of activities on strategic planning, leadership capacity building, constituency outreach and strengthening security infrastructure. Upcoming trainings will further focus on reporting skills, as was requested by the participants.

In the margins of strengthening security infrastructure, the programme funded and constructed a 900-meter-long security perimeter wall along the Somali Federal Parliament.

Upon request of the Somali Youth Parliament, the programme, in collaboration with the Joint Programme on Electoral Support, conducted a two-day workshop on Voting and Counting for 20 participants (7 women and 13 men) from the Somali Youth Parliament (SYP). The objective of the workshop was to introduce the participants to international standards, principles and management techniques that are fundamental to good electoral practice. The workshop familiarised youth parliament members with the necessary election principles for the voting and counting processes, for application in their upcoming SYP elections.

ELECTORAL SUPPORT

Committed to long-term and sustainable development of Somalia’s electoral capacity towards universal ‘one person one vote’ elections in 2020, the Joint Programme on Electoral Support has intensified its assistance to the Somali Federal Government and the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC). With the programme’s support, the National Leadership Forum and Federal Member States of Somalia reached an agreement on the electoral modality of the next Federal Parliament. The agreement confirmed the 4.5 clan formula for the Lower House elections and a regional representation system for the Upper House.

This milestone allowed for the extension of the Joint Programme until the end of 2016 and its support to the electoral process.

The Joint Programme also continued capacity building efforts to the NIEC and Federal Ministries with a three-day training on comparative representation systems in Mogadishu, including sessions on electoral models in post-conflict environments and representation of women and minorities. The NIEC’s operational capabilities were enhanced by providing the Commission with seven vehicles, constructing offices and the provision of IT facilities.

Besides support to the Federal and Regional Governments, the Joint Programme has undertaken various efforts to increase public and stakeholder’s understanding of the electoral process and legal framework through civic education. Various briefings to civil society organisations have taken place and broadcast radio and TV spots are currently being planned for the coming months.
RULE OF LAW & POLICE STIPENDS

“I have high hopes, I always wanted to be a police officer. I am not going to stop until I become the Commissioner” – says 24-year old Yasmin Hussein, who now works as a Police officer for the Somaliland Police. Yasmin is one of 8 young women and 22 young men who graduated this year from the University of Hargeisa with a two-year scholarship programme supported by the Rule of Law Joint Programme. The students have been taught in criminology, terrorism, cybercrime, international law, conflict resolution and money laundering, amongst other subjects, and are now well-positioned to give what they have learned back to their communities.

The scholarships are part of a reforms programme under Rule of Law that supports the development of police legislation, police strategic plans and overall systemic reforms for the Somaliland police service.

In addition, 18 young men and 7 young women completed a seven-months law training in Hargeisa at the Ministry of Justice and will work as legal professionals in all the regions of Somaliland. “We are doing our best to give you jobs”, said the Chief Justice, who attended the graduating ceremony, “This is why we trained you for seven months so that you will be part of the reform. We are going to have extensive discussions on your job placement together with the Minister of Justice, Prosecutor General and other officials.”

As part of the Rule of Law Joint Programme’s outreach to Somalia’s regional governments, the programme team visited Kismayo and discussed its support to the emerging justice institutions of Jubaland, including the development of a justice delivery plan and rolling out justice services to the local population.

SUSTAINABLE CHARCOAL REDUCTION AND ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS

The Joint Programme on Sustainable Charcoal Reduction and Alternative Livelihoods has started its implementation in Q2 2016 with technical and operational capacity building within the Ministry of Livestock, Forest and Range (MOLFR) and held various donor briefings and meetings. These resource mobilization efforts with traditional and non-traditional donors have led to additional EUR 1mn funding from Italy.

The Programme Team established an office for the coordination of PROSCAL at the MOLFR with a coordinator supporting the ministry on charcoal program.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The Joint Programme continues to significantly support the process of drafting and finalising the National Development Plan (NDP), on a technical and financial level, and has also substantially supported the launch of the plan at the end of June.

In addition, the Programme is supporting the Puntland government in aligning its NDP with the national NDP, for which an international consultant has been recruited.

The Joint Programme has also supported the Government to fill key capacity gaps in line ministries by financing, for a period of time, the salaries of key personnel in the FGS (MoPIC 11, ACU 21; OOP 10) and Puntland (Ministry of Labor, Youth and Sports 5, and MoPIC 1). The Ministry of Finance is supported with an advisor, who is temporarily appointed to establish and head the strategic planning unit.

JOINT PROGRAMME ON LOCAL GOVERNANCE (JPLG)

“Today, we are concluding this important training but the real work starts from when you get back to your district to implement what you have learned in your planning and budgeting”, said Mohamed Ahmed Dirie, Deputy Mayor of Benadir, after a five-
day training on Public Planning and Expenditure Management for Local Governments (PEM). The training is part of JPLG’s efforts to build capacity of federal and local government institutions and enhanced the participants’ skills on community awareness/consultation, district profiling, planning in line with district and national priorities, and budgeting with investment programming models.

JPLG is also promoting engagement between federal and local levels, for example through the Dialogue Forum, which provides a platform for both State Government actors and the Federal Government to engage in dialogues on decentralisation with focus on the degree to which power, decision-making and control of resources can be devolved from the federal level to state and district level administrations. This goes in line with JPLG’s strategy of using decentralisation as a mechanism to promote accountability and transparency in local government service delivery.

A number of rapid assessments that have been conducted after trainings have shown that there are still significant barriers for women to participate and engage in local administration, which mostly relates to the lack of or inadequate physical space for women’s needs. However, mayors of those districts expressed a positive attitude towards improving the work environment for women and JPLG will support this in the coming months.

JOINT PROGRAMME ON ENABLERS

RCO continued its support to the monthly SDRF meetings in Mogadishu and facilitated the organisation of the HLACF in Hargeisa in June. Additionally, RCO coordinated the integrated UN engagement in the NDP process, including organising a series of FGS-UN roundtables, consolidating strategic level feedback to the first NDP draft and the negotiations over the post-2016 Compact arrangements. Finally, RCO continues to perform its MPTF Secretariat functions, including the quarterly MPTF report, this newsletter and the monthly donor briefings.

The Risk Management Unit (RMU), in addition to its standard functions, implemented its new project risk assessment service with the High Risk Prisoner Rehabilitation project in Baidoa. Two trainings for local NGOs in Galkayo and Kismayo were conducted and engagement with the SIMAC group was strengthened to support the production of geographical mapping data information.

Finally, the Joint Programme on Enablers has allowed UN Women to engage actively in mainstreaming gender into the NDP and in promoting improved attention to gender issues in the monitoring framework.

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