

**UNPFN Executive Committee Meeting  
Minutes for 29 June 2009**

**Attendance: Executive Committee Members**

Robert Piper (Chair)  
Karin Landgren (Vice Chair)  
Durga Nidhi Sharma (Government Representative, MoPR)  
Kapil Dev Ghimire (Government Representative, MoF)  
H. E. Finn Thilsted (Donor Advisory Group Representative)

**Resident Coordinator's Office**

David Wood (Senior Peace and Development Adviser)  
Caroline Vandenabeele (Head of Resident Coordinator's Office)

**Executive Committee Support Office**

Monica Rijal (National Programme Officer)  
Ben Reese (Consultant)

1. The Executive Committee of the UN Peace Fund for Nepal met on 29 June.
2. **Update on finances and status of current pipeline projects (Local Peace Committees, Housing and Land Data Collection, Discharge)**

The Executive Committee members were briefed on fund finances. The fund currently has contributions of \$22,996,435, of which \$ 10,000,000 from the Peace Building Fund is expected to be released soon. \$13,680,054 has been committed to approved projects and \$9,316,381 is available to pipeline projects and additional funding rounds. If the discharge project funds are held in reserve and the 'Housing, Land and Property Rights Issues' project goes ahead, but the funds for 'Building Local Capacities for Peace' are returned to the fund for future rounds then \$4,966,175 is available for programming.

<b>DECISION:</b>	The Committee agreed to release funding for the 'Building Local Capacities for Peace' (UNPFN/E-3) project back to the funding pool. When a decision is taken to make LPCs operational, this proposal can be resubmitted to the Committee, with amendments as agreed by MOPR, and subject to funds being available.
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**3. Project amendments for the discharge:**

The Committee should decide whether it wanted to maintain standing capacity for the discharge process. If it did, this would require approval of a release of funds to UNICEF for '*Programme Support for Children and Adolescents Formerly Associated with the Maoist Army in Nepal*' (UNPFN/A-4) and UNDP for '*Discharge and Reintegration Assistance to the Maoists Army*' (UNPFN/A-6), so they could maintain the minimum project infrastructure. UNDP advisers would be loaned to Sudan but would remain ready to return to Nepal as soon as the discharge process went ahead. Sudan's UNDP discharge program would then credit back the balance of funds for the time these technical experts worked in Sudan to the UNDP discharge project in Nepal.

The UN was ready to proceed with this project but this requires a political decision. The Committee has accepted, with regret that delays resulted in additional costs but noted that the use of UNDP's Sudan program was an innovative way to manage the costs.

<b>DECISION:</b>	The Committee agreed to the proposed project extensions and advance of additional funds to <i>'Discharge and Reintegration Assistance to the Maoists Army'</i> (UNPFN/A-6) and <i>'Programme Support for Children and Adolescents Formerly Associated with the Maoist Army in Nepal'</i> (UNPFN/A-4)
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#### 4. Discussion on Strategic Outcomes for the next funding round

The Chair presented the draft Strategic Outcomes for discussion saying that it was developed in consultation with a number of parties including the Secretary of the Ministry of Peace and Reconstruction. Four to five outcomes would require \$10 million to be meaningful and to ensure a robust competitive round. In case of insufficient funds, only some of the outcomes could be addressed (eg. \$5 million for 2 outcomes). Some prioritization would therefore be required.

It was agreed that the UNPFN should seek to promote policy development objectives combined with the piloting of specific models of implementation, as this would give special emphasis on implementation during policy/program design. For the Fund to attract donor support, outcomes should be relevant to donors' support of the peace process. The Committee discussed the draft objectives in some detail.

<b>DECISION:</b>	<p>The Strategic outcomes were noted and the Committee agreed its support in general terms but requested the Secretariat to review some of the proposed wording in light of the Committee's discussion.</p> <p>The Chair should seek additional resources from donors for these outcomes and after six weeks would then determine how many outcomes could be addressed if the total funds in the pool were less than \$10 million.</p>
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#### 5. Endorse updated UNPFN Terms of Reference, UNPFN Executive Committee Terms of Reference and Rules and Procedures

The Chair presented the updated UNPFN Terms of Reference (ToR), and UNPFN Executive Committee ToR and Rules and Procedures and pointed out some of the key changes made:

- Meeting the UN Peace Building Fund guidelines as requested by the Peace Building Support Office;
- Incorporate lessons learned, better practice, and updated Ex Com documentation;
- Improved quality control processes and embedded monitoring and evaluation;
- Strengthened concept papers and project proposal documents;
- Agency administrative costs capped at 7%;
- \$50,000 allocated for M&E; and
- A "Rapid Response Request" to fast track projects up to the value of \$50,000 per project, not exceeding \$200,000 per annum.

The Government representatives wished to further discuss the documents at their respective Ministries, but supported the changes in principle. The Committee agreed that it would be useful if the Chair could brief the NPTF Steering Committee on the UNPFN. UNCT agencies should be given enough time for consultation with Government officials to ensure project designs had Government support and could be implemented without delay.

<b>DECISION:</b>	The Committee endorsed the UNPFN Terms of Reference (ToR), and UNPFN Executive Committee ToR and Rules and Procedures in principle. The Committee agreed to give Government representatives enough time, until 13 July 2009, to further discuss the documents in the Ministries before giving their considered view.
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**6. Executive Committee Support Office costs and funding sources**

The Chair noted the need to staff the Executive Committee Support Office with a two person team, one national and one international. For this a budget of \$ 150,000 is required. The Chair presented a proposal to utilize \$100,000 of the UNPFN funds towards staffing costs of the Executive Committee Support Office for a period of 12 months. The UN Resident Coordinator’s Office would meet the additional requirements from its own budget or through other sources.

<b>DECISION:</b>	The Committee agreed to the allocation of \$100,000 per annum to the UNPFN Executive Committee Support Office from UNPFN funds.
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**7. Annual Report and Factsheet**

<b>DECISION:</b>	The Committee noted the Second Consolidated Annual Progress Report for the UN Peace Fund for Nepal provided by the Multi Donor Trust Fund Office and the UNPFN Factsheet.
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**8. AOB**

The Committee discussed the importance of raising the public profile of the UN Peace Fund. To this end a press release on the ILO project “Jobs for Peace” was released which was widely picked up by the local and some international media. A press release on the OHCHR’s Transitional Justice project would be issued shortly.