

**MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND**  
**SUDAN FINANCING PLATFORM**

**Terms of Reference**

June 2021, updated September 2021

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## 1. Introduction

Sudan is at a turning point in its history. In December 2018, a deteriorating economic situation led to an uprising under the leadership of the Forces of Freedom and Change (FFC) with the instrumental participation of women and youth. A state of emergency was declared in February 2019, and a new transitional federal government was formed with military officers appointed as governors of the 18 States. As protests continued, the military withdrew its support for President Omar al-Bashir who had been in power for 30 years and replaced him with a Transitional Military Council (TMC) in April 2019.

Following negotiations, the TMC and the FFC signed a Political Declaration establishing a 39-month timeframe for a transitional period on 17 July 2019. The Constitutional Declaration, signed on 17 August 2019, annulled the Interim National Constitution of 2005 and articulated the principles of sovereignty and rule of law as well as governance arrangements within the executive and the legislative, while fully respecting fundamental rights and freedoms. A Sovereign Council (comprising five members from the military and six from the FFC), and a transitional technocratic government were established to address the country's immediate challenges, including reforming state institutions, making peace with armed groups and addressing the dire economic situation.

Guided by Prime Minister Hamdok, UN representatives from UN Headquarters, the UN country team (UNCT) and peace operations in Sudan (UNAMID and UNISFA) met on 7-9 September 2019 to analyze the situation, reach a common understanding of the challenges and opportunities and identify priorities considered critical for the success of the transition. On the margins of the 74th General Assembly in September 2019, Prime Minister Hamdok outlined the transitional government's key priorities during a High-Level Event on Sudan:

- End conflict and build sustainable peace;
- resolve the economic crisis;
- reform state institutions;
- strengthen the rule of law and human rights; and
- ensure the meaningful and equal participation of women.

In addition to the ensuing political transition and the ongoing consolidation of peace, Sudan is also in the process of undertaking structural adjustment in order to tackle the deteriorating economic situation in Sudan as well as the significant humanitarian and development and peacebuilding challenges. For instance, the numbers of vulnerable people rose 44 percent from 2020, with 8.9 million targeted among 13.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. At time of writing, there are 1.1 million refugees and 2.6 million internally displaced people. In addition – spiraling inflation, and extremely high food prices, have meant that the number of households facing crisis (IPC Phase 3 and above) remains high, particularly among IDPs, refugees, and urban poor. The IPC estimated that in December 2020, 7.1 million people were acutely food insecure. While this is lower than the peak of 9.3 million people during the lean season, it represents a significant increase from the same period the previous year.

Following the removal of Sudan from the State Sponsor of Terrorism List, arrangements are being made to provide bridge funding facility to clear Sudanese arrears to the World Bank enabling Sudan to regain access to financing from the World Bank. Meanwhile, Sudan has been moving ahead to implement the necessary reforms to make it eligible for debt relief working towards a decision point under the Highly

Indebted Poor Country (HIPC) initiative. The timing to reach a HIPC decision point depends on several steps including satisfactory implementation of an IMF Staff Monitored programme for a minimum of six months. Over the last couple of months, the country has lifted fuel and electricity subsidies. Outstanding actions remain liberalizing the exchange rate given the low level of foreign exchange reserves. As these economic reforms take place the GoS has requested support from the donor community to establish the Sudan Family Support Programme (SFSP) for social impact mitigation to provide cash transfers for up to 80 percent of the population, that is to 32.5 million individuals at an annual cost of 1.9 billion - delivered through the World Bank managed Sudan Transition and Recovery Support Trust Fund (STARS) provides mitigation measures to Sudanese families affected by expected economic reforms and other short-term shocks).

In its resolution 2495 (2019), the Security Council requested the Secretary- General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission to present a report on, inter alia, options for a follow-on presence to UNAMID, based on the views and needs of the transitional Government. The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission submitted the special report on UNAMID and a follow- on presence in Sudan to the Security Council on 17 March 2020 (S/2020/202). In April 2020, an interdepartmental multi-disciplinary Sudan Planning Team was established and on 3 June, the Security Council, through resolution 2524 (2020), established the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) and reaffirmed in S/CR/2579 (2021).

This Multi-Partner Trust Fund is set up as a multi-window fund in which windows, thematic areas and (joint) projects can be added in an incremental manner – to **flexibly** respond to the needs and aspirations of the Sudanese people. The Sudan Financing Platforms “Peacebuilding and Stabilization Window” is described within these Terms of References is the main funding mechanisms to support Security Council resolution 2524 and reaffirmed in S/CR/2579 (2021).

## 2. Rationale and MPTF's Functions

In May 2017, a financing strategy mission to Sudan was undertaken by OECD and MPTFO in collaboration with other United Nations partners. Following the recommendations of the mission, this MPTF is designed to have the potential to support a range of initiatives that advance the integrated planning and more coherent financing architecture across the humanitarian-development-peace aid architecture in Sudan. Within that context, the Sudan Financing Platform established a “Peacebuilding and Stabilization Window” offers the following benefits:

1. **Coherence:** Strengthens UN system-wide coherence between the mission component and its integrated UNCT partners – in the areas defined in S/RES/2524 (2020) and reaffirmed in S/CR/2579 (2021) – noting that coordination and the trust-fund level has fewer transaction costs coordination between individual peacebuilding programmes.
2. **Strategy:** Operationalizing the MPTF a singular evolving peacebuilding strategy would help align UNITAMS and its integrated UNCT partners around common outcomes and strategies in consultation with the Government of Sudan and donor partners.
3. **Accountability:** Through an MPTF, donors will have additional lines of accountability for results at the highest level of mission leadership. The DSRSG would lead UNITAMS and UNCT in the effort to capitalize and operationalize the fund, which would be run out of the Office of the

DSRSG/RC/HC, while UN entities implement programmes following their own rules and procedures and retain accountability for resources and programmatic results.

4. **Financial leverage:** An MPTF allows for consolidation of contributions from multiple financing partners – and helps guide UN investments against identified peacebuilding priorities and mission benchmarks. This leverage helps ensure that peacebuilding and sustaining peace are considered strategic priorities across the UN system and by the government counterparts.
5. **Flexibility:** an MPTF has agility to rapidly respond to changed or new needs coming up and can prioritize within the strategic framework.
6. **Reduced costs:** Costs of an MPTF are reduced for the UN and its partners by using pre-agreed legal templates and harmonized terms for cost-recovery and reporting. An MPTF avoids cascading overheads by imposing a flat and harmonized costing structure for overheads.
7. **Resource mobilization:** An MPTF helps ensure coherence in resource allocations and fund-raising in the area of peacebuilding. It will allow for donor engagement on peacebuilding to be better coordinated and planned while not restricting donor contributions to AFPs directly. With the fund co-chaired by UNITAMS' DSRSG, it will benefit from high-level engagement and good offices.

The MPTF aims to reduce fragmentation. It may provide seed funding to initiate specific interventions that are not being addressed by existing programmes, fund full-fledged projects or contribute to ongoing agency programmes. As specific needs evolve – the Sudan Financing Platform could establish more specialized windows targeting the relevant areas of work as required.

### 2.1 Addressing Peacebuilding Needs

The MPTF supports peacebuilding needs as they pertain to the implementation of Security Council resolution 2524 (2020) and SCr2579 (2021) under its Peacebuilding and Stabilization Window. The resolution mandates that UNITAMS will have the following strategic objectives, working in close collaboration with the transitional Government of Sudan and under Sudanese sovereignty:

1. Assist the political transition, progress towards democratic governance, in the protection and promotion of human rights, and sustainable peace;
2. Support peace processes and implementation of future peace agreements;
3. Assist peacebuilding, civilian protection and rule of law, in particular in Darfur and the Two Areas.
4. Support the mobilization of economic and development assistance and coordination of humanitarian assistance.

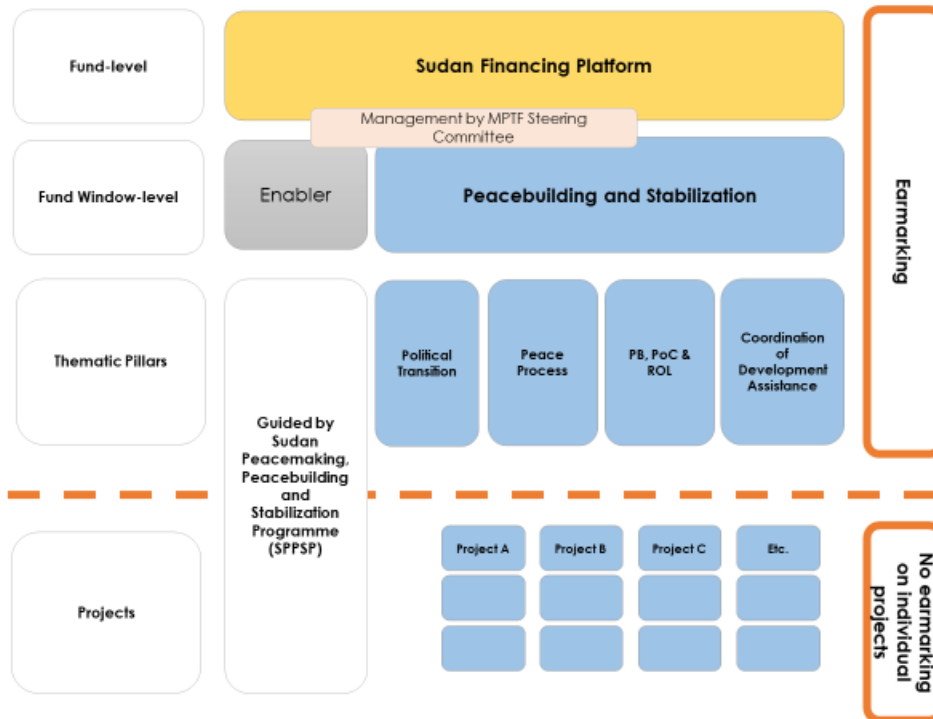
The resolution underscores the need for the activities of UNITAMS and the UNCT to be fully integrated under an Integrated Strategic Framework (ISF) or equivalent.

### 2.2 Link to SDGs

Activities under the Trust Fund would contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals in diverse ways – but primarily aimed at SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. All MPTF related activities would note their specific contributions to the SDGs at the target level – to support UN system-wide alignment towards the SDGs and aid development planning. Noting the specific challenges related to the implementation of the sustainable goals in Sudan, the role of the Sudan Financing Platform may evolve.

## 2.3 Scope of the MPTF

The thematic structure of the Fund can be depicted as follows:



## 2.4 'Enabler' Window

When the MPTF was established in 2019 the 'Enabler' window was the sole window consisting of the project in support of the Sudan International Partners Forum, which brought together International donors, International Financial Institutions' and the UN to coordinate the humanitarian-development-peace nexus activities in Sudan.

## 2.5 'Peacebuilding and Stabilization' Window

In December 2020 an additional window was added to the Sudan Financing Platform: the "Peacebuilding and Stabilization Window" this window will facilitate peacebuilding and stabilization efforts in line with the mandate given in Security Council resolution 2524 (2020) and 2579 (2021) which established the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission for Sudan (UNITAMS).

The programmatic framework for the Window is the Sudan Peacemaking, Peacebuilding and Stabilization Programme, presently under development. The MPTF will finance activities carried out by the United Nations in support of the mandate. Its work will support four distinct programmatic areas in line with Security Council resolution 2524 (2020) and SCr2579 (2021) which mandated UNITAMS to have the following strategic objectives, in full accordance with the principles of national ownership:

1. **Assist the political transition, progress towards democratic governance, in the protection and promotion of human rights, and sustainable peace.** This pillar of work focuses on the state and

institutional reforms. Sudan's Constitutional Declaration sets out a range of critical tasks for the transitional period. UNITAMS will support the transitional authorities in meeting the objectives of the Constitutional Declaration. This strategic objective relates to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 5, 10, 16 and 17.

2. **Support peace processes and implementation of future peace agreements.** One of the key priorities in the Constitutional Declaration is the resolution of all internal conflicts. This second pillar of work focuses on peace agreements as entry points for addressing both the roots and the consequences of conflict. Through its good offices, UNITAMS will provide good offices and support to the Sudanese peace negotiations and, if requested by the parties, provide scalable support to the implementation of peace agreements. This strategic objective relates to SDGs 5, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16 and 17.
3. **Assist peacebuilding, civilian protection, and rule of law, in particular in Darfur and the Two Areas.** Peacebuilding requires further efforts beyond the implementation of peace agreements. This pillar outlines some of the necessary reforms at community level in order to advance social cohesion and rebuild the social contract. UNITAMS will aim at supporting Sudanese stakeholders to enable a protective environment, in particular for women, girls and boys, and address the conflict drivers and root causes. This strategic objective relates to SDGs 5, 10, 11, 16 and 17.
4. **Support the mobilization of economic and development assistance and coordination of humanitarian assistance.** One of the pre-eminent challenges facing the transitional Government and its reform agenda is the continued economic crisis. This pillar addresses aid coordination, resource mobilization and management challenges underpinning the transformation of Sudan envisioned by the Constitutional Declaration. UNITAMS will coordinate international efforts to assist the Sudanese stakeholders in identifying and articulating their priorities and in mobilizing donor support through the transitional period, including through the Sudan National Development Forum, Friends of Sudan group and other Khartoum-based coordination mechanisms. The ongoing reflection on the revamping of the aid coordination architecture under the leadership of the transitional Government will be reflected once in place.

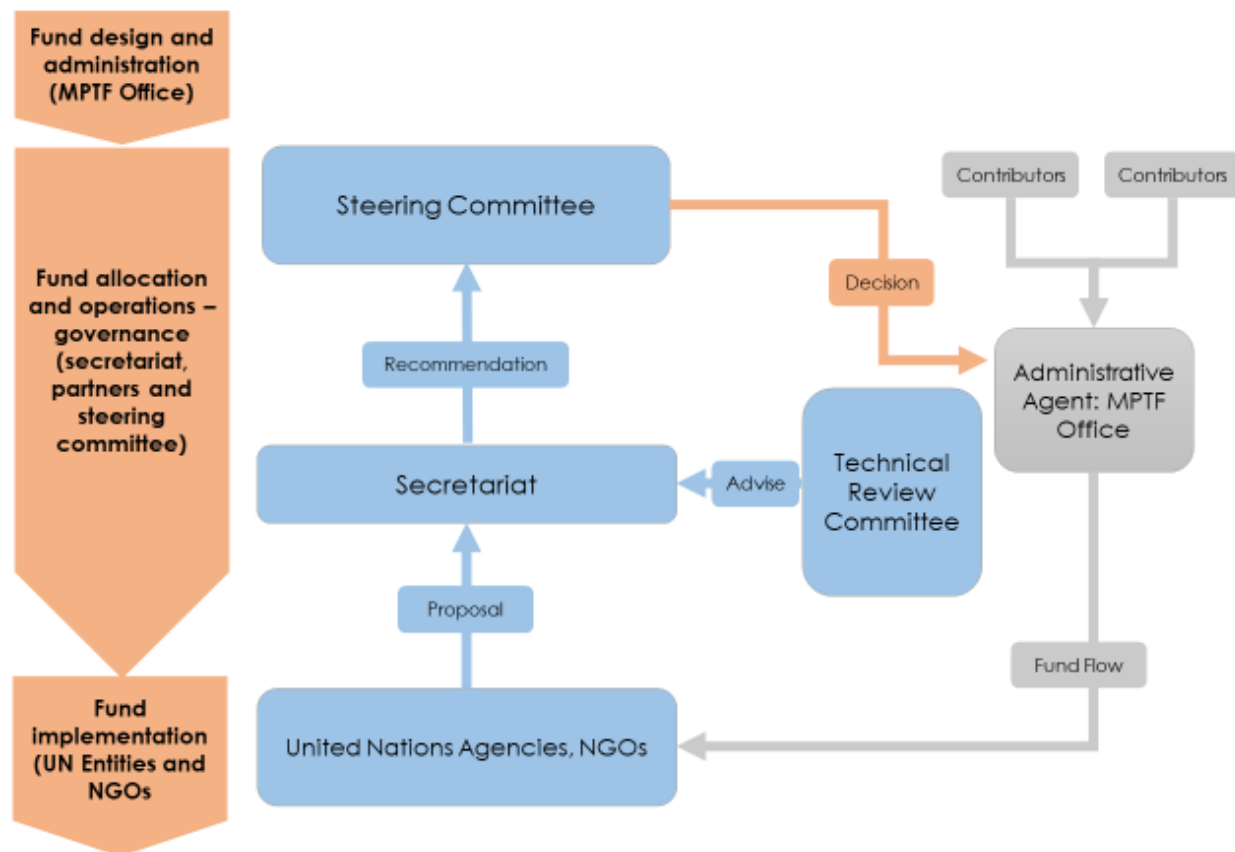
The protection and promotion of **human rights** as well as **gender equality** are cross-cutting concerns among the four pillars and underpin UNITAMS' mandate, and the SPSP highlights distinct thematic areas where targeted assistance is required to assist the GoS in ensuring the full, equal and meaningful participation of women at all levels of peace and political processes. Strategically and programmatically, therefore, the four Pillars of the SPPSP are inter-linked, mutually reinforcing and dependent upon one another.

### 3. MPTF Governance and Coordination

As currently constituted, the MPTF Steering Committee oversees both the Enabler and the Peacebuilding and Stabilization windows. For the latter window, the Steering Committee is supported by a Technical Review committee to appraise proposals.

The governance of the new Peacebuilding and Stabilization window is represented in below picture. The Steering Committee decides on programmatic priorities and follow up on the programme cycle of the projects funded under the window. The National Coordination Committee for UNITAMS will be consulted on programming in support of the mandate.

In schematic form the Governance is as follows:



### 3.1 MPTF Steering Committee

Decision-making can take place in meetings or by email, including via non-objection. The Steering Committee endeavors to reach agreement by consensus.

- (i) The MPTF Steering Committee provides strategic guidance and general supervision of the MPTF.
- (ii) It is Chaired by DSRSG/RC/HC. Other members include at least three contributing donors, three UN agency and an UNITAMS representative.
- (iii) The Secretariat to the Fund and the New York based Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office are ex-officio members of the Steering Committee.
- (iv) The MPTF Steering Committee meets when deemed necessary; it is responsible for the following tasks:
  - a. Provide general oversight and exercising overall accountability of the MPTF.
  - b. Approve the strategic direction of the MPTF, including the programmatic framework “Sudan Peacemaking, Peacebuilding and Stabilization Programme”;
  - c. Approve MPTF risk management strategy and review risk monitoring regularly;
  - d. Review and approve proposals recommendations submitted by the Secretariat for funding;



- e. Decide the allocation of unearmarked funds between the different Fund windows;
- f. Request fund transfers to the Administrative Agent by a UN member of the MPTF Steering Committee) for projects;
- g. Review MPTF status and oversee the overall progress against, where appropriate, a performance framework, through monitoring, reporting and evaluation;
- h. Review and approve the periodic progress reports consolidated by the Fund Secretariat based on progress reports submitted by Participating UN Organizations and non-governmental organizations under the Managing Agent modality (hereafter referred to as Implementing organizations);
- i. Commission mid-term and/or final independent evaluations on the overall performance of the MPTF;
- j. Approve direct costs related to MPTF operations supported by its Secretariat;
- k. Approve MPTF extensions and updates to the MPTF terms of reference, as required.

#### 3.1.1. Alternates

- a) Where a member is unable to attend a meeting or other required activity, the nominated alternate shall attend subject to prior notification and concurrence being provided to the Secretariat in writing.
- b) Alternates shall be nominated by the same constituencies and in the same way as members at the outset of the term of membership, or where required during the term of membership with an explanation documented.
- c) Alternates shall be of adequate seniority and possess the requisite expertise and attributes to advance the objectives and principles of the Fund.
- d) Where the Steering Committee Chair is unavailable, the Acting Chair appointed by the DSRSG/RC/HC shall be the alternate.

#### 3.1.2. Frequency of Meetings

- a) The Chair shall convene meetings through the Secretariat as required. The meetings will be more frequent in the early stages of the operation of the Fund and during the height of the Fund Allocation Process. While this process is expected to be ongoing subject to available funding, it is envisaged that, after the bulk of project proposals have been considered, SC meetings shall be convened at least every quarter for progress review, monitoring and oversight.
- b) The Chair, and the Secretariat on the Chair's behalf, may circulate routine or administrative issues for electronic review and decision by members concerning matters that do not require in-person deliberation.

#### 3.1.3. Quorum

- a) A quorum for a Steering Committee meeting shall be satisfied with the presence of at least four (4) members including the Chair or Acting Chair and at least one representative of each constituency (UNCT, UNITAMS and Donors).

- b) Should a quorum not be attained, the Chair shall reconvene the meeting within the next seven days or such other period as deemed appropriate in line with the agenda items for consideration. All members present at the reconvened meeting shall be deemed to satisfy a quorum even if the requirements of 3.1.3 a are not met.

#### 3.1.4. Decision making

- a) Every effort will be made to make consensus-based decisions. If no consensus can be reached the Chair will call another meeting to reach consensus or, to reach a decision by majority.
- b) Decisions of the Steering Committee in the Fund Allocation Process shall consist of the following three options in line with the Operations Manual:
  - i. approval;
  - ii. approval with recommendations;
  - iii. non-approval pending resubmission and SC review; or
  - iv. non-approval.
- c) The Secretariat and members acting as ex officio members shall be entitled to participate in discussions however not in the decision making, while observers shall not participate in discussions or decision making unless specifically requested based on relevant expertise to advance discussions.
- d) To enable flexible, adaptive and time relevant support of the fund a written procedure with a no-objection basis could be applied when necessary.

#### 3.1.5. Agenda and Documents

- a) The Chair shall determine and disseminate the agenda through the Secretariat on the announcement of each meeting. The first item on the agenda will be the adoption of the agenda. SC members may make requests through the SC Chair for items to be included on the agenda.
- b) Relevant documents for consideration at each SC meeting will be distributed by the Secretariat to all members on the announcement of the meeting or no later than five (5) working days before it is due to convene.

#### 3.1.6. Minutes

The Steering Committee decisions are recorded in the meeting minutes prepared by the Secretariat in addition to a fund allocation matrix. Within five working days after the end of the Steering Committee meetings, the Secretariat shall:

- a. Circulate draft minutes to Steering Committee members for review and comment;
- b. Finalize and electronically share with the Steering Committee members the minutes of the Steering Committee meeting and decisions on approved or rejected allocations / endorsements;
- c. Provide information to all implementing entities on the decisions of the Steering Committee and indicate the following stages of the Fund Allocation Process including approval status of the project proposal and launch of its activities following approval in the final stage;

- d. Send to the Administrative Agent the details of the approved project proposals with funding allocated by the Steering Committee so that the funds can be transferred in accordance with the procedures detailed in the Operations Manual.

### 3.2 Technical Review Committee

- i. The DSRS/RC/HC appoints through the Secretariat a Technical Review Committee.
- ii. Steering Committee members can propose technical staff to participate in the Review Committee.
- iii. The Technical Review Committee will review project proposals and submit findings to the Secretariat.
- iv. Parties subject to a potential conflict of interest in a discussion are required to declare the conflict of interest and recuse themselves from the discussion.

### 3.3 Fund Secretariat

An MPTF Secretariat reports to the DSRS/RC/HC in his/her capacity of the chair of the Steering Committee, will be appointed by the chair of the MPTF Steering Committee. The Fund Secretariat provides technical and administrative support to the Steering Committee and the Technical Review Committee.

Any additional support required to support the running of the MPTF can be reviewed and approved by the Steering Committee in line with needs and budget availability and existing capacity.

Responsibilities of the Fund Secretariat:

- a. Advise the Steering Committee on any strategic issues of concern, as well as programme approvals and financial allocations based on the inputs of Technical Review Committee, if applicable;
- b. Provide logistical and operational support to the Technical Review Committee;
- c. Organize meetings of the Steering Committee and the Technical Review Committee;
- d. Organize calls for proposals and appraisal processes;
- e. Ensure the monitoring of operational risks and MPTF performance;
- f. Prepare review of the status and overall progress against a results framework, through monitoring, reporting and evaluation;
- g. Consolidate annual and final narrative reports provided by the Participating UN Organizations and share with the Steering Committee for review, and subsequently with Administrative Agent for preparation of consolidated narrative and financial reports;
- h. Facilitate collaboration and communication between Participating UN Organizations to promote effective programme implementation;
- i. Liaise with the Administrative Agent on fund administration issues, including issues related to project/ fund extensions and project/fund closure;
- j. Develop and maintain an operations manual for the project approval allocation and monitoring and evaluation of programmes; and
- k. Support the development of project proposals in full congruence with the Programmatic Framework of the Peacebuilding and Stabilization Window.

### 3.4 Implementing Organizations

#### *Participating United Nations Organizations*

Resources will be allocated to participating United Nations organizations, including UNITAMS, that have signed an MOU with the Administrative Agent. Each participating United Nations organization will assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent. These funds will be administered by each participating United Nations organization in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives, and procedures. The indirect costs of the participating United Nations organizations recovered through programme support costs will be harmonized at 7% of the direct project costs.

#### *Non-Governmental Organizations*

Resources can also be allocated to registered international and national NGOs. NGOs can access funds as a sub-grantee of any Participating UN organization or more directly through a Managing Agent. The Managing Agent is a Participating UN Organization that allows NGOs to apply directly to call for proposals issued by the Fund and if retained, contracts the NGO as a subgrantee according to its own rules, regulations and procedures. The Managing Agent is entitled to the same indirect cost rate of 7% as other Participating UN Organizations.

## 4. MPTF Administration

The MPTF is administered by the MPTFO under the pass-through management modality. The MPTF's administration services, whose costs are 1% of received contributions<sup>1</sup>, include:

- (i) The MPTF's setting up: support to the MPTF's design (Terms of Reference and Operation Manual), and development of legal instruments; and
- (ii) The MPTF's administration: receipt, administration and release of funds to implementing organizations in accordance with decisions from the MPTF Steering Committee, and financial report consolidation.

The MPTFO is responsible for the following functions:

- (iii) Provide support to the design of the MPTF;
- (iv) Sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Participating UN Organizations;
- (v) Sign Standard Administrative Agreements with donors that wish to contribute financially to the MPTF;
- (vi) Receive and manage funds including those of the MPTF's closure;
- (vii) Invest and reinvest MPTF resources according to investment policies, practices and procedures. Any profits will be added to the MPTF's resources and will not be credited to the contributions of a particular donor.

- (viii) Provide updated information to the MPTF Steering Committee regarding the regular resource availability;
- (ix) Subject to the availability of resources, transfer funds to Participating UN Organizations in accordance with MPTF Steering Committee decisions;
- (x) Provide an MPTF final financial report, including notice of the MPTF closure;
- (xi) Release funds as direct costs for the running of the Secretariat, based on MPTF Steering Committee decisions. The Administrative Agent will annually notify the MPTF Steering Committee about the amounts used to that end.
- (xii) Release funds for additional expenses that the MPTF Steering Committee decide to allocate;
- (xiii) Provide tools for fund management to ensure transparency and accountability.

## 5. Contributions

The MPTF's resources will include: donor contributions; any interests, payments, repayments or net profit for investments less any authorized release and incurred expenses in accordance with these Terms of Reference and decisions made by the MPTF's Steering Committee.

The MPTF's resources will be used to finance, or co-finance projects, programs and operations approved by the MPTF's Steering Committee. Unearmarked contributions are encouraged. Donors can earmark funds to the respective windows as well as to the thematic pillars if those exist under the respective windows. The Peacebuilding and Stabilization window consists of four pillars:

- (1) Political transition and democratic governance
- (2) Support to peace processes and the implementation of peace agreements
- (3) Peacebuilding, Protection of Civilians (PoC) and Rule of Law (RoL), in particular in Darfur and the Two Areas.
- (4) Mobilization of economic and development assistance and coordination of humanitarian assistance.

Earmarking to individual projects or agencies are not allowed under UNSDG funds.

The MPTF receives contributions in fully convertible currency or any other currency that can be readily used. Such contributions will be deposited to the bank account designated by the MPTFO. The value of the contributions, if made in a currency other than US dollars will be determined by applying the UN operational exchange type in effect of the date of payment. Profit or loss due to currency exchange rate is registered in the MPTF's account set by the Administrative Agent and will be taken on by the MPTF.

## 6. Project Approval Process

- (i) Projects are developed based on a request from the Steering Committee, or the Fund Secretariat acting on its behalf, – either as an open call for proposals or targeted engagement with members of the United Nations Country Team, or other partners.
- (ii) Projects are reviewed by the Fund Secretariat – for quality assurance purposes and to ensure strategic alignment between the principles and strategies laid out by the Steering Committee and the priorities of the UNITAMS leadership.
- (iii) The Fund Secretariat will consult with the Technical Review Committee.

- (iv) The Fund secretariat presents recommendations for projects for approval to Steering Committee after appraisal by the Technical Review Committee. Approvals may be done electronically and by non-objection within a predetermined timeframe.

## 7. Fund Transfer

The Fund Secretariat shall prepare a fund transfer request for each program or project and budget allocation approved by the Steering Committee. The MPTFO will carry out transfers to implementing entities no later than five (5) working days after the request submittal. Upon completion of the transfer, the representative of the receiving organization and the MPTF Technical Secretariat will be notified through electronic mail.

## 8. Risk management

The objective of a risk management strategy at the MPTF level is facilitating the achievement of programme objectives in the context of the risk in which it operates. The overall risk level of the Sudan is considered high, because of the multidimensional crisis facing the country; political transition and the evolving nature of the peace process. Noting these challenges, managing risks requires a strategic approach; conflict sensitivity; risk analysis; strategic communication; and monitoring and evaluation of programmes. Through the Peacebuilding and Stabilization Window UNITAMS and UNCT can ensure programming is risk informed and conflict sensitive, and responsive to the political, developmental, humanitarian and human rights context – as well as responsive to the fiduciary risks related to programme implementation in Sudan.

These challenges require relevant evidence and coordination tools.

- (i) The Fund Secretariat will develop a risk management strategy as part of the operations manual (under development based on experiences of other MPTF windows in Integrated settings) of the fund.
- (ii) The Risk Management Strategy will respond to the Theory of Change of the Fund and should be proportionate to the objectives it seeks.
- (iii) The Risk Management a may consider the following risks in the context of operating in Sudan:
  - a. Strategic risks related to the external and political and socio-economic climate
  - b. Governance risks concerning quality of organizational decisions; transparency; accountability for results etc.
  - c. Operational risks related to inventory and asset management, ineffective procurement, lack of business continuity.
  - d. Financial risks related to lawful administration of organization resources

## 9. Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

### 9.1 Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation will be carried out in line with the procedures, rules and regulations of each Participating United Nations Organization, until or unless the MPTF Steering Committee approves another approach. Evaluations will follow the UN Evaluation Group norms and standards and will be carried out in line with the System Wide Evaluation Policy.

## 9.2 Reporting

The responsibilities related to reporting are gathered and detailed in the Memorandum of Understanding (section IV) and Standard Administrative Agreements (SAA) (section V).

All the implementing organizations will carry out annual and final reports on activities and expenditures according to a common format designed for the Fund. Additional semi-annual narrative reports and requirements are detailed as per the below.

## 9.3 Narrative reporting

Implementing organizations will present the following reports to the Secretariat for consolidation and further transmission to the Administrative Agent:

- (a) Annual narrative reports to be provided no more than three months (31<sup>st</sup> March) after the end of the calendar year.
- (b) Final narrative reports after the end of activities, contained in the program-related approved document, including the final year of such activities to be submitted no more than four months (30<sup>th</sup> April) after the end of the calendar year in which the operational closure of the activities in the approved programmatic document occurs.

In addition, Participating UN Organizations will submit semi-annual narrative progress reports to the Fund Secretariat, no more than six weeks after the six-month January to June period ends. NGOs will also submit semi-annual narrative reports and other reports if required by the Managing Agent.

The narrative reports will exhibit results-based evidence. Reports will compare actual results against estimated results in terms of outputs and outcomes and they will explain the reasons of higher or lower performance. The final narrative report will also include the analysis of how the outputs and outcomes have contributed to the Fund's overall objective.

## 9.4 Financial Report

Implementing organizations present the following financial statements and reports to the Administrative Agent:

- (a) Annual financial statements and reports to 31<sup>st</sup> December regarding released resources by the fund to them; these shall be provided no more than four months (30<sup>th</sup> April) after the end of the calendar year.
- (b) Bi-annual financial statements and reports, regarding released resources by the Fund to them; these shall be provided no more than three months after the six month period ends;
- (c) Final certified financial statements and financial reports after the completion of activities contained in the program-related approved document, including the final year of such activities, to be submitted no more than six months (June 30<sup>th</sup>) in the following year after the financial closure of the project.

Based on these reports, the Administrative Agent will prepare consolidated narrative and financial annual and final reports to each of the Fund's Contributors and to the Steering Committee as per the schedule established in the Standard Administrative Agreement.

In addition, Participating UN Organizations are requested to submit semi-annual financial statements and reports, regarding released resources by the Fund to them; these shall be provided to the Fund Secretariat no more than three months after the six-month period ends. NGOs will submit financial reports in line with the Managing Agent requirements.

## 10. Operations Manual

These operating details will be developed in depth by the MPTFO and the Fund's Technical Secretariat within three months of the posts being appointed.

## 11. Amendments, duration, and termination

The MPTF Steering Committee will be able to modify, by mutual agreement, any of the provisions of these terms of reference in writing or establish complementary agreements.

The MPTF is now established till 31 December 2024.<sup>2</sup> The MPTF Steering Committee will have the authority to modify the MPTF's duration in agreement with MPTFO.

After the MPTF's closure the contractual liabilities undertaken by the MPTF under these terms of reference or any complementary agreements, including agreements signed with third parties, before receiving the corresponding notice of closure, will not be affected by this closure.

Any remaining balance in the MPTF account and separate account of implementing organizations after the closure of the MPTF will be used for a purpose established by the MPTF Steering Committee and the Donors, or it will be reimbursed to the Donor(s) in proportion to their contribution to the MPTF, as decided by the Contributor and the MPTF Steering Committee.

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<sup>2</sup> The duration of Fund's operations does not include the closure periods of the same.