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**PBF PROJECT progress report**

**COUNTRY:** SOMALIA

**TYPE OF REPORT: annual**

**YEAR of report: 2020**

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| **Project Title:** **Support to Mechanisms to Prevent and Manage Conflict During Elections Project Number from MPTF-O Gateway:** [**00119246**](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fmptf.undp.org%2Ffactsheet%2Fproject%2F00119246&data=02%7C01%7Cirfan.mahmood%40undp.org%7Ca443dca99130437e2bf808d780087559%7Cb3e5db5e2944483799f57488ace54319%7C0%7C0%7C637118646128726785&sdata=8%2BlpEywT329hFqhD29HSTo2xcnA%2BB0%2B3y2PbdULfkr8%3D&reserved=0) | |
| **If funding is disbursed into a national or regional trust fund:**  X Country Trust Fund  Regional Trust Fund  **Name of Recipient Fund:** UNDP | **Type and name of recipient organizations:**  **UNDP (Convening Agency)** |
| **Date of first transfer:** 13 December 2019  **Project end date:** 12 August 2021  **Is the current project end date within 6 months?** No | |
| **Check if the project falls under one or more PBF priority windows:**  Gender promotion initiative  Youth promotion initiative  Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions  Cross-border or regional project | |
| **Total PBF approved project budget (by recipient organization):**  **Recipient Organization Amount**  UNDP $ 2,500,000  Total: $ 2,500,000  Approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget: 24 %  \*ATTACH PROJECT EXCEL BUDGET SHOWING CURRENT APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE\*  **Gender-responsive Budgeting:**  $ 485,997 and in-kind contribution of USD 174,336 for dedicated time of two Senior Gender Advisors, P 5 level from UNSOM and UNDP. In addition, this project will be informed and will benefit from a GM 3 project which will solely focus on addressing gender differential issues before and during elections. In kind support and oversight will be provided by two senior gender advisors (UNDP and UNSOM) and national gender specialists (UNSOM) at FG and FMSs levels.  Amount expended to date on activities focussed on gender equality or women’s empowerment: 0 | |
| **Project Gender Marker:**  **Project Risk Marker:**  **Project PBF focus area:** | |
| **Report preparation:**  Project report prepared by: Anthony Howie, Senior Elections Security Advisor, IESG, UNDP  Project report approved by: Peter Nordstrom, PBF Coordinator  Did PBF Secretariat review the report: Yes. Peter Nordstrom PBF Coordinator, Fadumo Mumin, M&E Specialist | |

***NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT:***

* *Avoid acronyms and UN jargon, use general /common language.*
* *Report on what has been achieved in the reporting period, not what the project aims to do.*
* *Be as concrete as possible. Avoid theoretical, vague or conceptual discourse.*
* *Ensure the analysis and project progress assessment is gender and age sensitive.*
* *Please include any COVID-19 related considerations, adjustments and results and respond to section IV.*

**PART 1: OVERALL PROJECT PROGRESS**

**Briefly outline the status of the project in terms of implementation cycle, including whether preliminary/preparatory activities have been completed (i.e. contracting of partners, staff recruitment, etc.) (1500 character limit):**

The project has experienced significant delay due mainly to the deteriorated relationship between the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and the Federal Member States (FMSs) leadership that existed for over six months during 2020. In September, the FGS and FMSs leadership finally agreed on an indirect electoral model, which is similar to the election model used in 2016. As a result of the lack of communication between the FGS and FMS, there was little progress with elections security planning and coordination, and the planning which was undertaken assumed large-scale direct elections would take place by the end of 2021.

During the year, the project provided support to the National Electoral Security Task Force (NESTF) Secretariat office by providing all equipment and high-quality internet connections to allow the Secretariat to be fully functioning. The project discussed the recruitment of Somali staff, but the Secretariat has not yet progressed this offer. The project has supported three NESTF meetings in December 2019, and January and March 2020. These meetings included representatives from the FGS and FMS security institutions. The March 2020 meeting took important decisions on finalising its TORs, a Concept for Security, presentations on the PBF project’s support, and on security planning and coordination mechanisms at FMS levels. Also discussed was the importance of addressing the protection of women, and enabling strong dialogue between FGS and FMSs and with the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) including the sharing of the list of potential sites for voter registration and polling for security assessment as a direct electoral model was anticipated.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused some challenges related to the NESTF as it was difficult to get the full attention of the Security Forces while they were otherwise engaged with managing law and order issues related to the pandemic during the first quarter of 2020. There were also a number of changes made in the command and control of the police structures. This resulted in the staff appointed to the NESTF being focused on other security matters rather than fully involved in electoral security related matters. Notwithstanding the COVID-19 difficulties, the most significant challenge was the time and effort it took for the FGS and FMS leadership to agree on an electoral model, resulting in the departure from a direct elections model and instead agreed on 17 September to implement an indirect elections model similar to 2016. The agreed model also removed any involvement by the NIEC who up until then had been a key stakeholder in security planning. In October, the NESTF Secretariat shared a draft National Elections Security Plan and budget based on the revised electoral model. As a result, the package of support provided by the PBF project has been adjusted to provide support to the agreed indirect elections model. Another significant challenge is the timeline for the indirect elections, with voting due to start for the House of the People from 10-27 December. Having all electoral and security preparations completed by then will be a significant challenge and already certain benchmarks are well behind schedule.

**Please indicate any significant project-related events anticipated in the next six months, i.e. national dialogues, youth congresses, film screenings, etc. (1000 character limit):**

Since the agreed indirect election model was announced on 17 September, elections security planning progressed in earnest. In November, based on the draft National Elections Security Plan, IESG/UNDP was directed to initiate procurement action of the equipment for 12 Joint Operations Centres (JOC) which will be located in each polling location in the FMS and Banadir (BRA) will have one. There will be two polling locations established in each of the FMS and BRA. Elections for Somaliland seats will also be held in Mogadishu. Included in the JOC structure is a Women’s Situation Desk. Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) and the UN are developing a joint concept to establish functioning Women’s Situation Desks and the police officers will be trained by AMISOM. The Women’s Situation Desk is part of the JOC structure and is expected to be staffed by female police officers. Its purpose is to ensure that reports and complaints of violence against women are received and properly and timely responded to by security forces. The procurement process is underway, and equipment is expected to be available by the end of November for AMISOM training teams to commence training the JOC staff.

**FOR PROJECTS WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF COMPLETION: summarize the main structural, institutional or societal level change the project has contributed to. This is not anecdotal evidence or a list of individual outputs, but a description of progress made toward the main purpose of the project. (1500 character limit):**

The elections will be completed within the next six months notwithstanding some unforeseen delay. This project will have provided JOCs with new capacity to plan and coordinate elections security to better prevent and manage electoral violence. This capacity is expected to remain in place within the security institutions and so will contribute to improved planning and coordination of other security operations besides elections including routine security operations, disaster relief operations, and joint operations with other multiple security forces. The project will also have introduced a focus on the protection of women by the security forces for the elections which is essential for other security operations as well. It will have introduced, for the first time, a Women’s Situation Desk in each JOC to ensure that reports and complaints of violence against women are received and properly responded to by security forces in a timely manner, and have sensitised the importance of community policing to deescalate and prevent elections violence.

**In a few sentences, explain whether the project has had a positive human impact. May include anecdotal stories about the project’s positive effect on the people’s lives. Include direct quotes where possible or weblinks to strategic communications pieces. (2000 character limit):**

**PART II: RESULT PROGRESS BY PROJECT OUTCOME**

*Describe overall progress under each Outcome made during the reporting period (for June reports: January-June; for November reports: January-November; for final reports: full project duration). Do not list individual activities. If the project is starting to make/has made a difference at the outcome level, provide specific evidence for the progress (quantitative and qualitative) and explain how it impacts the broader political and peacebuilding context.*

* *“On track” refers to the timely completion of outputs as indicated in the workplan.*
* *“On track with peacebuilding results” refers to higher-level changes in the conflict or peace factors that the project is meant to contribute to. These effects are more likely in mature projects than in newer ones.*

*If your project has more than four outcomes, contact PBSO for template modification.*

**Outcome 1: The delivery of safe, inclusive, credible and transparent elections in 2020/2021**

**Rate the current status of the outcome progress: On track**

**Progress summary:** *(3000 character limit)*

The NESTF has been established and the Secretariat has been equipped with technical and logistical support provided by the project. Every effort has been made to discuss the recruitment of new staff but the Secretariat has not been responsive to reminders to consider next steps regarding the matter. NESTF meetings were held in December 2129, January and March 2020. The NESTF meeting on 15-18 March was productive and well attended by NESTF members (although neither Jubaland nor Puntland attended) and it addressed many matters including:

* Endorsed TORs for the NESTF.
* Tabled the draft Concept for Security (for then Voter Registration).
* The Police Commissioners from SWS; HirShabelle; Galmudug and Banadir briefed on the Threat Assessments for their area of operations.
* FMS & BRA Police Commanders directed to establish and chair the State/BRA Elections Security Task Force with membership of all security stakeholders and the NIEC.
* The UN presented the PBF project to support NESTF and equip and train, with AMISOM support, 22 Joint Operations Centres (JOCs) at the national, state capital and regional levels. Following the 17 September agreement between the FGS and FMS on a revised electoral model, the number of JOCs is reduced to 12 because of the reduction in the number of locations where polling will be held in each FMS and BRA).

Since the NESTF meeting in March 2020, there have been no other meetings. This is because the NESTF Chair (Somali Police Force Commissioner) wanted to know what the definitive electoral model was going to be in order to prepare a realistic security plan. The COVID-19 pandemic also caused some challenges for the NESTF as it was difficult to get the full attention of the Security Forces while they were otherwise engaged with managing law and order issues. There were also a number of internal changes made in the command and control structures of the police force. This resulted in the staff appointed to the NESTF being focused on other security matters rather than fully involved in electoral security related matters. However, the most significant challenge was the time and effort it took for the FGS and FMS leadership to agree on an electoral model, resulting in the departure from an anticipated direct elections model to an agreed indirect elections model. Due mainly to the deteriorated relationship between the FGS and FMS that existed for most of 2019 and 2020, there was no agreement on an electoral model until September. Then the FGS and FMS leadership finally agreed on an electoral model similar to 2016 and published tight timelines to complete the electoral process. Already timelines have slipped with regard to the formation of the electoral committees which were to be established between 10-20 October. Two committees, the Federal Electoral Implementation Committee (FEIC) and the Independent Dispute Resolution Committee (IDRC) was appointed on 4 November by the Prime Minister with 24% women representation thus failing to meet the 30% inclusion of women’s quota. The FEIC appointments were met with opposition from various political leaders and a prominent political party, who cited the inclusion of loyalists to the President and National Intelligence and Security Agency (NISA) operatives. On the FMSs level, South-West State, Galmudug, and Hirshabelle State have each submitted their eight nominations for the FMSEMCs, which must now be completed with three FGS nominees. These appear to be on track to complete the 30% women’s representation. Puntland and Jubaland are yet to submit or complete their nominations to the FMSEMC. This meant that there was little progress made with elections security and planning until mid-October, and that which was undertaken assumed some form of large-scale direct elections based on the 2020 electoral law which is now not relevant. The agreed model also removed any involvement by the NIEC who up until then had been a key stakeholder in security planning.In October the NESTF Secretariat shared a draft National Elections Security Plan and budget. As a result, the package of support provided by the PBF project has been quickly tailored to suit the agreed indirect elections model within the same budget. Originally it was intended to equip 22 small JOCs but based on the new electoral model that provides for 11 electoral constituencies, 12 slightly larger JOCs will be equipped i.e. 1 x national JOC and 11 x JOCs. IESG/UNDP was instructed in mid-October to commence procurement for the JOC equipment which is expected to be available at the end of November. Meanwhile, the UN IESG has analysed the draft national elections security plan and budget and offered that analysis to the NESTF Chair and Secretariat for their consideration. The timeline for the elections is a significant challenge, with voting to elect 54 members of the Upper House through the FMS parliaments to take place between 1-10 December and elections for 275 MPs for the House of the People between 10-27 December. Having all electoral and security preparations completed by then will be a significant task and already certain electoral process benchmarks are well behind schedule and so some delay is anticipated - such delays will help with security preparations. The departure from the anticipated direct elections model to an indirect electoral model with very tight timelines meant new thinking was required to ensure the election is managed safely and securely.

**Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured under this Outcome: (1000 character limit).**

Sweden, through its Security Planning in the Somali 2020/2021 Electoral Process project pledged to fund a range of initiatives to enhance the security forces capacity to encourage participation by women in the electoral process, and to protect women both as participants and as candidates. Swedish representatives attended the NESTF March 2020 meeting to ensure alignment with this PBF project and to propose initiatives and provide targeted support as required to the security forces to encourage the participation and protection of women in the electoral process. Sweden, through the Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA) committed to promoting the participation and protection of women in the elections. FBA has proposed a concept for this support to complement this project, which includes 1) education of the NESTF on protection of women; 2) training of security staff on operational planning (including protection of women); 3) contributing to the national security plans with guidance on measures for the protection of women; 4) co-drafting with UN IESG a joint Concept for the Women’s Situation Desk in the JOCs; and 5)) sponsoring community engagement on participation in the elections. Now that the agreed electoral model and timelines have been announced, FBA remains committed to its initiatives but is reassessing what is possible to deliver in the short time available. Included in the JOC structure is a Women’s Situation Desk. Its purpose is to ensure that reports and complaints of violence against women are received and ensure security forces provide an immediate response to outbreaks of violence and security incidents against women involved in the electoral process AMISOM will provide the training for the Women’s Situation Desks when they are established. . This will provide new capacity to the police to help counter and prevent violence against women.

**PART III: CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

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| **Monitoring:** Please list monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period (1000 character limit)  ***UNDP has contracted a Third Party Monitoring (TPM) company to conduct monitoring and evaluation of various projects. The TPM conducted a monitoring of this project for the period Q1 and Q2. The report is under review.*** | Do outcome indicators have baselines? Yes  Has the project launched perception surveys or other community-based data collection? No |
| **Evaluation:** Has an evaluation been conducted during the reporting period? | Evaluation budget (response required): USD 30,000  If project will end in next six months, describe the evaluation preparations *(1500 character limit)*: N/A |
| **Catalytic effects (financial):** Indicate name of funding agent and amount of additional non-PBF funding support that has been leveraged by the project. | Name of funder: Amount: |
| **Other:** Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations? *(1500 character limit)* |  |

**PART IV: COVID-19**

*Please respond to these questions if the project underwent any monetary or non-monetary adjustments due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

1. Monetary adjustments: Please indicate the total amount in USD of adjustments due to COVID-19:

$.....Nil……..

1. **Non-monetary adjustments: Please indicate any adjustments to the project which did not have any financial implications**:

Since the NESTF meeting in March, NESTF members had to deal with new pressing priorities namely the response to COVID-19, enduring security threats including recent high-profile terrorist and criminal incidents. Following restructuring in the command and control of the police, it was challenging to get the NESTF staff’s full attention. The Chair of the NESTF also didn’t want to engage to the extent required because of the lack of agreement on the electoral model to be implemented by 2020/2021. The Chair of NESTF was urged both by senior UN leadership and international partners as well as by IESG to hold virtual meetings to keep the momentum of NESTF work going. The project provided zoom licences to the NESTF for this purpose.

1. Please select all categories which describe the adjustments made to the project (*and include details in general sections of this report*):

Reinforce crisis management capacities and communications

Ensure inclusive and equitable response and recovery

Strengthen inter-community social cohesion and border management

Counter hate speech and stigmatization and address trauma

Support the SG’s call for a global ceasefire

Other (please describe):

If relevant, please share a COVID-19 success story of this project (*i.e. how adjustments of this project made a difference and contributed to a positive response to the pandemic/prevented tensions or violence related to the pandemic etc.*).

Virtual meetings have been successfully undertaken to avoid face-to-face meetings to which the stakeholders have embraced well and are now routine.

**PART V: INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT**

*Using the* ***Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments****- provide an update on the achievement of* ***key indicators*** *at both the outcome and output level in the table below (if your project has more indicators than provided in the table, select the most relevant ones with most relevant progress to highlight). Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation.* Provide gender and age disaggregated data. (300 characters max per entry)

|  | **Performance Indicators** | **Indicator Baseline** | **End of project Indicator Target** | **Indicator Milestone** | **Current indicator progress** | **Reasons for Variance/ Delay**  **(if any)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Outcome 1**  **The delivery of safe, inclusive, credible and transparent elections in 2020/2021** | Indicator 1.1  Annual workplan + budget  Trained staff with TORs  Agendas + minutes of meetings  A functioning Secretariat to support the NESTF, supported by a UN project team. | No previous or current Secretariat or project team. | Functioning Secretariat with 100% staff (min.30% women). | Annual Work Plan.  Regular meetings with agendas and recoded minutes. | Annual Work Plan completed.  Three meetings held to date – 9 December 2019 21 January and 14-18 March 2020.  Draft National Elections Security Plan shared for revised electoral model announced on 17 Sept.  Draft budget for elections security shared for revised electoral model. | Changes in staff at the NESTF Secretariat, COVID-19 interruptions, internal restructuring within the police authority caused delays in holding regular meetings and ensuring follow up on agreed activities. Moreover, NESTF Chair’s reluctance to hold a meeting until an agreed electoral model was announced was the main reason for no NESTF meetings since March 2020. |
| Output 1.1  **Functional Secretariat supporting NESTF in place and operational** | Indicator 1.1.1  # staff appointed and resources as per plan  # issued as per plan | **0** | 100%, (30% women) | Staff and office allocated to NESTF Secretariat**.**  Office equipped to function. | 9 staff allocated with office space in Police HQ. Office furniture, stationery and computers provided. Secretariat not functioning properly. | Various staff have been seconded to the Secretariat from security institutions – OPM; MOIS; SPF. No new staff have been recruited despite a modest budget and various suggestions to consider engaging staff who could be dedicated 100% to ensuring the Secretariat operates smoothly.  Most staff assigned appear not 100% dedicated to the Secretariat and are working for other sections of the police. |
| Indicator 1.1.2  # training material developed | **NA** | 100% material developed | Training manuals; SOPs; other products | Nil | Support offered to AMISOM to print training manuals and SOPs. |
| Output 1.2  **Establish and Support the NJOC** | Indicator 1.2.1  NJOC is staffed, trained and resourced enabling it to function. | No experience of a NJOC. | A functioning NJOC. | NJOC office space allocated and resourced. Staff assigned.  Staff trained. | Procurement action initiated. | Draft National Elections Security Plan received in mid-October 2020. The plan recognizes the JOCs and directs FMS & Banadir to establish them. Draft plan not yet finalized. |
| Output 1.3  **Establish and Support the SJOCs (6)** | Indicator 1.3.1  SJOC are staffed, trained and resourced enabling it to function. | No experience of SJOCs. | 6 functioning SJOC. | SJOCs office space allocated and resourced. Staff assigned. Staff trained. | As above. | As above. Note that number of JOCS has been reduced from 22 to 12 (One NJOC, 6 SJOCs and 5 RJOCs) to align with the agreed indirect electoral model. SJOC is the same size as the RJOC below. |
| Output 1.4  Establish and Support the RJOCs (5) | Indicator 1.4.1  Establish and Support the RJOCs (5) | RJOC are staffed, trained and resourced enabling it to function. | 6 Functioning RJOC. | RJOCs office space allocated and resourced. Staff assigned. Staff trained. | As above. | As above. Note that number of RJOCS has been reduced from 15 to 5 to align with the agreed indirect electoral model. |