



**Minutes of the 2017 GPI Pillar Programme Component
1st&2nd Quarter Meetings
2nd Floor Conference Room
Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
Tuesday, 20 June 2017**



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

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Agenda

1. Opening and Welcome Remarks
2. Adoption of Last Meeting Minutes
3. Highlights of 1st and 2nd Progress Reports & Presentations of Quarter 3 & 4 Work Plan and Discussions
4. Resolutions
5. AOB

Issues /Discussions on Presentations

Agenda Item	Issues/Discussions/Actions	Responsible
<p>I. OPENING AND WELCOME REMARKS</p>	<p>The Board Meeting was chaired by Madam Tanneh G. Brunson, Deputy Minister for Budget, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning and co-chaired by Mr. Cleophas Torori, Deputy Country Director for Programme, UNDP.</p> <p>In her opening and welcoming remarks Madam Brunson appreciated the attendance and stated that the meeting was convened to receive updates from activities been undertaken by implementing partners (IPs) since the last meeting. She expressed hope that IPs will be able to accelerate delivery amidst the constraints, especially as we move to the upcoming elections. She then lauded UNDP for the support to the government and other relevant stakeholders in the country.</p>	<p>Madam Tanneh G. Brunson</p>
	<p>UNDP Deputy Country Director for Programmes, Mr. Cleophas Torori also appreciated the attendance and the effective leadership and coordination role the MFDP continues to play in development programme implementation. He referred to partners' work plans as a ground covered in terms of effective and efficient project implementation. Noting that despite the foreseeable challenges as a result of the UNMIL drawdown and the upcoming elections, it's better to understand the status of the</p>	<p>Mr. Cleophas Torori</p>

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	<p>projects in terms of achievements made in a challenging environment.</p> <p>The DCD-P drew the attention of the Board to statement made by the Country Director during the last Board meeting underscoring challenges UNDP is encountering because of implementation and meeting the 50% benchmark. He stressed that allocation of funds is now based on programme delivery. He added that delivery also affects staff contract continuity. Hence, the meeting was essential for UNDP to identify impediments to delivery and prepare to avoid the recurrence of poor delivery or delinquency as well as the consequences that follow.</p>	
<p>2. ADOPTION OF LAST MEETING MINUTES AND ISSUES ARISING</p>	<p>1. The leadership crisis within the Constitutional Review Project was resolved with the LRC designated as lead. Despite other logistical needs, it was resolved to prioritize the logistical support for LRC to effectuate its operations for dissemination of information on the constitutional review process.</p> <p>2. Concerns about the STAOP Project were resolved and harmonized by LACC, PPCC and UNDP and eventually signed. A committee set up to evaluate operational cost for each project is yet to complete task due to the challenge of acquiring information from the UNDP.</p>	<p>Board Members</p>
<p>3. HIGHLIGHTS AND DISCUSSIONS OF 4TH QUARTERLY AND 2016 ANNUAL</p>	<p>Strengthen Transparency, Accountability, Oversight and Participation (STAOP) Progress Reports: Highlights from the Liberia Anti-Corruption(LACC) and Public Procurement Concessions Commission (PPCC) reports on the implementation of the STAOP Project:</p>	

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<p>PROGRESS REPORTS</p>	<p>LACC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported procurement of one vehicle and office equipment; recruitment and training of staff as intended in the work plan as well as the setting up of a functional pool. • Investigations of cases increased with 13 new reports from GAC been assigned. • The recruitment of new investigators has increased LACC's capacity to investigate more cases with quality output. • Published the Regulations for assets declaration in keeping with the National Code of Conduct covering the three branches of the government. <p>PPCC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed tenders solicited from vendors, winners determined and actual implementation commenced early June. • Procurement processes concluded and awarding contract for implementation under consideration. The procurement process for machine and supplies completed and delivery is pending. • Quotations solicited from internet providers and activities will likely be completed in June 2017. • Stakeholders in procurement eco system now aware of the procurement framework as evidenced by increased level of compliance to legal requirements. Level of compliance expected to rise. <p>Gender and HIV AIDS Project: The following highlights were reported under the Gender and HIV & AIDS project as key achievements made in the 1st quarter.</p>
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	<p>NAC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment plans developed for the selection of two CSO/NGO/FBO in Nimba and Bong in order to link people to health facility for HIV and AIDS testing. • Assessment plans developed to select women living with HIV and AIDS and in need of social protection packages (income generation). • 30 women living with HIV benefited from livelihood interventions in Nimba (15) and Bong (15) counties. • Firm contracted to design and develop a national data repository of the National HIV. <p>Gender:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Open Day meeting held with the SRSG and the President highlighting continuous support for women leadership and the passage of legislations that will benefit women. • 3 representatives, one each from Women Legislative Caucus, WONGOSOL and National Rural Women Structure participated in the 61th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women which provided opportunities to access new strategies' in promoting women empowerment. • The International Women Colloquium 2017 provided a platform to examine women's leadership across all sectors, identify challenges and lessons learnt there for the enhancement of women's leadership globally. 	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women skills and knowledge enhanced in leadership and governance given the fact that the country is at a crucial point in its democracy. 	<p>Reconciliation Programme: The reconciliation programme presented progress reports highlighted as follows.</p> <p>PBO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2016 Review Report of the Statement of Mutual Commitment; Liberia Peacebuilding plan prepared and submitted; • Opportunities/conflict mapping report finalized and ready for publication; • Held Town Hall Meetings in six counties to create ownership of the social cohesion process reference the strategic roadmap for national healing, peacebuilding and reconciliation; • Training conducted to enhance coordination between CPCs and Civil society actors; • Conflict prevention and mitigation training conducted for political parties' youth leagues and civil society organizations; • Pilot Support provided to NEC by PBO for peaceful 2017 elections through deployment of CPC/EWER volunteers, Junior National Volunteers and Community Liaison Officers to observe voter registration and conduct monitoring voter education process in the 15 counties; • 14 small grantees completed and capacity building initiatives in several communities in 7 counties.
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	<p>Support to Constitutional Review Process (SCRCP)</p> <p>LRC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held several meetings and reviewed of proposals for amendment with the, Vice President of Liberia, leadership of both Houses the Legislature, Judiciary and Good Governance Committees' heads and members, and individual members of the Senate to forge Senate's action on proposals for constitutional amendment. • An agreement by senators to at minimum consider proposals before this sitting ends. • CSOs: Produced a Joint Press Release on the Senate and Constitutional Review Process Sending 1000 SMS messages to legislators mounting social media campaign on Senate • Community Engagements or Constituencies Visitations conducted. • Radio Engagements Working Sessions with Legislators conducted. • Office supplies and equipment including 4 Laptop Computers, 1 Heavy Duty multipurpose copier, 2 Printers, 2 cameras, and assorted stationery and supplies were procured. 	
	<p>A. Strengthen Transparency Accountability Oversight and Participatory Project (STAOP)</p> <p>1) LACC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major challenge is the lack of DSA for lawyer as most of the cases are in rural areas. 	
<p>4. DISCUSSIONS AND ISSUES</p>		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the result of funding from USAID supporting some activities in the STAOP project, LACC requested the consent of Board to use the saving made from the purchase of the vehicle to recondition the old vehicle, setting up Cyber Crime Lab, acquiring Drone with other surveillance logistics, development of jingles and payment for airtime on community radios and driver salary. However, the Board stressed a need for strong synergy between USAID support and other donors to the STOAP Project to avoid duplication. The Board requested the LACC to share the revised workplan with UNDP. 	
	<p>2) PPCC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sourcing of legally registered media institutions is a major challenge. Unless the media is brought into compliance with the existing legal framework, it will be difficult to reach out to the target audience. 	
	<p>B. Gender and HIV AIDS Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NAC was asked in the future to design its presentation outlining what was achieved and amount utilized to enable the Board to make decision. <p>C. Reconciliation Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PBO office requested that that adjustment be made support early warning volunteers Palaver Hut Project also requested for an extension since the project was ending 30 June 2017. 	

RESOLUTIONS OF THE BOARD
D. RESOLUTIONS

Responsible Party

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<p>1. Strengthen Transparency Accountability Oversight and Participation project:</p> <p>LACC</p> <p>a) Board approved that savings from vehicle purchase be reprogrammed as requested by LACC but revised work plan be shared with UNDP for further discussions and compromise.</p> <p>b) The Cyber Crime training be conducted in country to afford more people the opportunity to participate.</p> <p>PPCC:</p> <p>a) Sourcing of legally registered media or advertising institutions to provide a media platform that is capable of reaching out to the widest listening audience was stated as the major challenge. Pass.....the acceptable based on the availability of resources.</p> <p>2. Gender and HIV AIDS Project:</p> <p>a) Gender should work with UNDP for realistic cost.</p> <p>b) NAC should redo and submit the WP to the UNDP for clearance.</p> <p>3. Support to Constitutional Review Project (SCRIP)</p> <p>a) LRC.</p> <p>4. Reconciliation Programme</p> <p>a) The Board resolved that PBO rework her work plan and share with the Board for virtual approval,</p> <p>b) That the Palaver Hut Project holds discussion with UNDP on request for an extension. This should be supported by a work plan.</p> <p>AOB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP noted that the 1st Quarter Board could not be held due to busy schedules of Boards members and the late approval of the annual workplans. • UNDP expressed concern about the constraint obtaining information or getting feedback from partners for timely compilation and preparation as well as getting people together. This basically led to the combination of the 1st and 2nd Quarter reports and request for quarters 3rd and 4th Work Plans. UNDP then appealed to partners for timely feedback as they merely render support but not 	<p>LACC/UNDP/USAID</p> <p>PPCC/UNDP</p> <p>NAC/UNDPs</p> <p>PBO & Palava Hut</p>
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implement.

- On the issue of coordination, UNDP believes is more likely the responsibility of MFDP. However, MFDP noted that it is the responsibility of UNDP Programme Management to ask partners for reports and take action if they fail to comply.
- MFDP promised to send the updated roadmap accompanied by a letter from the Minister to UNDP by the end of June.


Proposed date for next meeting:

There being no other business, the Board meeting was officially closed by the Chair at 3:45 p.m.

Signed:

Co-Chair: 
Mr. Cleophas Torori, Deputy Country Director/ Programme
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Date: 19.9.17

Chairperson: 
Hon. Tanneh G. Brunson
Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
(MFDP)

Date: 9/20/17²⁶

