

**COST-SHARING AGREEMENT**  
**BETWEEN**  
THE NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION  
**AND**  
THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME  
**REGARDING**  
**THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SELECTED COMPONENTS OF THE**  
**ANGOLA-UNDP COUNTRY COOPERATION FRAMEWORK**

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WHEREAS the United Nations Development Programme ("UNDP") and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation ("NORAD"), represented by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Angola, have agreed to cooperate in the implementation of selected thematic areas of the UNDP-ANGOLA Country Cooperation Framework for 2002-2003, namely, participatory governance (with emphasis on decentralisation, democratisation, and justice reform), gender equality, bio-diversity, mine action, and HIV/AIDS, (collectively referred to as "the Programme"), summarised in Annex I to this Agreement, and which will be more fully described in related project documents ("the project documents");

WHEREAS NORAD has informed UNDP of its willingness to contribute funds ("the Contribution") to UNDP on a cost-sharing basis towards implementation of the Programme;

WHEREAS UNDP is prepared to receive and administer the Contribution for the implementation of the Programme;

WHEREAS the Government of Angola has been duly informed of the Contribution of NORAD to the Programme;

WHEREAS UNDP has undertaken to formulate and launch all related projects ("the projects") no later than 12 months from the date of signature of the present Agreement;

WHEREAS UNDP may designate Executing Agencies (including direct execution by UNDP itself) for the implementation of the Programme ("the Executing Agencies");

NOW THEREFORE, NORAD and UNDP hereby agree as follows:

**ARTICLE I**

1. Subject to Parliamentary appropriation, and on terms and conditions set forth herein, NORAD shall, in the manner referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article, place at the disposal of UNDP a total Contribution in the amount of NOK 28.000.000 (Norwegian Kroner Twentyeightmillion), to be used to finance the Programme activities and cover the managerial and support services and administrative and operational support (AOS) costs referred to in Article II, Clause 2, below.

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2. NORAD shall, in accordance with the schedule of payments set out below, deposit the contribution at the UNDP Contributions Account, account no. 015-002284 at the Chase Manhattan Bank, United Nations Office, New York, N.Y. 10017:

- NOK 8.000.000 upon signature of the Agreement.
- Up to NOK 10.000.000 upon approval by NORAD of the Progress Report submitted by UNDP under Article VII for the first year of implementation of the Project.
- Up to NOK 10.000.000 upon approval by NORAD of the Progress Report submitted by UNDP under Article VII for the second year of implementation of the Project.

The above schedule of payments takes into account the requirement that contributions shall be paid in advance of the implementation of planned activities. The disbursement shall be based on the financial needs for the Programme in the coming period, as calculated in the budget mentioned in Article VII, Clause 1. The schedule may be amended to be consistent with the progress of Programme delivery. Any amount already disbursed from the Contribution, but not fully utilised, shall be taken into account when the disbursements are made.

3. UNDP shall immediately in writing acknowledge receipt of the funds.

4. All financial accounts and statements shall be expressed in United States dollars.

5. The value of the contribution-payment, if made in other than United States dollars, shall be determined by applying the United Nations operational rate of exchange in effect on the date of payment. Should there be a change in the United Nations operational rate of exchange prior to the full utilisation by UNDP of the contribution-payment, the value of the balance of funds still held at that time will be adjusted accordingly. If, in such a case, a loss in the value of the balance of funds is recorded, UNDP shall inform NORAD with a view to determining whether any further financing could be provided by NORAD. Should such further financing not be available, the assistance to be provided to the Project may be reduced, suspended or terminated by UNDP.

6. After consultation with UNDP, NORAD may withhold disbursements in case of:

- substantial deviations from agreed plans and budgets;
- failure of UNDP to provide the reports in Article VII as agreed; and
- evidence of financial mismanagement of the Programme.

## ARTICLE II

1. The Contribution shall be utilised by UNDP for the purpose of meeting the costs of the Programme as set out in the project documents as well as the costs of support services relating thereto as specified in the following paragraph. Any additional costs of the Programme, which are not to be met from the Contribution, as well as the source of their financing, are also set out in the project documents.

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2. Contributions will be charged, with an amount equivalent to three percent of all Programme expenditures made from the Contributions for reimbursement of support services provided by UNDP under the Programme or specific projects. Budget lines implemented by Executing Agencies will be subject to a 10% administrative overhead (i.e. AOS).

3. Any interest income attributable to the Contribution shall be credited to the UNDP Account and shall be utilised in accordance with established UNDP procedures for the benefit of the Programme.

### ARTICLE III

1. The Contribution shall be administrated by UNDP in accordance with UNDP regulations, rules and directives, applying its normal procedures for the execution of its Programme. Programme and project management and expenditures shall be governed by the regulations, rules and directives of UNDP and, where applicable, the regulations, rules and directives of the Executing Agencies. UNDP will ensure that the Contribution is recorded in the account of UNDP and reported together with all other contributions to UNDP general resources.

2. UNDP through its Country Office undertakes responsibility to monitor the execution of the projects by the Executing Agencies. If matters arise during the execution of the projects, which are considered by UNDP of substantive character, UNDP shall inform and consult with NORAD.

3. Representatives of NORAD, the Government of Angola and UNDP shall hold annual meetings in January of each year to:

- review the progress of the Programme for the previous year;
- discuss proposals for extension of ongoing or new components/activities/projects to be included in the Programme;
- approve work plans and budgets for the next year; and
- discuss issues of special concern for the implementation of the Programme.

4. In preparation for the Annual Meetings, UNDP shall submit to NORAD within 15 working days of the Meetings:

- work plans with planned outputs and time schedules for the next year;
- a budget for the next year of the Programme, showing all income and expenditures.

These documents together with the Annual Report described in Article VII below, shall provide the basis for the discussions and the decisions in the Annual (Semi-Annual) Meetings.

5. If adjustments in the Programme or budget are required outside the Annual Meetings, these can be agreed upon by exchange of letters.

6. UNDP shall call and chair the meeting. Central elements and all decisions from the consultations shall be recorded in Agreed Minutes. UNDP shall be responsible for drafting the Agreed Minutes.

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7. NORAD may at any time evaluate the progress and results of the Programme or specific project through evaluators appointed by NORAD. This evaluation will be financed by funds outside this Cost-Sharing Agreement.

#### ARTICLE IV

1. The implementation of the responsibilities of UNDP and of the Executing Agency pursuant to this Agreement and the Programme Document/project documents shall be dependent on receipt by UNDP of the Contribution in accordance with the schedule of payment as set out in Article I, Clause 2, above.

2. The aggregate of the amounts budgeted for the Programme, together with the estimated costs of reimbursement of related support services, shall not exceed the total resources available to the Programme under this Agreement as well as funds which may be available to the Programme for Programme costs and for support costs under other sources of financing.

3. If unforeseen increases in expenditures or commitments are expected or realised (whether due to inflationary factors, fluctuation in exchange rates or unforeseen contingencies) UNDP shall submit to NORAD on a timely basis a supplementary estimate showing the further financing that will be necessary.

4. If the contribution-payment referred to in Article I, Clause 2, above, are not received in accordance with the payment schedule, or if the additional financing required in accordance with Clause 3 above is not forthcoming from NORAD or other sources, the assistance to be provided to the Programme under this Agreement may be reduced, suspended or terminated by UNDP.

#### ARTICLE V

Ownership of equipment, supplies and other properties financed from the Contribution shall vest in the UNDP. Matters relating to the transfer of ownership by UNDP shall be determined in accordance with the relevant policies and procedures of UNDP.

#### ARTICLE VI

The Contribution shall be subject exclusively to the internal and external auditing procedures provided for in the financial regulations, rules and directives of UNDP.

Should an audit report of the External Auditors of UNDP to its governing Body contain observations relevant to the Contribution, a copy of such report and of UNDP's published comments shall be made available to NORAD. UNDP shall hold the funds contributed by NORAD in a ledger account and shall produce a certified statement of the account annually as of 31 December.

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## ARTICLE VII

1. UNDP shall, before the end of February each year, submit to NORAD an Annual Report on the implementation of the Programme for the previous year, related to the goals and objectives of the projects implemented during the year.

-The Annual Report shall provide detailed information on the achievement of the Goals and Objectives and include project progress reports, giving information on outputs compared to targets, work plans and time schedules, use of inputs, problems encountered or foreseen and other information related to the implementation of the projects.

Together with the Annual Report UNDP shall submit to NORAD budgets for each project for the next year of the Programme based on projected income and all expenditures.

2. UNDP shall submit to NORAD a Final Report within six (6) months after the completion or termination of the Programme, which will coincide with end of the last project. The Final Report shall give a summary of outputs and activities undertaken, achievements compared to Goals and Objectives and an assessment of the efficiency of the Programme and of the individual projects.

3. NORAD shall respond to UNDP in writing within 5 weeks of receipt of the reports. In responding, NORAD shall indicate approval of the reports, or explain the reasons for non-approval. If no response is received within the time period specified above, the reports should be deemed approved. If NORAD indicates non-approval of the reports within the time period specified above, the Parties shall consult with a view to reaching promptly a mutually acceptable solution.

## ARTICLE VIII

UNDP shall notify NORAD when all activities relating to the Programme have been completed.

## ARTICLE IX

1. After consultations have taken place between NORAD, UNDP and the Government of Angola, and provided that the contribution-payments already received are, together with other funds available to the Programme, sufficient to meet all commitments and liabilities incurred in the implementation of the Programme, this Agreement may, notwithstanding Article X, be terminated by UNDP or by NORAD. The Agreement shall cease to be in force thirty days after either of the Parties may have given notice in writing to the other Party of its decision to terminate the Agreement.

2. If the unutilised contribution-payments, together with other funds available to the Programme, are insufficient to meet such commitments and liabilities, UNDP shall notify NORAD and consult with NORAD on the manner in which such commitments and liabilities may be satisfied.

3. Notwithstanding termination of this Agreement, UNDP shall continue to hold unutilised contribution-payments until all commitments and liabilities incurred in implementation of the

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Programme before the date of the notice of termination have been satisfied and the activities of individual project brought to an orderly conclusion.

4. Any contribution-payments that remain unexpended after commitments and liabilities referred to in this Agreement have been satisfied shall be disposed of by UNDP in consultation with NORAD.

**ARTICLE X**

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature and shall remain in force until both Parties have fulfilled all obligations arising from it, and all commitments and liabilities incurred in the implementation of the Project have been satisfied. Whether these obligations shall be regarded as fulfilled shall be determined in consultations between the Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, acting on behalf of their respective institution, have signed the present Agreement in the English language in two copies.

**For the Norwegian Agency for Development  
Cooperation (NORAD)**

**For the United Nations  
Development Programme (UNDP)**



Name: Bjørn S. Heie  
Title: Ambassador  
Date: Dec 11, 2001

Name: Erick de Muel  
Title: Resident Representative  
Date: 11-12-2001

## ANNEX 1: AREAS OF INTERVENTION

### I. Background

#### ■ The UNDP Country Cooperation Framework

Following two extensions of its 1997-2000-cooperation framework, and a country review conducted in October 2000, UNDP is presently finalizing a new Country Cooperation Framework (CCF) with the government of Angola. The new CCF covers a period of two years - from 2002 to 2003 - to allow enough time for the finalisation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), the formulation by the government of its national medium-term development strategy, the conduct of a United Nations Common Country Assessment and Development Assistance Framework, and the harmonisation of programming cycles within the UN system. The new CCF will focus on the following strategic areas and sub-areas of support:

#### **Poverty Reduction and the elimination of extreme poverty**

- Assist the formulation and implementation of the Poverty reduction strategy Paper (PRSP)
- Comprehensive strategies to prevent the spread and mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS.

#### **Promoting and strengthening effective participatory governance**

- Formulation and implementation of the Government's decentralisation strategy
- Strengthening public sector efficiency, accountability and transparency
- Improving institutional capacity for decentralised planning and community empowerment
- Improved national capacity for Aid Coordination
- Increased public debate on sustainable human development
- 2002 electoral process successfully implemented

#### **Improving human security to support post-conflict recovery.**

- Expanded national capacity for Mine Action
- Environmental concerns mainstreamed into all development sectors

#### **Promoting Gender Equality through mainstreaming**

#### ■ The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)

Within the framework of the IMF-SMP the government is presently formulating an interim poverty reduction strategy paper (I-PRSP), which is scheduled for completion in June 2001. The I-PRSP will address, among other things, the profile and causes of poverty in Angola and the effectiveness of past policies, and will identify the policy and information gaps to be filled through additional surveys and policy analyses in strategic sectors of development. It will also establish a roadmap to the preparation of the full PRSP expected to be finalised in 2002. UNDP is presently providing support to the government in the finalisation of the I-PRSP, and is working with the UN System and the donor community. It is providing technical assistance in the conduct of selected thematic analyses, and in the conception, planning and execution of the consultation process that will lead to the formulation of the full PRSP, which is intended to be the overarching framework for poverty reduction in the medium and long term. This support is reflected in UNDP's Country Cooperation Framework for 2002-2003.

### II. Areas proposed for NORAD-UNDP cooperation

The activities proposed in the present proposal all fall within the framework of the UNDP CCF for 2002-2003. The thematic areas selected for NORAD-UNDP support are important both in terms of their contribution towards the formulation of specific policies in the sectors of development concerned, and as strategic activities whose successful Implementation would greatly enhance the PRSP process in terms of filling the important strategic policy gaps that are presently being identified by the I-PRSP. These activities will be progressively formulated, approved and implemented over the next three years, in line with the

overall strategies and approaches agreed between UNDP and the Angolan government within the framework of the Country Cooperation Framework. Resources placed at the disposal of UNDP within the framework of the proposed framework agreement will be allocated to the selected areas in consultation with NORAD as the various projects are formulated and approved. NORAD and UNDP recognize that given the state of affairs in Angola, and most importantly the unpredictable evolution of the armed conflict, some programme ideas will mature faster than others, and some presently envisaged strategies will need to be adapted to the situation that will prevail at the time of formulation and approval of the projects concerned. With this in mind, the following areas are proposed for NORAD-UNDP cooperation over the next three years:

1. Participatory governance, focusing on:
  - i) Support effective decentralisation and participatory local governance
  - ii) Support the democratisation process including the strengthening of the constitutional and electoral processes; and
  - iii) Laying the ground work for the sustainable reform of the justice sector
2. Promoting gender equality
3. Support to the sustainable management of bio-diversity resources
4. Strengthening national capacity for Mine Action
5. Strengthening national capacity to combat HIV/AIDS

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## **1. Participatory Local Governance**

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### **1.1 SUPPORT EFFECTIVE DECENTRALISATION AND PARTICIPATORY LOCAL GOVERNANCE**

#### **Background**

Poverty is an outcome not only of economic and social processes. It is also an outcome of the lack of accountability and responsiveness of state institutions, due to the weak overall capacity of the state to accelerate local development, and is equally indicative of the voicelessness and powerlessness of the vast majority of its citizens. Despite Angola's decision in 1987 to replace its excessively centralized system of socialist planning with a market-based economy and to undertake the required public sector reforms, the centralized state structure of the previous system has remained largely intact, and, in some cases, has even worsened. As long as this situation prevails, there will be little hope of promoting real empowerment of the poor by ensuring that the latter have the knowledge, resources, and responsibility (freedom, power) to address their development needs effectively.

#### **Past and ongoing UNDP initiatives**

As a follow-up to the UNDP-sponsored study on the macro-structure of the central public administration, the government has requested support from UNDP to undertake a similar study of the macro-structure of the local administration. The purpose of the study is to: i) Assess Local Administration strengths, weakness, threats and opportunities; ii) Identify the main services provided by the Angola Local Administration and assess and analyse the capacity of the local authorities to deliver community services, as well as the capacity to absorb additional competence from the central level; iii) Identify the global structure of the Local Administration, in terms of Provincial Directions, Delegations, Departments, Sections and administrative agencies or quasi-independent service (the so-called, *Institutos Públicos*) with local representation; and iv) design pilot targeted and adapted deconcentration and decentralisation action plans for a selected number of provinces. The decentralisation models adopted and lessons learnt from the pilot deconcentration and decentralisation plans will feed into the formulation of the governance and local empowerment dimension of the PRSP.





## **Proposed areas of intervention for NORAD-UNDP Collaboration**

UNDP-NORAD cooperation will support the implementation of pilot deconcentration and decentralisation support programmes in two provinces to be selected on the basis of security, access, and political commitment from both the central and local governments. The pilot programmes will contain the following activities and expected results:

### **i) Design a global methodology and strategy for deconcentration and decentralisation at the level of the province.**

### **ii) Promote local autonomy and fiscal decentralisation**

Undertake pilot support activities in the area of financial decentralisation and transparent financial management in the province. The results of the pilot initiatives might be used as a model for the financial and legal framework.

- Set up a financial legal framework (Local Financial Law) governing the relationship between central governments and sub-national entities, namely in terms of the local tax, percentage to be transfer from the State Budget
- Training in planning and in administrative and financial management to create capacity within local government structures to implement the new regulatory framework. The purpose is to empower local authorities to ensure effective financial management at different layers of the local administration;
- Assessment and strengthening the capacity of the local authorities to collect local tax revenues;

### **iii) Strengthen the capacity of national and local authorities of the process of organizational change**

- Strengthen the capacity of the National Directorate of Local Administration (Direccao Nacional da Administracao Local - DNAL) to formulate and implement deconcentration and decentralisation policies;
- Strengthen the capacity of local units within the Provincial or Municipalities units, as the focal points for the new decentralisation strategy;
- Undertake functional reviews in local government bodies (provincial governments, rural and urban municipalities, and communes) as the basis for defining tasks and functional relationship, for structuring services and for internal organisation, as well as for defining career structures, staff lists and training plans.
- Support participation at the local administration level to ensure interaction with civil society through effective debate on the forms through which civil society organisations and ordinary citizens, associations, professional bodies and NGOs may take part in public policy development and in public management processes.

## **1.2 SUPPORT TO THE DEMOCRATISATION PROCESS INCLUDING THE STRENGTHENING OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND ELECTORAL PROCESSES**

Within the framework of its peace and reconciliation plans, the government has announced its intention to organize elections in the second half of 2002. The elections would be preceded by the finalisation of the constitutional reform process and the approval of new electoral legislation. The government has requested support from the United Nations, including UNDP, to assist the process. UNDP will work with the UN/DPA Electoral Support Division, the UN Human Rights Mission in Angola and other partners to assess the feasibility of the process in light of the prevailing insecurity. It will also provide technical support to the electoral institutions to be created, and strengthen the government's coordination role. UNDP will work in close collaboration with civil society and with donor partners interested in providing financial and technical support to the process. The main output will be the enhanced capacity of the said institutions including the electoral commission, to oversee and support the entire electoral process, while the key indicators will be the percentage of turnout and the extent to which the participating political parties accept the results of the poll.

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## **Proposals for NORAD-UNDP collaboration**

### **i) Support to the Constitutional process**

The constitutional reform process has been going on now for some time, and the new Constitution is expected to lay out the basic guidelines for the democratisation process as a whole, including the nature and functions of the Angola state, as well as the nature and effectiveness of the decentralisation process. UNDP is ready to respond to any requests for technical assistance that the Angolan authorities might be willing to request, and will work closely with NORAD to deliver such technical assistance. This could take the form of legal and other technical advice to members of the Constitutional drafting commissions, to Parliament, and to other important civil society partners, including assistance in exposing them to best practices elsewhere.

### **ii) Support to the electoral process**

The government is yet to define the framework for assistance to this area given the fact that not much has been done beyond ongoing efforts to reach consensus on the new Constitution. UNDP-NORAD support will be formulated after an initial appraisal mission to be conducted jointly by the Electoral Support Division of the UN Secretariat and UNDP. Technical and financial support will be needed for the following areas of activity, listed in order of priority:

1. Creation of planning, managerial and reporting capacity within the electoral commission and other national structures that will be set up to run and/or monitor and report on the electoral process.
2. Assistance in the creation of more permanent structures to conduct elections, including the re-establishment of permanent civil status and electoral registers;
3. Provision of direct logistical and administrative support to the process through the fielding of trained and adequately equipped United Nations Volunteers in all provinces to support local electoral management structures;
4. Training and administrative and logistical support to national and international electoral observer groups;
5. National civic education and sensitisation campaigns to ensure the widest possible turnout.

### **iii) Laying the groundwork for justice reform**

In a letter addressed to the Representative of the Secretary-General in Luanda, the government of Angola has requested support from the United Nations to revise a number of codes and laws and to rehabilitate municipal justice systems that have largely ceased to function as a result of the conflict. UNDP will work in close collaboration with the UN Human Rights Mission in Angola to address the needs identified. While the Mission will focus on the more short-term rehabilitation aspects of the process, UNDP support will seek to address the medium and long-term reform-related aspects.

Over the next couple of months, UNDP will field a justice reform expert who will work with the Ministry and the UN Mission to examine the needs and identify those areas of support that fall within UNDP's mandate, notably the review of specific laws. UNDP will equally participate in the municipal justice rehabilitation component, specifically focusing on the lessons that will emerge from it to support the broader justice sector reform at national level, including all key actors of the justice sector. Other possible areas for UNDP-NORAD support will be clarified during the identification and mission. However, the general emphasis will be to strengthen advocacy vis-à-vis the government to help launch a reform process that is not limited to the State institutions of justice but that bring all relevant actors on-board.

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## **2. Promoting gender equality**

### **Background**

Women represent 54% of Angola's population, but only 16% of the total number of deputies in the National Assembly, 15% of the total staff at central levels of all branches of government, and 15% of government Ministers. In the social sectors, there are significant indications of feminisation of poverty.

Women make up 52.5% of the illiterate population; only 46.8% of girls in the 5-18 age group were in school in 1996 as opposed to 53% of boys, while women, children and old men make up 80% of the internally displaced population. The national framework for the implementation of the Beijing Platform of Action is the 5-year *Strategic Framework Programme for Gender Promotion* formulated and adopted by the Government in 2001, and which will be implemented under the coordination of the Ministry of Family and Women's Affairs. The multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary nature of the strategy means that strategic partnerships with all sectors of the Angolan society will be needed for its successful implementation.

### **Proposals for UNDP-NORAD collaboration**

UNDP will work directly with the Ministry of Family and Women's Affairs (MINFAMU) as well as with other government structures, NGOs and UN agencies that have gender-related mandates, in order to support key advocacy, policy formation, and economic empowerment dimensions of the government's Strategic Framework. Emphasis will be placed on promoting and strengthening the participation of women in Angolan political life, strengthening the technical capacity of MINFAMU, and other national institutions and CSOs dealing with gender issues, supporting the establishment of a Gender database, and strengthening partnerships and networking among NGOs and other civil society organisations engaged in gender equality initiatives. It is also planned to undertake a National Human Development Report on Gender before the publication of the full PRSP. All of these activities will be designed and implemented within the broader framework of the national Strategic Framework for Gender Promotion under the overall coordination of MINFAMU.

Expected results from these initiatives will include studies, surveys and related advocacy activities at national level and specific recommendations to the government resulting both from the studies conducted and from the debates and workshops organised. The important criterion for the success of these activities will be the willingness of the government and of Angolan society as a whole to continue its progress towards gender equality at all levels, especially in the political domains where political will alone can suffice in some cases to change for the better some of the trends referred to above. In this regard, the surveys and studies will demonstrate their usefulness by informing public debate and advocacy on gender issues and by providing specific policy recommendations for the PRSP. The creation of the database will also enable the monitoring of progress in gender equality.

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## **3. Sustainable Management of Bio-diversity Resources**

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### **Background**

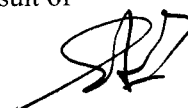
Angola has an extremely rich biological diversity. It contains a large variety of ecosystems, from the Namibe Desert in the South to the Maiombe tropical rain forest in the North (part of the Congo Basin ecosystem, which is defined as one of the world's most important "Hot-spots" of biological diversity), through a variety of forest, woodland, mountain and savannah biomes, as well as a variety of marine, coastal and terrestrial wetland habitats. These habitats host a large variety of plant and animal species, including a large number of threatened species (at least 175 registered in the IUCN red list). There are also known endemic species and sub-species.

Due to the prolonged armed conflict that has resulted in displaced communities and extreme poverty in Angola, the country is suffering from a constant process of loss of biological diversity, caused mainly by non-sustainable use of the natural resources. If left unchecked this process may lead to irreversible destruction of the rich biological resources in Angola, thereby further worsening the poverty situation, and making life difficult and unsustainable for future generations. Immediate action is essential to protect the still existing natural habitats, plant communities and wildlife populations in Angola, as an important component of the overall biological diversity protection.

### **Past and ongoing bio-diversity activities**

At the request of the Ministry of Fisheries and Environment in Angola NORAD has been supporting a consultancy programme to the Ministry on conservation of biological diversity since March 2000. This consultancy enabled the drafting of guidelines for preparing a National Strategy for the conservation of biological diversity, the initiation of institutional and technical capacity building through training, participation in the drafting of relevant legislation, and increase in public awareness, the pursuit of

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environmental education activities, and the promotion of international communication and cooperation. Furthermore, several proposals for specific conservation projects were prepared, presented to potential donors, and some were followed by feasibility studies and preliminary data collection. In addition to the NORAD-funded activities, UNDP, through the Global Environment Facility (GEF) has recently undertaken an exploratory mission to lay the groundwork for the formulation of a comprehensive biodiversity strategy for Angola.

### **Proposals for NORAD-UNDP collaboration**

Activities envisaged within the new CCF will focus on finalizing and consolidating the recent results attained in the first phase. Biodiversity projects identified during that phase will be fully designed and resource mobilisation initiatives will be taken to ensure their funding. The next couple of years will also see an extension of project activities into policy aspects of biodiversity, in close collaboration with the Global Environment facility. The focus will be on:

- Developing a national Strategy for the conservation of biological diversity in close collaboration with GEF;
- Increasing national capacity to protect bio-diversity
- Increasing national awareness on the importance of bio-diversity and its conservation.
- Assisting in the development of international relations for improving the conservation of biological diversity; and
- Launching specific conservation projects:

The National strategy for conservation of biological diversity in Angola as well as the specific projects concerned will place special emphasis on the social dimension of bio-diversity protection. More specifically, particular attention will be paid to the linkages between poverty and the unsustainable use of the natural resources. Addressing the issue from this perspective will enable the strategy formulated to fill the policy gaps already identified by the Interim PRSP in the area of environmental protection and natural resources management.

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## **4. Mine Action**

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### **Background**

The presence of landmines and unexploded ordnances (UXOs) poses a serious threat to the life and welfare of Angolan civilians and inhibits emergency assistance, emergency recovery and resettlement programmes that target both displaced populations and vulnerable residents. Angola also has one of the highest rates of landmine injuries per capita in the world, with tens of thousands of amputees. In a sixteen-month period between mid 1998 and January 2000, some 1,117 Angolans fell victim to landmines and UXOs, making the latter a major cause of vulnerability that should be addressed in the Angola PRSP process. The majority of UXO and mine-related incidents occur as civilians, many of whom are women and children, travel by road, farm in the fields, or go in search of wood.

### **Past and ongoing mine action initiatives**

The Government established a national Institute for Mine Action, INAROE, in 1995, under the aegis of the Ministry of Social Assistance and Reintegration (MINARS). This institute oversees all aspects of the landmine problem, in co-ordination with specialised de-mining NGOs and other partners. The mandate of INAROE was initially two-fold: to coordinate mine action nationally and to implement mine action at the field level. This mandate has been revised and much more focus is being given to technical coordination, quality assurance of mine action implementers and to establish a mine action plan for Angola. With the technical and financial support of many partners including NGOs, it had been possible, through the end of May 2000, to identify some 2610 mine or UXO fields, and actually clear 517 of them (INAROE & UNDP). UNDP support to INAROE in recent years has consisted essentially of strengthening the Mine Action database to make it an effective tool at the service of de-mining and mine awareness activities. Over the years, however, the government has learnt a number of lessons from its current Mine Action

strategy, which was embodied by INAROE. In a bid to strengthen its present approach, the government has recently created an Inter-ministerial commission to oversee and coordinate all mine action programmes and initiatives in Angola, and to prepare for the ratification of and reporting under the Ottawa Convention. Efforts are currently underway to operationalise the commission and create the capacity it needs to carry out its mandate.

### **Proposals for NORAD-UNDP collaboration**

Following discussions between NORAD, the Head of the Inter-ministerial commission and UNDP, it has been agreed that UNDP would serve as the executing agency to manage the provision of technical assistance for the start-up of the Commission. This will include working with the Geneva Mine Centre to conduct a technical needs assessment of the Commission, and formulating a support programme to enable the identification and allocation of all relevant inputs including Mine Action experts. The overall objective of the programme will be ensure a coherent and well coordinated approach to mine action in Angola. NORAD funds will be used to hire technical Mine Action experts, through the Centre for Humanitarian De-mining in Geneva, to strengthen the technical and managerial capacity of the Commission.

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## **5. Strengthening national capacity to combat HIV/AIDS**

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### **Background**

The UN joint programme on HIV/AIDS estimates that there were about 160,000 people infected with HIV/AIDS in Angola at the end of 1999. Of this number, about 150,000 were among the 15-49 age group while 56.6% of all cases were in the 15-38 age group, all of which are the most economically active segments of the population. More women are estimated to be infected than men, and the projected number of orphans for 2009 is almost 280,000. Although these figures are comparatively low in comparison with Angola's neighbours, it is worth noting that Angola's HIV/AIDS profile today is similar to that of Namibia, Botswana and Zambia in the first half of the 1980s, all of which are now known to have an HIV prevalence rate of more than 18%.

### **National Response**

Since mid 1997 the National AIDS Programme has been working with 9 Ministries, NGOs, churches and CBOs in a bid to ensure the involvement of all sectors of society in the fight against STD/HIV/AIDS. With the assistance of its development partners including the United Nations, the government has approved a National Plan to combat HIV/AIDS, and in August 2000 it announced an allocation of 3 million USD to combat the pandemic. The challenges and constraints that the national programme has to deal with include, among others: i) lack of information systems; ii) a precarious health and education network; iii) a purely public health as opposed to a development vision of the epidemic; iv) lack of qualified and committed human resources both inside government and within civil society (in contradistinction to the churches and the army); and vi) cultural perceptions of HIV/AIDS linked to the exercise of power that make it difficult to undertake any medium or long-term planning of the fight against HIV/AIDS.

### **Proposals for UNDP-NORAD collaboration**

In close complementarity with the other UN agencies in the UNAIDS Theme Group in Angola, UNDP is currently undertaking a national survey on the cultural perceptions of HIV/AIDS to strengthen the knowledge base on the development dimension of the epidemic. Next, UNDP will work with UNESCO to help incorporate HIV/AIDS concerns into the Angolan school curriculum. Other areas that fall within UNDP's HIV/AIDS mandate and which have been addressed by the Addis Ababa, Abuja, and UNGA Special Session Declarations and related action plans, include the evaluation of the socio-economic impact of HIV/AIDS, and strengthening the ethical and human rights dimensions of the epidemic. The areas in which UNDP-NORAD collaboration can be envisaged include:

- **Advocacy:** Convincing decision-makers on the need to demonstrate a strong and sustained commitment at national level. This will involve the promotion and organisation of seminars at provincial level attended by different Ministers and other national decision makers with the objective of breaking the silence and denial, and demonstrating political commitment.

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- Policy/Technical assistance: Use the PRSP as an instrument to address HIV/AIDS as a real cross cutting issue and to address current constraints, particularly in the health and education sectors within the broader development framework of strengthening Social Capital;
- Strategy Planning and Programming on HIV/AIDS at local level: The ongoing survey on the cultural perceptions of HIV/AIDS will lay the groundwork for more targeted sensitisation and prevention strategies at local level. These strategies will be built into broader socio-economic recovery strategies that UNDP will be helping to formulate in selected provinces within the framework of its 2002-2003 Country Cooperation Framework. A sensitisation, planning and monitoring network will be set up in the selected provinces supported by UN Volunteers who will combine HIV/AIDS prevention with vocational training for young people based on the notion that increased employment or skills opportunities for young people prepare them better for, and makes them more receptive to, HIV/AIDS sensitisation messages.
- Generating statistical tools and technical criteria allowing to enable the definition of pertinent indicators to evaluate development achievements through qualitative and quantitative studies

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