



## INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Babacar Cissé  
Officer-in-Charge  
Regional Bureau for Africa

Date: 27 November 2011

From: Georges Van Montfort  
Country Advisor  
Country Support Team

Extension: 6035

Subject: **Request for the Extension of Direct Implementation (DIM) for the project "Supporting Implementation of the Peace Agreements: A Programme Framework for Dialogue and Reconciliation in Kenya in the Aftermath of Elections-related Violence"**

Please find attached for your consideration a request from Kenya country office for DIM extension of the project "Supporting Implementation of the Peace Agreements: A Programme Framework for Dialogue and Reconciliation in Kenya in the Aftermath of Elections-related Violence". The 2011 DIM approval as well as the 2012 DIM quarterly reports and the DEX Checklist are attached for reference

### **Background of the project**

Kenya experienced the greatest threat to its stability since its independence with the violence that escalated into a political crisis that engulfed the country following the 2007 general elections. Despite the signing of the National Accord and Reconciliation Act (NARA) on 28th February, 2008 and the promulgation of the new constitution in August 2010, tensions remain within the Coalition Government with politicians still engaged in political outbidding and the implementation of the reform agenda, which deals with long term structural issues, has been at a slower pace than anticipated.

All four agenda items in the peace agreement explicitly recognize the need for building systematic national and local capacities for conflict management, for establishing new national policies and institutions to address critical issues such as land, reconciliation, and socio-economic inequity, and for harnessing the energies of diverse groups such as women, youth, parliamentarians, tribal elders, communities of faith, and the private sector towards this end. Effective implementation of the accord is critical as part of the consolidation of the peace process.



This request is premised on the fact that while significant gains have been achieved since the signing of the 2008 Kenya National Dialogue and Reconciliation Agreement and in the implementation of the reform agenda, challenges persist and the peace remain fragile. These challenges are related primarily to the preparedness of the country for a high-stakes election within the framework of a new constitutional dispensation:

- The recent demarcation of boundaries has heightened tensions in some regions while outright boundaries related violence has been reported in some parts of the country;
- The situation confronting Kenya's International Displaced Persons (IDPs) remains complex and dynamic. As a country prepared for a rather complex and possibly contentious General Election, coupled with the fact that some community members are still in camps while others have not yet fully recovered, is a source of tension that could easily trigger elections-related violence.
- High levels of unemployment persist among youth meaning that there is a pool of disaffected people that could be tapped to perpetrate violence as witnessed in 2007-2008.
- Militia groups including some with secessionist aspirations such as the Mombasa Republican Council (MRC) have continued to multiply in numbers and gained strength, which is a matter of great concern.

There are also new drivers of conflict which have emerged including: 1) heightened insecurity due to Kenya's military engagement in Somalia, 2) the possible impact of the trials in the Hague of key political actors accused of orchestrating the violence in 2007-2008 and the related exacerbation of inter-ethnic tensions, 3) the potential repercussions of the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission (TJRC) report, 4) the emergence of secessionist tendencies in the Coast which have already contributed to violence during a recent mock election exercise; and 5) the discovery of oil in Turkana which could, if not well managed, be an additional cause of violent conflict.

**Project Achievement:**

The project focuses on building consensus at the leadership level on collaborative leadership to target Agenda 4 Commissions, parliamentarians, senators and Governors in the devolved Government; supporting a cadre of national and local level mediators to contain conflicts at national and country levels; creating space for the civil society advocacy for and support to the reform agenda; supporting implementation of a process approach for intra and inter-community reconciliation in the light of the findings of the much-anticipated TJRC Report; support inter-faith dialogue; creatively engaging the youth in peace dividends projects; engaging with women to drive sustainable peace building within communities and strengthening capacities of UNDP and partner agencies to support dialogue and reconciliation processes within the context of the devolved governance system.



**Implementation Arrangement and Justification for the use of the DIM**

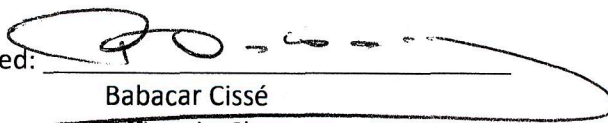
The project is implemented by UNDP according to DIM modality.

The political sensitivity and continued social polarization at the local and national levels requires neutral funds disbursement and management by UNDP.

In view of the current situation and issues articulated above and as the country approaches the next General Elections, there is need to continue supporting the mandate of the Agenda 4 Commissions, as well as a wide array of stakeholders through this project. UNDP will leverage its comparative advantages of impartiality to reach across all the parties and bridge the divides by providing efficient and effective support through the project.

The Country Office has the experience and the capacity for DIM execution and it will continue to ensure that all necessary measures are applied for quality control, to safeguard UNDP financial responsibilities and the accountable use of UNDP and partners' resources. All financial resources of the project will continue to be managed according to the rules, procedures and requirements as defined in the UNDP's Programme and Operations Policies Procedures (POPP), and according to UNDP guidelines on direct execution/implementation.

I recommend your approval of the DIM modality for this project for one year to 30 November 2013.

Approved:   
Babacar Cissé  
Officer-in-Charge

Date: 27 Nov 2012