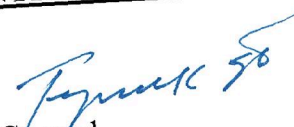





INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Tegegnetwork Gettu 
Assistant Secretary-General
and Regional Director

DATE: 06 May 2013

FROM: Priya Gajraj 
Team Leader
Country Support Team - WACA

SUBJECT: **DIM Request for Nigeria: “Advancing Peace and Development in Nigeria through a National Infrastructure for Peace” project**

Please find attached for your consideration and authorization for a new request from the Country Office (CO) in Nigeria to approve the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) for the above-mentioned project from 15 April 2013 to 28 February 2014.

Background

Despite its significant oil wealth, Nigeria faces challenges in inclusive governance, equal access to economic opportunities and service delivery to its people. Conflicts over land and natural resources for political gain have created wide swathes of insecurity in the country. This has been manifested through the deliberate use of organized violence by political actors to pursue their interests, often capitalizing on unemployment, poverty and rifts over identity or resources. The result is an enmeshing of recurring local conflicts over land, wealth allocation, and resources with wider national narratives on identity and power-sharing. Fragmented peacemaking and conflict prevention efforts have persisted as there is limited collaboration among relevant groups and inadequate follow-up to local peace agreements in terms of benefits for communities. Heavy-handed security responses to initial bouts of insecurity have set off rounds of retaliatory violence and engendered high levels of distrust between security forces and civil society, providing little cushion for peace-building activities.

To ensure that identified drivers of conflict are systematically addressed, Nigeria requires a peace architecture at the federal and state levels that brings together all relevant actors at each level to address potentially violent tensions and conflict in an inclusive and participatory manner, moving from the current ad hoc modality. This will also be critical ahead of the 2015 general elections. The project's initiation phase will therefore prepare the ground for the establishment of comprehensive national peace architecture to facilitate cooperation among all relevant stakeholders in peace building in Nigeria and the



promotion of problem-solving methods to conflicts and institutionalizing the processes of response to conflicts that will transform conflicts and promote social, political and religious reconciliation and transformative dialogue.

Justification for DIM

In view of the importance and complexity of the issues, the involvement of other development partners and the overall nature of the project, the most suitable implementation modality is DIM. As provided in the guidelines, the use of this modality is premised on the following facts which are present in Nigeria: i) Sensitivity of the peace architecture project, which requires close guidance and oversight by UNDP; ii) Special need for accelerated delivery of output; and iii) Need to ensure equity and neutrality in programme implementation.

Implementation Arrangements

The Project Board will guide the project based on consensual management in order to ensure proper and feasible implementation of the project in line with its objectives. Project reviews by the Board are made at designated decision points during the running of the project or as necessary when the need arises. The Project Board is comprised of 3 entities: 1) the Executive that represents the project executing body and chairs the group, 2) the Senior Supplier whose role is to provide guidance regarding the technical feasibility of the project, 3) the Senior Beneficiary whose role is to ensure that the project benefits are realized from the perspective of project beneficiaries. The UNDP Nigeria Resident Representative will assume the Executive role; the UNDP Service Centre the Senior Supplier role, the Director General of the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR) will play the Senior Beneficiary's role.

The implementation process will be coordinated by UNDP under the direct supervision of the Resident Representative and/or the Country Director supported by staff with expertise in Peace and Reconciliation. The Senior Peace and Development Advisor (PDA) will coordinate and supervise the implementation and delivery of the key results outlined in the proposal and the relevant reporting obligations. The senior PDA with support from a team of national officer will provide catalytic support for high-level confidence building, conflict resolution, trust and consensus building among the various actors required to take the process forward. The Senior DPA will be responsible for overall project coordination and implementation, consolidation of work plans and project papers, preparation of quarterly progress reports, reporting to the project supervisory bodies, and supervising the work of the project experts and other project staff.

The role of project assurance is to support the Project Board by carrying out project oversight and monitoring functions. This role ensures that appropriate project management milestones are



completed. The UNDP Nigeria Governance Team Leader undertakes the Project Assurance role for the Project Board. The role of Project Support covers management of procurement and finance administration and the Project Associate with support from the Governance Team will provide this function to this project.

Institutional Arrangements

The Country Office has the experience and the capacity for DIM execution (as indicated in the attached checklist) and it will continue to ensure that all necessary measures are applied for quality control, to safeguard UNDP financial responsibilities and 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.

The Country Office will fully comply with guidelines for DIM issued for the Associate Administrator's Memorandum on 27 November 2000. The office will prepare periodic reports and a final report at the end of the project.

The project document, the PAC minutes and the other relevant documents are enclosed.

Based on the above justification, I would recommend that the request for the Direct Implementation Modality of this project be approved from 15 April 2013 to 28 February 2014.

Approved by: _____

Date:

Tegegnetwork Gettu
Assistant Secretary-General
and Regional Director