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Enhancing Climate Resilience of the Vulnerable Communities and Ecosystems in Somalia

**Minutes of Project Board Meeting
12 December, 2016: UNDP Office, Mogadishu; Video Connections with UNDP Office,
Garowe and UNDP Office, Hargeisa**

Agenda Item 1 - Opening Remarks and Introduction of the Participants:

Mr. David Akopyan, Deputy Country Director, UNDP-Somalia, co-chaired the meeting with the State Minister of Environment and welcomed the participants from the Federal Government, Federal Member States (South West, Galmudug, Jubaland and Puntland) and Somaliland to the Project Board meeting. In his opening remarks he stated that the Climate Change Resilience project is aimed to build coping capacities of the Somali communities to the impacts of extreme climate events. He emphasised on the need for shifting the focus towards development response to meet the emerging challenges due to climate change. He added that the climate and environment portfolio is expanding. As part of this expansion, UNDP foresees greater engagement and ownership of national partners. He then invited H. E. Said Haji Mohamud, State Minister of Environment, for the opening remarks.

H. E. Said Haji Mohamud, State Minister of Environment, Office of the Prime Minister, as co-chair on behalf of the government, appreciated UNDP support to Somalia. He highlighted the key priorities for the Federal Government and Member States. These include: 1) capacity building of institutions mandated to address issues of environment and climate change; 2) support for the Federal Government to negotiate with GEF for allocating resources from "System of Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR)"; and, 3) support to the Office of Environment in the Office of the Prime Minister to regularly engage with Member States on issues relevant to environment. This was followed by opening statements from the Director General (Environment), Ministers and Director Generals from Member States.

List of participants is attached at Annex 1.

Agenda Item 2 - Presentation and Progress Update and 2017 Plan for "Enhancing Climate Resilience of the Vulnerable Communities and Ecosystems Project in Somalia":

Mr. Abdul Qadir Rafiq, Project Manager, Environment and Energy, presented the background of the project and progress update on 2016 activities and plan for 2017. The presentation also covered the status of follow-up on the decisions of previous project board meeting held on 28 October 2016. He

informed the participants that the project consists of two components. Component 1 covers capacity development, awareness raising, policies formulation and strengthening institutions dealing with climatic disasters. Component 2 focus on building the capacities of communities in 8 districts to cope with cyclic droughts and floods. While covering the progress update, he mentioned that the on-ground implementation is progressing well in Puntland and Somaliland. Whereas, progress in 4 districts of Galmudg, South West and Hirshabelle States is slow because of delays in procurement process. Other activities with delayed implementation are the ones covering setting up of Agro-pastoral Schools and awareness raising activities in Southern States of Somalia. He also shared with the participants on-going and pipeline projects that would help in upscaling the activities under the Climate Change Resilience Project. The delays in procurement processes has impacted on the financial delivery that stands at 61% against 2016 budget. Copy of the presentation is attached at Annex 2.

Mr. Akopyan opened the discussions with the need to have more interaction with the federal institutions, member states and other relevant stakeholders as part of drafting of National Climate Change Policy, Land Use Plans and Disaster Management Policy. He further highlighted the importance of looking into strategies for long-term solutions to minimise the impacts of droughts and floods.

Mr. Jonathan Brooks, Programme Manager, UNDP/PREP, flagged the need for assessing the impact of trainings and capacity development activities under the project as part of Mid Term Review (MTR). He added that expanding the project to new districts is impending discussions. Commenting on the land use plans, he highlighted the importance of taking these plans beyond the objective of having them climate compatible as land use plans need to be cross sectoral or multi-dimensional.

Dr. Mohamud Mohamed, Director General, Ministry of Agriculture, suggested to add timelines to the proposed activities for 2017. He also emphasised on the need to undertake activities beyond the policies support. Such activities could be water harvesting schemes, catchment management, groundwater development etc. These activities would be more beneficial for the communities and help in building their resilience to droughts and floods.

Mr. Abdulkani, Advisor, Ministry of Livestock, Forest and Range, raised the issue of capacity gaps in new member states. He recommended to allocate resources under climate change resilience project and other projects of UNDP to build the institutions dealing with environment and climate change in new member states.

Mr. Abdi Abokor Yusuf, Programme Officer, UNDP Somaliland, informed that in Somaliland government is leading the project implementation. He added that the project has helped in building strong link between the government institutions and local communities.

H. E. Dr. Ali Warsame, Minister of Environment, Puntland State of Somalia, highly appreciated UNDP/GEF support under the climate change resilience project. He informed the participants that the on-going drought is having devastating impacts on the local communities. 60% of Puntland is under severe drought conditions and the government is expecting international organisations to support humanitarian response. He added that the innovative techniques being promoted by the Climate Change Resilience Project, i.e., Sand Dams, Gullies Rehabilitation, climate action through Pastoral Communities and reforestation, are extremely relevant for minimising the impacts of cyclic droughts. He also informed the participants that Puntland Environment Law has been approved. This is the first Environment Legislation ever in any State of Somalia. He extended invitation to new member states

to learn from Puntland experience and also to set-up environment institutions that have similar capacities or structures as in Puntland.

Mr. Abdiwahab Ahmed, Director General, Ministry of Water and Energy, said that the resources under the project are limited and there is need to have more funding to build on this project. He added that having schemes to provide safe water to the local communities is essential and should be supported by the project. He questioned on the linkages of the project with the National Development Plan.

Mr. Abdirashid, Environment Expert, Office of Environment, Office of the Prime Minister, commented that the needs of new member states should be assessed so that resources for the capacity development are utilised as per states priorities.

Responding to the points raised by the participants, Mr. Abdul Qadir confirmed that the project is evolving and has opened discussions with the Member States and national institutions, such as, SDMA. He added that the presentations for the next board meetings will include the timeline and targets. He also informed the participants that the project contributes to the National Development Plan and the Sustainable Development Goals. He also informed that the MTR will help in assessing the results achieved in first two years of implementation and recommend re-focus as per new realities for the larger impact of the project.

Agenda Item 3 – Summary of Decisions by the Chair:

Summing up the key points raised by the participants, Mr. Akopyan summarised the following decisions and action points:

1. Mid-term review to look into the possibilities of scaling up project activities for wider impact.
2. There is a need to keep a balance between policies and on-ground actions, particularly, for the benefit of new member states.
3. Have a visual presentation with pictures from on-going activities. This should help the board members to get some idea of on-going activities with the communities in different parts of the country.
4. The presentation to the next board meeting to include timelines and achievement against annual targets. Project Board endorsed the proposed plan for 2017.

Approved by:



H.E. Said Haji Mohamud (Co-Chair)
State Minister of Environment
Office of the Prime Minister
Federal Government of Somalia



Digitally signed by David Akopyan
DN: cn=David Akopyan,
o=UNDP, ou=UNDP Somalia,
email=David.Akopyan@undp.org, c=KZ
Date: 2016.12.28 11:54:56 +03'00'

Mr. David Akopyan (co-Chair)
Deputy Country Director,
United Nations Development Programme,
Somalia

Annex I

List of Participants

No.	NAME	TITLE/POSITION	INSTITUTION
1	H. E. Said Haji Mohamud	State Minister for Environmental Affairs	Office of the Prime Minister - FGS
2	H.E. Ali Abdullahi Warsame	Minister of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism	Puntland state
3	H. E. Mohamed Hussein	Minister of Environment, Forestry & Range	Galmudug state
4	H. E. Moalim Mohamud	Minister of Forest and Environment	Southwest state
5	Mohamad Ahmed Ali	Deputy Minister of Environment and Tourism	Jubaland state
7	Kenadid Mumin Ali	Deputy Director General	Office of Environment at the Office of the Prime Minister
8	Dr. Mohamud Mohamed	Director General	Ministry of agriculture
9	Abdillahi Jimale	Chairman	Somalia Disaster Management authority
10	Abdikhafar Abubakar	Chief operating officer	Somalia Disaster Management authority
11	Abdulkani Raghe	Advisor	Ministry of Livestock forest and range
12	Abdiwahab Ahmed	Director General	Ministry of Energy and water
13	Abdirashid Ali Ateye	Environment Expert	Office of Environment
14	David Akopyan	Deputy country Director- Programmes	UNDP
15	Jonathan Brooks	Programme Manager - PREP	UNDP
16	Abdul Qadir	Project Manager – Environment and Energy	UNDP
17	Abdirisak Hussein	Programme specialist - PREP	UNDP
18	Amren Yusuf	Programme specialist - PPU	UNDP
19	Hassan Abdirizak	Project officer	UNDP
20	Abdi Yusuf	Programme officer	UNDP
21	Ahmed Mohamoud	Project officer	UNDP



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Enhancing Climate Resilience of the Vulnerable Communities and Ecosystems in Somalia

Project Board

December 12, 2016



Presentation Outline

- 1. *Project Introduction***
- 2. *Last Board Meeting Decisions and Follow-up Actions***
- 3. *Progress Update and 2017 Plan***
- 4. *Issues and Challenges***
- 5. *Decisions***

Project Objective

“Enhanced resilience and improved adaptive capacity of vulnerable Somali communities in pilot areas, and the ecosystems on which they depend, to the adverse impacts of climate change.”

Project Components

Component 1: Enabling Policies, Institutional Frameworks and National Capacities

Component 2: Models of community and ecosystem resilience developed and implemented in pilot areas

Project Budget (2015-18)

COMPONENT	COST (USD)
1 Enhancing Policies, Institutional Frameworks and Government Capacities	2.02 m
2 Piloting Ecosystem Based Adaptation strategies	5.61 m
Project Management Costs	0.37 m
TOTAL funded by GEF	8.00 m
TOTAL funded by UNDP	1.50 m
TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING	9.50 m

Decisions and Follow-up Actions

Board Meeting: 28 October 2016

Decisions	Follow-up Actions
July to September Quarterly Report to be shared with participants	✓ Report shared along with minutes of the meeting
Mid term evaluation to assess whether the project investments have brought positive changes to the lives of the people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Messages on impacts of climate change delivered through electronic media ✓ Facts sheets developed by the Ministry of Environment in Puntland on climate change and droughts
The impact of trainings and policies to be assessed and recommendations to be used for revising project logic	✓ The assessment to be part of Mid term evaluation
Project to look into possibilities of expanding the focus according to new administrative realities in Somalia	✓ 2017 work plan to cover national activities across all member states. These will relate to policies, awareness raising and capacity development
Project to hold detailed 2017 work plan session and hold the next project board meeting in December 2017	✓ Project board planned on 12 December 2016

Progress Update and 2017 Plan

Component 1

*Enabling Policies, Institutional Frameworks and
National Capacities*

Progress Update and 2017 Plan

Enabling Policies, Institutional Frameworks and National Capacities

Activities	Update (2016)	Plan (2017)
Develop National Climate Change Policy, taking into account the sectoral vulnerabilities, gender dimensions of climate change, impacts and costs for adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ IGAD Regional Climate Change Strategy – completed ✓ 4 members team of experts hired to facilitate development of National Policy (Team Leader; National Expert; Social and Gender Expert; Public Expenditure and Institutional Review Expert) ✓ Puntland Climate Change and Droughts Management Strategy - completed ✓ Somaliland Climate Change Policy – in progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ National Climate Change Policy prepared and approved by the Federal Government ✓ Somaliland Climate Change Policy prepared and approved
Develop a set of briefing notes, fact sheets, presentations, guidelines for mainstreaming climate change in sectoral policies and gender sensitive climate risk screening tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Messages on impacts of climate change delivered through electronic media ✓ Facts sheets developed by the Ministry of Environment in Puntland on climate change and droughts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Awareness raising events and products: 1000 products (caps, t-shirts etc.), 3 audio/visuals, 8 events with youth engagement (football matches, schools engagement etc.), roundtable (religious leaders, women, IDPs)

Progress Update and 2017 Plan

Enabling Policies, Institutional Frameworks and National Capacities

Activities	Update (2016)	Plan (2017)
Climate modules and climate sub-modules finalised for introduction in the relevant degree programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Modules developed in Somali and English language ✓ 31 University Lecturers (7 women) trained to impart the modules 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Somali National University to initiate degree programme on climate change ✓ 9 Students to receive scholarships for the first intake by the University
Integrate Somalia specific climate risks and response measures in the National Development Plan for Somalia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ National Development Plan (completed) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Somaliland Development Plan (on-going)

Progress Update and 2017 Plan

Enabling Policies, Institutional Frameworks and National Capacities

Activities	Update (2016)	Plan (2017)
Initiate development of Land Use Policy supported by climate vulnerability assessments with special considerations for vulnerable groups (women, IDPs, elderly)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Puntland Rural Land Use Policy – consultations in progress ✓ Somaliland Land Use Policy – draft completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Puntland Rural Land Use Policy approved ✓ Somaliland Land Use Policy Approved ✓ National Land Use Policy initiated with the participation of governments of new Member States.
Strengthen capacities of Disaster Management Institutions and communities to cope with climatic events (droughts, floods, cyclones)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Community members and local government officials trained on disaster management and early warnings: Total 332 (222 Men; 110 Women) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Assess capacity needs for Disaster Management ✓ Initiate the formulation of gender sensitive National Disaster Management Policy with SODMA
Initiate setting up of Climate Monitoring and Early Warning Systems Centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ NERAD Somaliland provided support for the establishment of the Center 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Set up “Climate Monitoring and Early Warning Center” in SODMA ✓ Set up “Climate Monitoring and Early Warning Center in HADMA”

Progress Update and 2017 Plan

Component 2

Models of community and ecosystem resilience developed and implemented in pilot areas

Progress Update and 2017 Plan

Models of community and ecosystem resilience developed and implemented in pilot areas

Activities	Update (2016)	Plan (2017)
Design and rehabilitation of water conveyance systems in Afgoye, Jowhar, Gureil and Balanbale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Feasibility and detail design of 10 structures completed (water catchments, boreholes, canal rehabilitation) in Afgowe, Jowhar, Gureil and Balanbale 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete the construction phase of 10 structures (water catchments, boreholes, canal rehabilitation) in Afgowe, Jowhar, Gureil and Balanbale
Construction of new water diversion/flood routing structures in 4 districts of Puntland and Somaliland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 12 flood routing structures constructed to check gully erosion ✓ 2 Grazing Reserve rehabilitated ✓ 2 Sand Dams constructed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 38 water harvesting structures (3 new; 35 rehab of existing) ✓ 8 gullies control/flood routing works ✓ Soil and water conservation bunds in 2 grazing reserves

Progress Update and 2017 Plan

Models of community and ecosystem resilience developed and implemented in pilot areas

Activities	Update (2016)	Plan (2017)
Reforestation of areas surrounding water infrastructures done in consultation with local communities and beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1 new nursery established ✓ 2 existing nurseries supported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reforestation to cover 200 hactares in 4 districts <p>(Delays expected due to drought conditions)</p>
8 agro-pastroal schools established to train farmers and pastoralists, both men and women, adaptation techniques	(Delayed Implementation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Establish 8 agro-pastoral schools for training of local communities in adaptation techniques

Progress Update and 2017 Plan

Models of community and ecosystem resilience developed and implemented in pilot areas

Activities	Update (2016)	Plan (2017)
Develop Ecosystem based Adaptation Plans in target districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Community based organizations formed in 8 districts ✓ Technical studies completed at watershed and sub-watershed level to inform community led land use planning, infrastructure design and ecosystem based adaptation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Finalise Adaptation Plans for 8 districts
Form District Disasters Management Committees and ensure gender balance in committee membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Committees formed in 8 districts for community based disaster management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Revitalise 4 District Disasters Management Committees ✓ Implementing partners to work through the District Disasters Management Committees on targeted interventions

Progress Update and 2017 Plan

Enhancing Climate Resilience of Vulnerable Communities and Ecosystems (adaptation)

Activities	Update (2016)	Plan (2017)
Local communities, including women, trained in adaptation technologies for setting up enterprises around sustainable adaptation techniques/technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ 60 women headed households trained in integrated water management techniques✓ 5 women led cooperatives formed to start businesses linked to adaptation technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ 5 women cooperatives given start-up grants for enterprise development around climate change adaptation

Issues and Challenges

- ✓ *Setting up of Agro-pastoral schools with specific focus on trainings to the local communities in adaptation practices*
- ✓ *Rehabilitation and construction of water conveyance systems in Afgoye, Jowhar, Gureil and Balanbale*
- ✓ *Drought affecting long-term activities, such as, reforestation, new community based infrastructure*
- ✓ *Political process impeding the regular engagement of national partners to focus on policies formulation*

Budget (2016 Expenditures and 2017 Plan)

Year	Budget (USD)	Expenditure (USD)	Delivery (%)
2016	3,885,517	2,368,890	61%
2017 (planned)	2,635,790	0.00	0

**THANK YOU, Shukran شڪرا,
Mahadsanidiin**