Nonofficial translation

Meeting of the Project Board meeting of a new project between UNDP and the Office of the Ombudsman of Turkmenistan "Strengthening the institutional capacity of the Office of the Ombudsman of Turkmenistan"

Date: 04.02.2021, 11:00-12:15

Videoconference

**List of participants:**

1. Yazdursun Kurbannazarova
2. Mahtumkuli Hodjamuradov
3. Natia Natsvlishvili
4. Rovshen Nurmuhammedov
5. Akmyrat Danatarov
6. Yelena Butova
7. Ogulshirin Yazliyeva
8. Aylara Serhenova

**Agenda:**

Introduction

Tasks and purposes of the project

Overview of the components and outputs of the project. Questions and answers. Discussion.

Discussion of the planned activities on 2021

Outcomes of the meeting

1. Introduction part:

Ms. Yazdursun Kurbannazarova

She greeted the UNDP representatives and gave a positive response on the implementation of the planned activities of the project and noted that the project envisages a coordinator from the Turkmen side. In this regard, she introduced and introduced Makhtumkuli Khojamuradov - the coordinator of this project.

 Ms. Natia Natsvlishvili:

She welcomed and thanked the representatives of the Ombudsman for participating in the Project Council. Noted that the Ombudsman's office plays a very important role in promoting and protecting

human rights in the country. The project is strategically important for both the Program development of the United Nations, and for the Government of Turkmenistan will contribute to the achievement of results by the United Nations Framework Program for Cooperation on sustainable development (SDP) between Turkmenistan and the United Nations 2021-2025.

She also mentioned that despite the pandemic, in 2020, they were able to begin consultations with colleagues from OHCHR and the Asia-Pacific Forum in providing technical support to the Office in studying the Accreditation process of the HANRI Sub-Committee.

Noted the activities aimed at systemically increasing the capacity of the Office of the Ombudsman of Turkmenistan in accordance with the Paris Principles; the importance of raising awareness of human rights among the population and information and educational events in the velayats, which are directly related to the implementation of the UPR recommendations of the third cycle and the implementation of SDG 16 and SDG 10.

Expressed hope for fruitful and long-term cooperation in the project

Goals and objectives of the project:

Elena Butova, a former project manager, presented a brief overview of the project, showing the total project budget, deadlines and briefly describing the goals and objectives of the project.

3. Review of the main components and results of the project. Questions and answers. Discussion.

4. Discussion of events planned for 2021

Elena Butova, a former project manager, made a presentation on the strategic directions of the project, elaborated on each result, and spoke about the planned activities within the framework of the project:

Overview of project components and outputs:

• The strategic directions of the project consist of 3 components. Each component has deliverables that include detailed objectives and goals.

• Noted the importance of cooperation between the Office of the Ombudsman and law enforcement agencies and the strengthening of the Office of the Ombudsman with other human rights bodies in Central Asia and the exchange of experience.

• Draft roadmap for obtaining accreditation of the Office of the Ombudsman in GANPZU

Development, printing and distribution of information materials on the activities of the Ombudsman's Office

• Raising awareness of the work of the Ombudsman in the velayats.

• Planned activities within the project

• Detailed description of the planned activities for February-March 2021:

1. Hiring a National Consultant - The Terms of Reference has already been developed. The vacancy must be announced within two days.

2. Conducting a two-day seminar (remotely) with an international expert from the Asia-Pacific Forum (APF) on the development of a Roadmap for obtaining accreditation in GANPZU. The event is scheduled for mid-February, following the return of ATF expert Philip Verdell from vacation.

3. Development and printing of information booklets on the activities of the Office of the Ombudsman.

**Questions and Answers from members of the Project Board**:

Ms. Yazdursun Kurbannazarova:

She expressed gratitude to E. Butova for her contribution to the development of the project and noted the commitment of the Ombudsman's Office to the discussion and cooperation of forthcoming activities within the framework of the project. Also, I asked a question about the timing of the events based on the results 1.1 and 1.2.

Ms. Elena Butova:

She explained that the deadline for the implementation of outcome 1.1 is scheduled for the end of summer, and the deadline for the implementation of outcome 1.2 should be by the end of March 2021. If possible, the issue of organizing a mission of the international ATF consultant Mrs. Roslin Noonan to Ashgabat by the end of summer is being considered. A roadmap for GANPZU accreditation will be developed with Ms. Roslyn Noonan.

Ms. Yazdursun Kurbannazarova:

Noted that the Office of the Ombudsman is ready to carry out activities within the framework of the project, using the funds of the Government of Canada, in accordance with Outcome 1.2 during the third week of March.

She emphasized the importance and priority of Russian-speaking experts during the seminar.

Ms. Elena Butova:

She emphasized that the seminar would allow finalizing the report.

5. Summing up the results of the meeting

1. In the absence of E. Butova, the contact person for the project will be Akmurat

Danatarov.

2. UNDP will consider and will give preference to Russian-speaking experts with ATF.

3. It is recommended that activities under outcome 1.2 be carried out by the end of March.

In conclusion, both sides expressed gratitude for their participation in the meeting and fruitful

cooperation.