Fonds Mondial P- 007 /PROG



Djibouti 20 February 2013

Dear Ms Bahous

Subject : <u>DIM approval request GFATM</u>

As you probably know, UNDP Djibouti has been selected as the Principal Recipient (PR) for three grants of the Global Fund. (HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria). The decision of being a PR comes after an extensive consultation at the national level which resulted in a unanimous decision taken by the Country Coordination Mechanisms (CCM) for UNDP to act as a PR for the three grants. It is necessary to quickly scale up essential life saving health services in Djibouti and UNDP has been seen as the last resort for the implementation of the grants. The CCM decision enjoys full support amongst the Government, the UN country team, donors and civil society. Following this decision we have started to assess our capacity and the risks involved for UNDP Djibouti to take on the PR role. Following a series of support missions from UNDP GFATM partnership team, and the Global Fund, we concluded that the Country Office is able to efficiently undertake the PR role in Djibouti with a scaled up capacity.

Over the previous months we have intensively worked, with the support of the national partners, BDP colleagues from Johannesburg/New York/Geneva, Copenhagen Procurement Support Office, UN Agencies present locally, the Global Fund, the government authority, and we reached now the stage to sign two of the grant agreements with the Global Fund, namely HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis. The third grant, Malaria, will be finalized by June 2013.

We have placed top priority in strengthening our staffing capacity as the Global Fund insisted on UNDP staff alone performing these functions of PR. With the help of RBAS and UNDP OHR HQ, we have already developed and published the terms of reference of local and international staff with FTAs in order to reinforce our CO capacity, and have a dedicated team implementing the grants and delivering the much needed services to the beneficiaries in the country.

Ms Sima Sami Bahous, Assistant Secretary General and UNDP Assistant Administrator and Regional Director. RBAS -UNDP - New York Strenghening the national capacity is also in our agenda to prepare and ensure that the country is ready for an eventual transition back to a national PR- role. The total budget for the three grants is approximately 17 Million US\$, GMS included, and is entirely funded by the Global Fund.

As per the latest timeline discussed and agreed with the Global Fund, the Grant Agreement signatures (HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis) is now planned for 28 February 2013.

The purpose of this letter is to kindly request approval of DEX modality for the implementation of the three grants (HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria) during the period covering March 2013 to February 2015.

This request is thus submitted on the understanding and condition that: (a) the Grant Agreements are effectively signed before the UNDP project documents are signed, obviously with the necessary HQ clearance; (b) the CO finalizes the project documents and obtain LPAC approval.

To facilitate the review, we are sending you via email the Performance Framework, the Procurement Plan, the M&E Plan, and the Budget for the two grants (HIV/AIDS and TB). The work on the Malaria grant is progressing and we will send you the related documentation in due time. You will also find attached the DEX capacity check list duly completed

With very best regards.

Hodan A. Haji Mohamud Resident Representative UNDP Diibouti

cc:

Mr Mourad Wahba Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Regional Director RBAS - UNDP New York