

Minutes of the Meeting of the TWG held on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at the Conference hall of the Election House ( Meeting No.18 ).

**Attendance:**

1. Mr Samboujang Njie, ChairPerson-IEC
2. Mr Joseph Colley-IEC
3. Mr Bashirou G.Jahumpa-UNDP
4. Mrs Mariama Jammeh-WANEP
5. Mr Yusupha Bojang-NCCE
6. Mr Abdullah K. Jeng – IEC
7. Mr Pa Modou Faal-GPU
8. Mrs Amie Sillah-IPC
9. Mr Saikou Sanyang-IPC

**Absence**

Mr Kajali Sonko-Women’s Bureau

**Agenda**

- Terminal of the electoral support project (2016-2018)

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The meeting started at 11:55am with silent prayers and the Chairman welcomed the participants from UNDP, IEC, WANEP, IPC, GPU and NCCE. This meeting of the Technical Working Group (TWG) is under the UNDP project on Election Support to the Gambia (2016-2018).

The Chair recognized the presence of the Interparty committee representatives to the meeting of which they form an integral part of the whole electoral process. The meeting was called for by The UNDP for lessons learnt from the implementation of the project.

**3. THE CSO-COALITION**

The CSO coalition representative mention that the project has registered lot of successes but lamented the poor payment plan UNDP arranged with the Banks in relation to vendors or service providers after an activity is rendered. Vendors contracted by UNDP usually get frustrated before their payments are made. Monitors in the field during elections were not paid on time which is usually frustrating.

**5. THE GPU**

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The Gambia Press Union expressed gratitude to the project due to number of benefits from training of journalists both from the print and community radios and hope to collaborate with UNDP in subsequent events.

#### 6. THE IEC

The IEC reaffirmed the support of the project since the presidential elections especially in the form of generator set, training of polling staff, fuel for hire vehicles and website hosting.

#### 7. THE NCCE

The NCCE made remarks on the delay of disbursement of funds and state that materials were delivered very late which virtually defeated the purpose intended as message should be digested at the right time to yield the expected fruit especially when it comes to sensitization of voters.

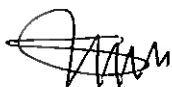
#### 8. CONCLUSION

The UNDP specialist and members summarized the overall problems encountered by every partner during the implementation process and some points were made as follows:

1. The payment pattern of the UNDP in relation to contracted vendors is discouraging
2. Materials arrived late or not properly done as required by beneficiary
3. Procurement should be simple and straight forward in term of execution.
4. The bureaucracy in processing request has a negative effect in the implementation

The project was a success but the challenges experienced by partners are evitable especially the procurement process needs serious improvement in term of procedure and payment. This marked the terminal meeting of the project and members are looking forward the commencement of a new project geared towards the support of the electoral process of the Gambia 2021.

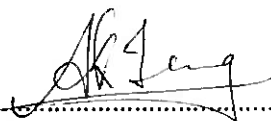
The meeting ended at 12:57pm with silent prayers.



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Chairperson

Mr. Samboujang Njie

Date.....9/5/19.....



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Secretary

Mr. Abdullah k.Jeng

Date.....9<sup>th</sup>-04-2019.....

