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Dear Mr. Avannesov,

Thank you for re-submitting the proposal to the Peacebuilding Fund's third Gender and first Youth Promotion Initiatives. We are delighted that the initiatives were met with such great interest and that this year's appraisal process has come to its conclusion.

Fourteen revised proposals were reviewed in a second round of the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) which met on 29 November.

I am pleased to inform you that the proposal submitted by UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP and UNODC entitled "Women and Girls as Drivers for Peace and Prevention of Radicalisation" was approved during the final PAC. The PAC raised several points, which we would like to see addressed as the project implementation begins:

- The PAC found that the revised proposal addresses most of PBSO's previous comments. It is much more focused and provides more scientific evidence. However, to further improve the project the PAC suggest to link the programmatic activities in a more focused manner to particular outlined reasons for radicalization while taking into account the others as risk factors.
- Given that the project will address only some of the pathways into radicalisation, the PAC recommends that the project set up a very close monitoring system early in project implementation to track whether the planned approach is having the intended effect. The PAC expressed some scepticism about the approach, but voted for approval based on the recognition that not much is known about this area of work. Capturing lessons learned, therefore, will be of utmost importance for this initiative, since even if the initiative is not successful, as long as we learn why, the PAC viewed that this would still be a good investment.
- Furthermore, the project needs to elaborate on the Do No Harm approach and take into account concerns about the security and political implications of the work.

Mr. Alexander Avannessov
UN Resident Coordinator in Kyrgyzstan
Bishkek

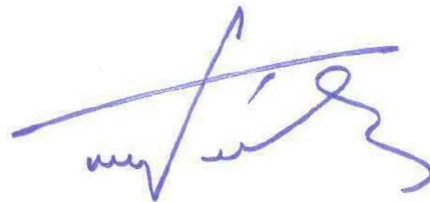
cc: Mr. Ulan Shabynov, PBF Secretariat Coordinator

- The Results Framework of the project needs to be reworked, as outputs and outcomes are too close in level. Outcome 1 should further explain who the targeted women are – current formulation is ambivalent about whether they are the female religious leaders or the at risk women. PBSO suggests a revision of the outcome statement that focuses on the at risk women, and which sees working with women leaders to change the perception of marginalized women at risk of radicalization as an input into this change. Furthermore, outcome indicator 1 needs to aim at concrete data that makes clear what kinds of in their daily lives at risk women would exhibit if they were claiming their rights.

For any question on the Gender and Youth Promotion Initiatives, please contact Tammy Smith, Senior M&E Adviser (smith24@un.org), Cécile Mazzacurati, PBSO Youth Adviser (mazzacurati@un.org) or Sarah Douglas, PBSO Gender Adviser (douglas4@un.org).

I thank you for your support of this important initiative. We look forward to our continued partnership to support gender-responsive and youth-inclusive peacebuilding in Kyrgyzstan.

Yours sincerely,



Oscar Fernández-Taranco
Assistant Secretary-General
for Peacebuilding Support