

**PROGRAMME ON REFORM OF GOVERNANCE, RIGHTS AND EMPOWERMENT FOR  
SUSTAINED STABILITY (PROGRESS)**

**PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING Minutes**

14 DECEMBER, 2016

14:30-16:30, UNDP Boardroom, UN House

Participants

1. Ms. Makhoabane Ledimo, Ministry of Development Planning - Co-Chair
2. Ms. Christy Ahenkora, UNDP DRR - Co-Chair
3. Mr. Litelu Ramokhoru, DCEO
4. Ms. Malerato Tsilo, DCEO
5. Ms. A. Ntsike, IEC
6. Ms. Malekaota Nkotsi, IEC
7. Mr. Mosito Lelimo, National Assembly
8. Ms. 'Makhotso Mohale, Senate
9. Ms. Tseleng Mokhehle, Public Service Commission
10. Mr. Sankoela Mohanyane, Public Service
11. Mr. Seabata Motsamai, LCN
12. Mr. Khosi Makubakube, CCL
13. Ms. Polo Chabane, Ministry of Law
14. Mr. George Wachira, UNDP Head of GPU
15. Mr. Thabang Tlalajoe, UNDP PROGRESS Programme Manager
16. Mr. Johan Bogh, UNDP UNV
17. Ms. Asaka Ishiguro, UNDP UNV

Meeting Details

**1. Welcome remarks**

The UNDP DRR, welcomed the attendees to the meeting and indicated that the meeting was yet another opportunity to review progress made since the last meeting in September. She also stressed that PROGRESS partners should discuss areas which need strengthening including key priority areas for 2017 planning.

**2. Opening remarks by Deputy Principal Secretary Ministry of Development Planning**

On behalf of PS Development Planning, the Deputy PS also welcomed participants and alluded to the previous steering committee meeting which took place in September, where PROGRESS partners highlighted challenges they encountered and commitments made to address them. She noted however, that some challenges were beyond the control of IPs, for example, the postponement of Local Government Elections.

The DPS pointed out that she was interested to get updates on achievements made or lack of. She also requested each implementing partner to briefly highlight key priority areas for 2017. She stated that discussing priorities for next year was of paramount importance because it will make the development of 2017 annual work plans much easier.

She concluded by encouraging all partners to consider exploring areas of cooperation and to strengthen linkages or synergies amongst the different partners of the programme.

### 3. Review of the minutes of the Steering Committee held on 14 September 2016

Before PROGRESS IPs made their presentations, the DRR led the participants in reviewing and adopting the minutes of the previous steering committee.

### 4. Progress Reports by Partners

Partner	Achievements and Challenges
National Assembly (NA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The planned activities including the training for women caucus and the gender workshop for MPs were not held due to the late closure of Parliament for winter break and political developments that took place in the country and had adverse effects on the NA activities.</li> <li>• NA staff however, attended a training workshop on research techniques along with Senate staff.</li> </ul>
Senate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on SDGs for Senators to ensure MPs' awareness of the SDGs and the 2030 agenda took place as planned.</li> <li>• Training of Parliament staff on research skill undertaken.</li> <li>• Translation of SDGs booklet into Sesotho completed, arrangements for printing underway</li> </ul>
DCEO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recent political dynamics in the country impacted negatively on some DCEO activities. The sectorial workshop for the legislature was not held.</li> <li>• Sectorial workshops for the Judiciary, CSOs, Private and Public Sectors were held successfully.</li> <li>• National Coalition Against Corruption was not launched as planned due to PM's unavailability. The DCEO will confirm a new date between January and March 2017.</li> <li>• The benchmarking visit to Uganda also took place and report available.</li> <li>• The anti-corruption symposium on corruption in public procurement was held successfully.</li> </ul>
Ministry of Public Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The strategic plan was developed as planned</li> <li>• High level induction seminar was held for PSs of all the Ministries</li> <li>• Training workshop for PSs on performance contracting was conducted</li> <li>• The development of a communication strategy deferred to 2017.</li> </ul>
Ministry of Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human Rights Commission Court case on-going</li> <li>• Study Tour to KHRC in Kenya took place in October 2016</li> <li>• The workshop on the Human Rights Commission was not held due to unavailability of the resource person</li> <li>• UPR meeting deferred to 2017</li> </ul>
IEC	Nothing to report due to the fact that LG Elections were postponed to 2017

CCL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training in conflict management for Ribaneng Community</li> <li>• CCL National Executive Committee (NEC) members were sensitized on peace infrastructures, and processes in Ts'ehlanayne.</li> </ul>
LCN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Position Paper for CSOs complete and validated during NGO week</li> <li>• The reforms process commitments have been a major work in the past quarter, developing the structure, key stakeholders, and engaging them</li> <li>• Communication with the government as well as the oppositions has been continuously held, which received relatively positive feedbacks.</li> <li>• There is an anticipation over another postponement of the local government elections- this needs to be closely monitored</li> </ul>

### 5. Tentative 2017 Activity Plans

Partner	2017 Plan
NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training for SDGs Committee Members</li> <li>• Gender focused training workshops</li> </ul>
Senate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender Mainstreaming Workshop</li> <li>• Training for Senators to enhance their skills in order to deliver on their mandate</li> </ul>
DCEO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch of the NCAC</li> <li>• Continue implementation of the NACSAP</li> </ul>
Public Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performance improvement focusing on LIPAM, Public Service Commission on legal frameworks, Centre for Assessment and Development</li> <li>• Enhancing service delivery</li> </ul>
Ministry of Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UPR report</li> <li>• Establishment of Human Rights Commission</li> <li>• Initiative on Albino Rights</li> <li>• 2017 Human Rights Theme</li> </ul>
IEC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Voter education and related materials before October 2017</li> <li>• Training for women, PWDs, Youth and Security Sector members</li> <li>• Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections (BRIDGE), the global initiative for the promotion of electoral processes and capacity – ToF</li> <li>• Call centre establishment for the upcoming local election</li> <li>• Training for political parties in conflict management</li> <li>• Task list for Local or National Elections included in scenario planning for 2017</li> </ul>
CCL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentary on Famo</li> <li>• Training programme on peace for schools</li> </ul>

UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In collaboration with NUL, a new project called "Scenario Building and Foresight Project." will be launched in 2017</li> <li>• UNDP will collaborate with GIZ in conducting a Citizen Participation Survey</li> <li>• UNDP will also support the improvement of internal governance mechanisms for political parties, by developing the Political Parties Development Support Project in 2017.</li> </ul>
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## 6. Discussions

- LCN and CCL agreed to collaborate and consult with the government and opposition parties to bring political stability in Lesotho
- A critical challenge for NA and the Senate was the difficulty to develop concrete action plans due to the political instability which is likely to disrupt the work of Parliament
- Political party development was appreciated as positive initiative for next year, all participants encouraged this move by UNDP.
- Legal Environment Assessment for HIV and AIDS in Lesotho (LEA) was signed by Ministry of Law in November, which is mentioned as a strong guidance for the Committee members
- Documentary on FAMO conflicts was acknowledged as an important step
- PROGRESS partners requested MoDP to keep them up to date with the NSDP II planning process

## 7. Wrap-up and concluding remarks by Co-chairs

It was agreed that all the draft work plans for 2017 plan be submitted to UNDP by second week of January 2017.

MoDP DPS expressed her gratitude for the interactive meeting with PROGRESS implementing partners and achievements that were made in 2016.

She was followed by the Deputy Resident Representative who also thanked participants for the candid discussions. She stated that even though there were challenges in 2016, some achievements were made through teamwork, building relationships and strengthening capacities.

### PROGRESS Programme Manager

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
 19 December, 2016

### Chairman of PROGRESS Implementing Partners

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
 19 December, 2016



## **Programme on Reform of Governance, Rights and Empowerment for Sustained Stability (PROGRESS) Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2017

Venue: UNDP Boardroom, UN House

### **Participants:**

1. Malefu Khanyapa, Ministry of Development Planning
2. Malehloa Molato, Ministry of Development Planning
3. Matau Futho-Letsatsi, Ministry of Gender, Youth and Sports
4. Maho Johanne, Ministry of Gender, Youth and Sports
5. Mosito Lelimo, National Assembly
6. 'Mathatho Mohale, Senate
7. Malerato Tsilo, DCEO
8. Litelu Ramokhoru, DCEO
9. Letholetseng Nts'ike, IEC
10. Lydia Macheli, IEC
11. Palo Chabae, Chief Legal Officer, Ministry of Law, Constitutional Affairs and Human Rights
12. Mamokobo Du Preez, CCL
13. Christy Ahenkora, UNDP
14. George Wachira, UNDP
15. Thabo Mosoeunyane
16. Thabang Tlalajoe, UNDP
17. Mabulara Tsuene, UNDP
18. Johan Bogh, UNDP

### **\*Apologies:**

1. Seabata Motsamai, LCN

### **Welcome remarks**

UNDP Deputy Resident Representative (DRR) welcomed all the participant to the first Steering Committee Meeting of 2017. She indicated the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Implementing Partners' (IPs) Annual Work Plans (AWPs) for 2017. She stressed that the AWPs should be in line with national priorities. The DRR requested all IPs to demonstrate how their planned activities will impact on the lives of women, youth and people with disabilities.



## Presentation on Reforms Agenda

The UNDP Head of Governance and Peace-building Unit provided an overview on the Reforms Programme and the support that will be provided. He stated that the support to the reforms agenda will at three different levels starting with the process where a Consensus and Dialogue Advisor will be engaged to support stakeholders to hold consultative processes to deliver comprehensive and participatory reforms.

With regard to technical support, a constitutional expert will be deployed to train and orientate members of the Constitution-making body that will be established.

He added that UNDP will be provided Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) with support to undertake advocacy and provide substantive inputs to the reform process.

He also informed participants about a new initiative under PROGRESS called Lesotho Foresight and Scenarios Project which will be implemented in collaboration with the National University of Lesotho.

## Presentations by Implementing Partners

National Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Baseline study shows that some members of the parliament lack skills and knowledge on procedures particularly for chairing meetings, hence the need for training of Committee Chairpersons on their role, practice and procedure of committees.</li> <li>- Training for the National Assembly SDGs committee members</li> </ul>
The Senate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Training of Committee Chairpersons on their role, practice and procedure of committees.</li> <li>- Conduct a Public Participation session on Senate Committee's roles and SDGs</li> </ul>
<b>*NB. The two Houses of Parliament were encouraged to collaborate on similar activities where possible</b>	
DCEO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue implementation of NACSAP. Sectorial workshops for the Judiciary, CSOs, Private and Public Sectors were held successfully.</li> <li>- Plans to hold a sectorial workshop for the Legislature to pave the way for the establishment of the National Coalition Against Corruption (NCAC).</li> <li>- Anti-Corruption Symposium and celebration of International Anti-Corruption Day</li> </ul>
LCN	<p>*UNDP Governance Specialist presented on behalf of LCN.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop a strategy for disseminating CSOs position paper on reforms through media platforms.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public awareness campaigns and education on the reform process.</li> <li>- Support and facilitate inter-political party dialogue</li> </ul>
Ministry of Law, Human Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNDP to support the drafting guidelines to prepare and submit State Party Reports</li> <li>- Support dissemination of UPR recommendations</li> <li>- Support the piloting of human rights clubs in 5 high schools</li> <li>- Support awareness and implementation of the Legal Environment of HIV recommendations and raising of awareness on the rights of selected vulnerable groups</li> <li>- Commemoration of International Human Rights Day</li> <li>- The positions for the National Human Rights Commission have been approved by the Public Service Commission</li> </ul>
IEC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IEC – Local elections scheduled for September 2017. Also planning for the possibility for early national elections. Possible dates in May 2017.</li> <li>- Important to empower women in the elections, as well as youth and people with disabilities. There will be voter education meetings targeting these three groups.</li> <li>- Call Centre for the elections would need to be set-up again due to relocation of the office</li> </ul>
<p><b>*NB. The Chairperson indicated that if Snap National Assembly Elections take place this year, a significant part of funds allocated to IPs may have to be directed to IEC.</b></p>	
CCL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consultations with stakeholders for the establishment of a national conflict prevention and peacebuilding mechanism</li> <li>- Training workshop on dialogue efforts of the Heads of Churches/CCL through convening of consultations for political leaders</li> <li>- Support the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace and the Christian Council of Lesotho to carry out problem-solving and strategizing workshops for principal and ward chiefs and local councilors</li> <li>- Training workshop for capacity building in local level dialogue, and conflict management of the Ribaneng Peace Committee</li> <li>- Training workshop in dialog for the Ribaneng local chiefs, Mafeteng area chiefs, principal chiefs, local authorities, police and members of parliament</li> <li>- Conflict management and sensitization workshop for the youth in Ribaneng and Mafeteng district at large</li> </ul>
Ministry of Gender Youth and Sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- – IEC should also be focusing on women empowerment and equal representation.</li> <li>- Parliament should ensure gender parity in Senate.</li> <li>- The Human Rights Unit should advocate for a national Human Rights Policy.</li> <li>- Urged participants to ensure gender mainstreaming</li> </ul>

## Closing remarks

The representative from the Ministry of Development Planning, made closing remarks on behalf of the Principal Secretary. She stated that PROGRESS was the backbone on the country's development. She emphasized the importance of good governance as key pillar for development. She pointed out that developing the capacities of governance institutions is of paramount importance as this contributes political stability and paves the way for development to take place.

### PROGRESS Programme Manager

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

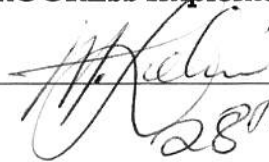


Date: \_\_\_\_\_

28/02/17

### Chairman of PROGRESS Implementing Partners

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

28<sup>th</sup> February, 2017

