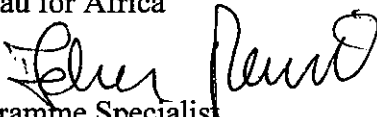




**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Ruby Sandhu-Rojon  
Officer-in-Charge  
Regional Bureau for Africa

**Date:** 28 November 2014

**From:** Jelena Raketec   
Regional Programme Specialist  
Country Oversight Team

**Extension:** 5922

**Subject:** Request for Direct Implementation Modality for the Project “EU Additional Support to Nigeria Electoral Cycle 2011-2015”

Please find attached for your consideration a request from the Country Office (CO) in Nigeria for the approval of the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) for the project: Project “EU Additional Support to Nigeria Electoral Cycle 2011-2015” from 1 December 2014 to 30 November 2015.

**Background**

The Democratic Governance for Development (DGD) Project is an existing UNDP project with the overall aim of: 1) strengthening the democratic character of Nigerian political processes; and 2) promoting outcomes that consolidate and advance democratic governance and accountability to achieve the country’s stated development priorities and goals specified in the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2014-2017 and its associated UNDAF Action Plan (UNDAP).

In addition to the existing financing commitment under the DGD project, the European Union concluded an additional Financing Agreement with the Government of Nigeria specifically to complement ongoing activities under within the framework of the DGD project. Its specific objective is to strengthen the independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), Civil Society Organizations and other relevant stakeholders through technical assistance, training, capacity building and material support so that they can better fulfill their respective roles in the forthcoming 2015 general elections.

The EU financing agreement for the project will cover a total of EURO 15, 000,000.



## **Justification for DIM**

The DIM is most suitable implementation modality for this project in view of the importance and complexity of the issues, involvement of other development partners and overall nature of the project.

The request for DIM is underlined with activation of the Fast Track Procedures and it is based on the following considerations present in Nigeria: i) sensitivity of electoral project, which requires close guidance and oversight by the UN; ii) special need for accelerated delivery of output; and iii) need to ensure equity and neutrality in programme implementation.

This project represents a separate project as per the EU's request, whose activities are however fully under the framework and complementary to the ongoing DIM implemented DGD project.

## **Implementation Arrangements**

The Project Management Unit already established under the Democratic Governance for Development (DGD) Project will continue to coordinate all activities undertaken under the project and will oversee the provision of all technical and operational support to recipient institutions, including the electoral management bodies and civil society.

The project Steering Committee referred to in the project document will monitor project activities and provide strategic guidance to project management. A workplan will be developed by the PMU in coordination with target beneficiaries and institutions, and be approved by the Steering Committee for implementation.

The Country Office has the experience and the capacity for DIM and it will continue to ensure that all necessary measures are applied for quality control, to safeguard UNDP financial responsibilities and accountable use of UNDP and partners' resources.

Based on the above justification, I would recommend that the request for the extension of the Direct Implementation Modality of the "EU Additional Support to Nigeria Electoral Cycle 2011-2015" be approved from 1 December 2014 to 30 November 2015.



Approved by: *Ruby Sandhu-Rojon*

Date: *3 Dec 2014*

Ruby Sandhu-Rojon  
Officer-in-Charge  
Regional Bureau for Africa

