# **DGD** Programme

#### **CIRCULATION FICHE**

Subject:

AMENDMENT TO THE LETTER OF AGREEMENT ON CONSOLIDATING MEDIA

DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT FOR

**DEMOCRATIC REFORMS** 

Role	Name	Signature	Date
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Signature/Approval	Bernardo Cocco UNDP Country Director a.i	PA	March 25, 2011



# AMENDMENT TO THE LETTER OF AGREEMENT ON

# CONSOLIDATING MEDIA DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORMS

#### **BETWEEN**

# THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

#### AND

#### NIGERIA PRESS COUNCIL

Reference is made to the Agreement signed 22 July 2013 between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Nigeria and the Nigeria Press Council (NPC) with respect to the implementation of "Consolidating Media Development and Engagement On Freedom Of Information Act For Democratic Reforms"

Pursuant to Article 16 of the Letter of Agreement, this Agreement is hereby amended for the first time to reflect the following changes:

An additional budget of NGN 137,473,805.00 for support of Print Media Monitoring, Capacity Development and Engagement on Freedom of Information Act on the Electoral Process to be held from June 2014 to March 2015.

The Project Description and the Schedule of Activities, Facilities and Payment are therefore revised as per Attachment 1 and 2 respectively.

All other paragraphs and attachments to the Agreement, if not referenced above, remain unchanged and in full force.

This Amendment; reflecting additional budget and additional activities mentioned above have been signed as two original copies.

AGREED ON BEHALF OF:

Mr. Bernardo Cocco UNDP Country Director a.i

Date: 25 - 3 - 14

Mr. Nnamdi Njemanze NPC Executive Secretary a.i

Date: 27-03-14

#### **Attachment 1**

#### **CONCEPT NOTE**

# ADVANCING THE ROLE OF THE NIGERIAN MEDIA IN CREDIBLE 2015 ELECTIONS THROUGH CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT, PRINT MEDIA MONITORING AND APPLICATION OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION PRINCIPLES

#### INTRODUCTION

Nigeria's next general elections are due in early 2015. The Media has a lead role throughout the electoral process-to promote citizen awareness of the electoral roadmap; including the voter registration process, to enable voters make informed choices by providing objective information on political parties and candidates, to hold electoral institutions accountable for the credible conduct of the elections and to be game changers for peaceful elections by ensuring professional and balanced reportage of the electoral process.

However, there are key factors hampering their effectiveness, Nigerian media professionals have had to operate in an environment with widespread moral and ethical lapses, bureaucratic incompetence, lack of organization, pervasive corruption- where the journalists' identification card is seen as a meal ticket - ethnic and regional rivalries, outdated equipment, poor remuneration, conflict –prone situations and low value for training and retraining. (Media, Society and Ethics, Pate, 2013)

These are further compounded by the ownership pattern, commercialization and competing interests in the media industry. There were instances when the personal interests and political sympathies of the owners were mixed with professional content to demonize, advocate, manipulate, or breach ethical and legal codes, especially during elections. For instance, the National Broadcasting Commission had sanctioned thirty three radio and television stations during the 2011 elections for various professional breaches. Each of the stations was fined N500, 000 (NAN, April 4, 2011). The Nigerian Press Council had also documented cases of professional breaches against some publications that bordered on unfair political behaviours that were disguised as news reports (NPC, 2011). More recently, ethnic and religious tensions reportedly unleashed by broadcasters on Freedom radio, Kano spilled over into an orgy of violence that led to the death of five female immunization workers in February 2013.

Additionally, the 2015 general elections represent the first opportunity for the Freedom of Information Act, 2011 to be tested in the context of elections in the country. If deliberate steps are not taken to bring the law sharply into the focus of civil society groups involved in election observations and monitoring, this opportunity may be lost and civil society may remain considerably weakened in their ability to hold the election management body and other actors in the electoral process accountable, not only in the conduct of the elections but more particularly in their preparations.

DGD II support to the Nigerian Media as enunciated in the Roadmap for the election phase is focused on strengthening the capacity and voice of the Media using a three-pronged strategy; the establishment of codes of professional conduct and for the conduct of media during elections, a media monitoring programme during the election period focusing on the qualitative and quantitative elements of media coverage, behaviour and impact as well as compliance with the Media Code of

conduct for the elections and professional capacity development in media and elections at national and regional levels.

The Road Map also acknowledges that the FOI Act is an extremely powerful tool for encouraging transparency and accountability of actions by the federal and the state governments and the electoral stakeholders. The Act is still relatively recent. The public is not yet sufficiently familiar with its potentials; and the Act's implementation is far from concluded. It is therefore important to support both the demand and supply sides in order to strengthen political transparency and accountability.

#### **JUSTIFICATION**

The Nigerian media is expected to play a vanguard role in ensuring free, fair, credible and conflict free elections in 2015 because it is saddled with the enormous responsibility of societal watchdog and the constitutional obligation to monitor governance and democratic processes as well as make government accountable to the people,.

Media task on the 2015 elections is particularly being premised on the prevailing political dynamics, especially through political realignments; the convening of a national dialogue and the pervasive atmosphere of conflicts in some parts of the country, notably the North East Region. Following these, the media is expected to accord priority to an electoral agenda that promotes peaceful, free fair and credible elections.

The intervention is also expected to guarantee fair and equitable access to parties and candidates in the elections as well as underrepresented groups including women. This is the expectation of the relevant laws and codes including the Electoral Act and the Code of Ethics of Journalists in Nigeria, which unfortunately, the media has tended to, observe in the breach according to monitoring and observation reports on past elections.

These circumstances pose the challenge of making the media to be more professional, ethical, conflict and gender sensitive as 2015 elections beckon. This project is therefore conceived within the context of achieving these objectives through capacity building and monitoring activities that span deeper understanding of institutional and legislative frameworks for media reporting of elections; professional, gender responsive and conflict sensitive reporting of elections; deployment of social/new media in reporting elections and application of FOI principles to the electoral process.

Similarly, the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance to which Nigeria is a party, recognizes that access to information is an essential ingredient for the meaningful observation of elections. The Charter therefore sets as one of its objectives to "promote the establishment of the necessary conditions to foster citizen participation, transparency, access to information, freedom of the press and accountability in the management of public affairs."

Therefore investing in this project to advance the role of the media through capacity development, print media monitoring and application of the Freedom of Information principles by civil society in the lead up to the 2015 elections aligns with the stated demands of media and civil society stakeholders and is a necessity in line with international best practices on support to the electoral process.

#### SCOPE

A range of activities are therefore proposed to increase public awareness of the Freedom of Information Act and how to use it; to encourage and empower civil society organizations to apply the principles of the FOI Act towards the 2015 Elections, to bring a strong and inclusive

coordination mechanism for civil society activities towards the implementation of the Act; and mobilize election monitoring groups across the country to deploy the Act to obtain as many types of information as may be required to hold the key actors in the electoral process accountable including financial accountability, procurement process, value for money of the elections, disbursement of approved funds, suitability of technology and accountability mechanisms in place.

A coordination mechanism for FOI stakeholders will be developed using the vehicle of the FOI coalition and a FOI newsletter will be developed to assist in tracking actual use of the Act on the demand and supply sides of the FOI implementation.

The target beneficiaries for the media capacity development component of the proposed activities shall include male and female print and broadcast journalists — political reporters, state correspondents, features writers, senior editors, — in the country's six geo-political zones who will be direct participants in the training workshops. Thousands others, including the 2000 journalists on the IPC data base, will also be beneficiaries as they would be reached through online news outlets and social media platforms including twitter, face book etc.

Promising women candidates will also be deliberately targeted to benefit from media engagement skills to develop a support base and garner votes from the electorate.

The monitoring component shall involve 20 newspapers and five magazines, including local language newspapers) whose readership cuts across the geo-political zones as well as the gender, social, economic and political strata of the country. This will be backed by qualitative and quantitative analysis disseminated in bi monthly e-reports and a final monitoring report at the end of the project.

#### KEY OBJECTIVES

- a) Develop the capacity of civil society organizations to understand and use the FOI Act to hold INEC and other electoral actors accountable in the electoral process.
- b) To create public awareness on the FOI Act and its benefits to the election process.
- c) To consolidate on-going mentoring programmes for 12 civil society organisations in six geo-political zones.
- d) To track the usage of the FOI Act and develop empirical data;
- e) Support knowledge development and experience sharing on use of the FOI to promote good governance.
- f) To develop a coordination mechanism among FOI Stakeholders.
- g) To train journalists in best practices for election reporting.
- h) To develop the capacity of 120 women candidates in media engagement skills to mobilize voters support for their candidacy.
- i) To assess the qualitative and quantitative elements of media coverage, behaviour and impact in regard to the 2015 elections.

#### **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

#### Media

- a) The media provides issue based and conflict sensitive and gender responsive coverage of the 2015 elections.
- b) Competent women candidates with knowledge and skills to engage media effectively.

- c) Informed analysis of media reportage of the electoral process is available to support targeted media training, serve as early warning mechanism and to assess the efficacy of the role of the media in relation to the 2015 elections.
- d) Promotion of media pluralism and increased participation of youth and first time voters in the electoral process including voter registration and voting

### Implementation of the Freedom of Information Act

- a) Informed and productive engagement of INEC and electoral actors by civil society organizations using the FOI Act.
- b) Increase in transparency and accountability of the electoral process using the FOI Act.
- c) Strengthened capacity of staff and affiliates of mentored organizations to hold public institutions and elected officials accountable in their host states.
- d) Increased awareness on the effectiveness of the Act
- e) Tracking of FOI Act use enhanced.
- f) FOI stakeholders coordination mechanism developed

#### METHODOLOGY:

The intervention will be driven and implemented through a unique collaboration between civil society, Government print media Regulator and journalists. It will befit male and female print and broadcast journalists; community based organizations, women candidates, INEC as well as the general public through the capacity development initiatives, development and dissemination of publications as well as active engagement of citizens in the electoral process through pluralistic media.

The major components of the project are:

- Capacity development (Trainings & Workshops)
- Monitoring
- Mentoring
- Online, social media and public awareness and sensitization
- Meetings
- Information services (online news/information portal)
- Publications

#### **The Partners**

The macro and micro components of the project will be implemented by the following three partners:

- Nigeria Press Council;
- Media Rights Agenda (MRA); and
- International Press Centre (IPC)

#### MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- There shall be a monitoring team to oversee every aspect of the intervention.
- The DGD Media Expert will provide technical assistance to the entire project and oversee implementation in line with the log frame and DGD work plan.
- The whole process will be documented by reports and publications reflecting the indicators identified in the log frame.

#### IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD

The project will be implemented between June 1st 2014 and March 31st 2015.

#### **Attachment 2**

#### **DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES**

#### Project title:

# ADVANCING THE ROLE OF THE NIGERIAN MEDIA IN CREDIBLE 2015 ELECTIONS THROUGH CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT, PRINT MEDIA MONITORING AND APPLICATION OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION PRINCIPLES

## Results to be achieved by NPC and collaborating partners

#### Media

- e) The media provides issue based and conflict sensitive and gender responsive coverage of the 2015 elections.
- f) Competent women candidates with knowledge and skills to engage media effectively.
- g) Informed analysis of media reportage of the electoral process is available to support targeted media training, serve as early warning mechanism and to assess the efficacy of the media in relation to the 2015 elections.
- h) Promotion of media pluralism and increased participation of youth and first time voters in the electoral process including voter registration and voting

# Implementation of the Freedom of Information Act

- g) Informed and productive engagement of INEC and electoral actors by civil society organizations using the FOI Act.
- h) Increase in transparency and accountability of the electoral process using the FOI Act.
- i) Strengthened capacity of staff and affiliates of mentored organizations to hold public institutions and elected officials accountable in their host states.
- j) Increased awareness on the effectiveness of the Act
- k) Tracking of FOI Act use enhanced.
- l) FOI stakeholders coordination mechanism developed

# Specific activities to be implemented by NPC and collaborating partners

#### 1. BASELINE SURVEY

#### Details

1.1 One month pre- media training baseline survey.

### 2. STAKEHOLDERS' MEETINGS (E-CONFERENCES)

#### Details

- 2.1 FOI Coalition validation meeting to implement governance and coordination structure.
- 2.2 Monthly Twitter conferences on outcomes of Media monitoring.

#### 3. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT (TRAININGS &MENTORING)

#### Details

- 3.1 Six zonal workshops on understanding and applying the principles of the FOI Act to the electoral process for TMG Member organizations.
- 3.2 6 workshops, one in each geopolitical zone focused on conflict sensitive, gender responsive reporting and use of new media.
- 3.3 6 workshops, one in each geopolitical zone on the electoral processes (laws, regulations, compliance, code of ethics).
- 3.4 3 zonal workshops on media engagement skills for women candidates.
- 3.5 Mentoring of Civil Society Organizations from the six geo-political zones of Nigeria to mainstream and use the FOI Act to hold elected official accountable and promote human development at grassroots levels.

#### 4 MEDIA MONITORING

#### Details

4.1 10-months monitoring of print media reportage of the elections (20 national & regional based newspapers, including local languages newspapers and 5 news magazines)

#### 5 INFORMATION SERVICES (ONLINE NEWS/INFORMATION)

#### Details

5.1 Running of online news, information and exchange portal on the electoral process

#### **6 PUBLICATIONS**

#### Details

- 6.1 Re-print 20,000 copies of the FOI Act, 2011.
- 6.2 Development, printing and dissemination of 5,000 copies of a manual on FOI and Election
- 6.3 Production and dissemination of monthly FOI newsletter
- 6.4 Bi-monthly e-publication of media monitoring report
- 6.5 Production and dissemination of final Media monitoring report

#### **Description of inputs**

A detailed description of the project inputs by activity is presented in the following log frame.

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			APPL	YING THE FO	APPLYING THE FOI ACT FOR CREDIBLE 2015 ELECTIONS	E 2015 ELECTION	S		
0 2	S/ Programme N Description	Objectives	Activities	Timeline	Target Audience	Output	Expected Outcome	Responsible Party	Key Performance Indicators
-	Zonal level based outreach to engage civil society to apply the principles of the Freedom of Information Act.	Develop the capacity of TMG member organisations to understand and use the FOI Act to hold INEC and other electoral actors accountable in the electoral process.  Create public awareness on the FOI Act and its benefits to the electoral process.	Re-print 20,000 copies of the FOI Act, 2011.  Develop, print and disseminate 5,000 copies of a manual on FOI and Election.  Six zonal workshops on understanding and applying the principles the FOI Act to the electoral process for TMG member  Organisations	June 2014 - March 2015	TMG member's organizations in the 6 geopolitical zones.  INEC office at national and state levels and public institutions involved in the electoral process.	Capacity of 120 civil society organizations developed to apply the principles of the FOI to the electoral process.	Informed and productive engagement of INEC and electoral actors by CSOs using the FOI Act. Increase in transparency and accountability of the electoral process using the FOI Act.	MRA/selected TMG member organizations in the 6 geo- political zones	Number of FOI requests made by CSOs to INEC and other electoral actors.  Number of FOI request response by INEC and other actors.  Copies of the FOI Act reprinted and disseminated.  Copies of manual on FOI and Election produced and disseminated disseminated for use by civil society.
7	Mentoring of Civil Society groups on mainstreaming the FOI Act at grassroots levels.	To consolidate an on-going mentoring programme for 12 civil society organisations in six geo-political zones.	On-site support by MRA to mentee organizations to address emerging issues and engage with relevant	June 2014 - March 2015	The 12 Civil Society Groups in the on-going mentoring programme	Increased capacity of 12 civil society groups to use the FOI in their host communities to advance good	Strengthened capacity of staff and affiliates of mentored organizations to hold public institutions	MRA/ 12 organizations in the on- going mentoring programme	Number of FOI request made by 12 CSOs. No of response to requests made.

Improved accountability of public institutions at states level.  10 Editions FOI newsletter produced and disseminated.	Election of Steering Committee conducted. FOI Coalition Coordinator engaged. FOI Coalition strategy document adopted.
MRA	MRA FOI Coalition member organizations
and elected officials accountable in their host states. Increased awareness on the effectiveness of the Act Tracking of FOI Act use enhanced.	FOI stakeholders coordination mechanism developed
Monthly FOI Newsletter produced and disseminated monthly	The FOI Coalition is reenergized to play a coordination role among FOI stakeholders.
Member organisations of the FOI Coalition The Media The general public	FOI Coalition members Other civil society organization/pu blic institution, FOI stakeholders.
June 2014 - March 2015	July 2014
stakeholders in communities where they are based. Production and dissemination of monthly FOI newsletter	FOI coalition validation meeting, election of Steering Committee and implementation of governance structure.
Track the usage of the law.  Support knowledge development and experience sharing on use of the FOI to promote good governance.	To develop a coordination mechanism among FOI stakeholders.
Production and printing of a monthly Freedom of Information Newsletter	Strengthening the FOI Coalition
m	4

IRING	Key Performance Indicators	Number of issue based conflict sensitive and gender responsive reportage of the 2015 elections published/produced by trained journalists.	Number of stories/interviews and online platforms actively engaged by trained women candidates.	The number of times a particular word is used to describe a particular politician.
ND MEDIA MONITO	Responsible Party	NPC/IPC S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	IPC Std	IPC and NPC The part to part to poi
DEVELOPMENT A	Expected Outcome	The media provides issue based and conflict sensitive and gender responsive coverage of the 2015 elections.	Competent women candidates with knowledge and skills to engage media effectively.	Informed analysis of media reportage of
ROUGH CAPACITY	Output	Capacity of Trainees enhanced in best practices for election reporting.	Capacity of women vying for electoral positions strengthened	Production of media baseline report on the trend of media
15 ELECTIONS THR	Target Audience	Reporters, Correspondents, producers & desk Editors from the Print & Broadcast Media in the States in each Region.	120 promising women candidates from the 6 geopolitical zones	INEC, media stakeholders and the general public
CREDIBLE 20	Timeline	July-Sept 2014		June 2014 -March 2015
ADVANCING THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA IN CREDIBLE 2015 ELECTIONS THROUGH CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND MEDIA MONITORING	Activities	6 zonal workshops focused on conflict sensitive, gender responsive reporting and use of new media. 6 zonal workshops, on electoral processes.	3 zonal workshops on media engagement skills.	One month premedia training baseline survey.
ADVANCING THE RO	Objectives	To train Journalists in best practices for election reporting.	To develop the capacity of 120 women candidates in media engagement skills to mobilize voters support for their candidacy.	To assess the qualitative and quantitative elements of
	S Programme // Description	Targeted capacity development of the Media in preparation for the 2015 elections.	Capacity development of women candidates on media engagement skills	Media monitoring.
			7	3

14																							
	The number of women	candidates quoted.	The number of times a	issue was reported.	Positive, negative, or	neutral references to each actor.	Ē	The space given to direct speech by or interviews with each	political actor.	Order of placement of	news items on different candidates,	parties or topics and gender balance of	media coverage of candidates.	Quality of reportage.	Level of professional	conduct or journalists.	Evidence of advantage of incumbency in	media reports.	Evidence of the agenda of print media	outlets.	Analysis of the formats used to cover	the elections and	content: (features stories, editorials,
																							3 01
4100 01000	process is	support	targeted media training, serve	as early warning	mechanism	the efficacy of	relation to the	2015 elections.															
to enorthouse	electoral issues.		Outcomes of	media monitoring	project	disseminated	through bi- monthly e-	report and monthly tweet	conferences.	Availability of	analysis on trends in	reportage of	process.				,		, =				
					2	v.	,		50														
	10-months monitoring of	print media	elections 20		nd	with monthly tweet conferences	on outcomes.	Bi-monthly e-	media monitoring	report.	Production and printing of final	monitoring report.											
media coverage,	behaviour and impact in regard	to the 2015 elections.																					

news etc)	Incidents of inflammatory language/hate speech.	Evidence of violations of electoral laws and Media Code of ethics.	Level of Coverage of election administration:	% Media campaigns on Voter education:	%Coverage of opinion polls:	%Coverage of exit	Number of visitors to NDR website, Tweet conference reports etc
							IPC
							Promotion of media pluralism and increased participation of youth and first time voters in the electoral process including voter registration, and voting
							Availability of credible on- line platform for citizen mobilization and participation in the electoral process.
							Journalists, electoral stakeholders, members of the public,
	<del></del>					,	June 2014- March 2015
						Moset 1.	Regular posting of reports, news and stories on Facebook, NDR website, Twitter, Google + etc.  2. Regular posting of video reports and short documentaries on YouTube and NDR website
						To promote media	pluralism and target a youth audience through online platforms such as the Nigeria Democratic Report (www.ndr.org.ng)
						, Citizens'	awareness and active participation in the electoral process through on-line platforms.

			32,912.47	26,708.75	24,280.68	83,901.91
		3rd (Upon submission of Narrative and financial reports for the Second	5,422,000.00	4,400,000.00	4,000,000.00	13,822,000.00
	Schedule of payments by UNDP		118,601.04	86,969.59	28,116.55	233,687.17
	Schedule of	2 <sup>ND</sup> Amount (Upon submission of (NGN) Narrative and financial reports for	19,538,335.00	14,327,370,00	4,631,920.00	38,497,625.00
		Amount (NGN)	241,216.46	164,902.27	121,765.93	527,884.67
		1 <sup>sr</sup> (Upon signature)	39,738,000,00	27,166,000.00	20,055,720,00	86,963,720.00
		Amount (NGN)	64,698,335.00	45,893,370,00	28,691,640.00	139,283,345.00
	Sudget	Amount (USD)	392,729.97	278,580.61	174,163.17	845,473.75
	Planned Budget	Org. Amou Responsib (USD) le	NPC/MRA	NPC/IPC	NPC	
	Timeframe	OND				
	Time	AMJ JAS OND				
EXPECTED CP PLANNED ACTIVITIES OUTCOMES	Г	undertaken during the period A towards stated outputs	APPLYING THE FOI ACT FOR CREDIBLE 2015 ELECTIONS	ADVANCING THE MEDIA IN MEDIA IN CREDIBLE 2015 ELECTIONS THROUGH CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND MEDIA MONITORING	ADVANCING THE MEDIA IN THE MEDIA IN CREDIBLE 2015 ELECTIONS THROUGH CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND MEDIA MONITORING	
PLANN	List all ac	undertaka towards s				
EXPECTED CP OUTCOMES				1. Public awareness and implementation of Freedom of Information Act [Fo] strengthened. 2. Capacity of the media to monitor media to monitor	and report on denotesy and election related issues strengthened	

# Attachment 4

# MODEL UNDP EXPENDITURE REPORT

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EXPECTED CP OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Planned B		Payment	s and Expendit	ures
and indicators including annual targets	List all activities to be undertaken during the year towards stated outputs	Budget Description	Amount	Payments received	Expenditures	Balance
		Total				