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INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Abdoulaye Mar Dieye
Director
Regional Bureau for Africa

Date: 05 May 2016

From: Silke Hollander
Team Leader Central Africa
Country Support Team

Extension: -

Subject: Request for the extension of DIM approval for the project "Programme intégré des capacités nationales en matière de prévention et relèvement des crises à l'Est du Tchad"

Please find attached for your consideration a request from the Chad country office (CO) for extension of the approval for use of the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) for the project "*Programme intégré des capacités nationales en matière de prévention et relèvement des crises à l'Est du Tchad*". Noting that the initial request was received on 02 April 2015 and all relevant documentation was submitted on 05 May 2016, the suggested DIM period is 05 May 2016 to 04 May 2017.

Background

The project is implemented together with existing initiatives and in line with actions undertaken throughout the Sahel region, and in consultation with the agencies of the United Nations system and all the key partners and donors. Particular focus is given to DRR and cross-cutting themes such as the protection of the environment and capacity development.

The project consists of five complementary components: i) strengthening of institutional capacity for prevention and peaceful management of conflicts; ii) promotion of mechanisms for dialogue and social cohesion; iii) strengthening of the rule of law and improving access to justice; iv) strengthening of the rule of law and governance of the security sector; v) socio-economic revitalization to enhance sustainable and inclusive living conditions of the populations of the most fragile areas of eastern Chad.

Justification for DIM

Despite the support during previous interventions, capacities of institutions at regional and local level remain weak and insufficient for the implementation of the project. Given the multi-sectoral nature of the project no single UN agency is able to provide the necessary expertise for the implementation of the project



-2-

alone. Furthermore, the security context is very challenging and of a great concern and affecting not only the delivery of project but also the quality and number of implementing partners present in the region.

As the "lead" of the Recovery Cluster, the main structure of coordinating the actions of partners, UNDP plays a key role in guiding the transition process, in Eastern Chad. Its capacity is going to be further enhanced by the employment of a Transition Specialist and a Rule of Law Specialist but also the expertise of the Standing Police Capacity (SPC) deployment. Currently a SURGE assignment is supporting the CO on this project.

DIM therefore is considered the appropriate modality for implementation.

It has to be noted however, that the CO had a CO management audit in 2014 which was rated 'unsatisfactory' and that serious deficiencies were noted in the control environment as well as project monitoring and implementation. The CO is implementing the audit recommendations with support and oversight from RBA and has already addressed issues around asset management, individual contracting and standard operating procedures. The audit task team in the Country Support Team is working closely with the CO to implement all recommendations. Nevertheless, projects under DIM authorization will have to be monitored closely by CO Senior Management.

Institutional Arrangements

A Steering Committee, comprising a member representing the Ministry of Planning, representatives of sectoral ministries responsible for social cohesion, the rule of law and justice, internal security, protection, rural development, planning, urbanization and decentralization support, is set up. It also includes representatives of OCHA, United Nations agencies parties, donors and representatives of the communities benefiting from the project.

The Steering Committee is co-chaired by the Country Director of UNDP and the Ministry of Economic Planning. The project is implemented under the direct responsibility of the Resident Representative of UNDP. Monitoring activities are carried out by the Assistant Resident Representative and lead of the Democratic Governance Unit, under the supervision of the UNDP Country Director. The Transition Specialist will follow the day-to-day implementation of the project. The CO will also benefit from the technical support of the UNDP technical units in HQ and RSC.

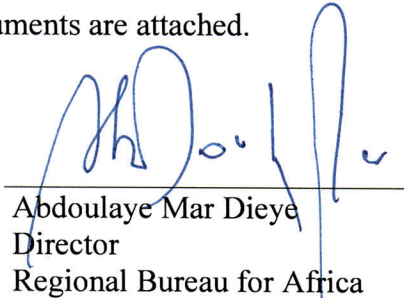
The CO will ensure that all necessary measures are applied for quality control to safeguard UNDP's financial responsibilities and accountable use of UNDP's and partners' resources. All financial resources of the preparatory assistance will be managed according to the rules, procedures and requirements as defined in UNDP's Programme and Operations Policies Procedures (POPP), and according to UNDP guidelines on direct execution/implementation.



Recommendation

Based on the above justification, it is recommended to approve the extension of approval for the Direct Implementation Modality for the project "Programme intégré des capacités nationales en matière de prévention et relèvement des crises a l'Est du Tchad" for the period 05 May 2016 to 04 May 2017. The CO will have to assume the responsibility of implementing the project under DIM for the period from 01 August 2015 to 04 May 2016 for which it did not have the appropriate DIM approval. The CO must ensure full compliance with DIM policy in the future.

Relevant documents are attached.

Approved by: 
Abdoulaye Mar Dieye
Director
Regional Bureau for Africa

Date: 