




SOMALIA UN MPTF

PROGRAMME ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

Period: Quarter 3 - 2017

Project Name	Support to the Electoral Process in the Federal Republic of Somalia Project ID(1): 00093037 - Project ID(2): 00097672
Gateway ID	00096139
Start date	17 June 2015
Planned end date (as per last approval)	31 December 2017
Focal Person	Filip Warnants
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Participating UN entities	UNDP and UNSOM (Integrated Electoral Support Group)
PSG	PSG 1: Inclusive Politics
Priority	Priority 3
Milestone	Prepare for and hold credible elections in 2016 Develop foundations for 'one person, one vote' elections
Location	National – Mogadishu
Gender Marker	2

Total Budget as per ProDoc	USD 18,941,277
MPTF:	USD 17,809,903 (MPTF)
Non MPTF sources:	PBF: -
	Trac: USD 904,060
	Other: USD 227,313 (SIDA 2015)

	PUNO	Report approved by:	Position/Title	Signature
	UNDP	David Akopyan	Deputy Country Director- Programme	 <small>Digitally signed by David Akopyan DN: cn=David Akopyan, o=UNDP Somalia, ou=Programme, email=David.Akopyan@undp.org, c=US Date: 2017.07.28 14:48:03 +0300</small>

	Total MPTF Funds Received ¹			Total non-MPTF Funds Received	
	PUNO	Q3 2017	CUMMULATIVE	Q3 2017	CUMMULATIVE
93037	UNDP		2,612,522.00		623,333.00
97672	UNDP		14,987,697.06	87,944.74	910,429.14
TOTAL	UNDP	-	17,600,219.06	87,944.74	1,533,762

¹ **Uncertified expenditures.** Certified annual expenditures can be found in the Annual Financial Report of MPTF Office (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/4S000>)



SOMALIA UN MPTF

	JP Expenditure of MPTF Funds			JP Expenditure of non-MPTF Funds	
	PUNO	Q3 2017	CUMMULATIVE	Q3 2017	CUMMULATIVE
93037	UNDP	0	2,629,347.30	0	583,883.28
97672	UNDP	1,234,015.39	14,902,942.70	87,944.74	910,429.14
TOTAL	UNDP	1,234,015.39	17,532,290.00	87,944.74	1,494,312

QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

During the third quarter of 2017, in partnership with national counterparts and development partners, the 'UNDP/UNSOM Joint Programme for Electoral Support to the Federal Republic of Somalia' developed the draft Programme Document for 2018, which focuses on the essential building blocks next year in preparation for universal elections by 2020.

On 28 September, the NIEC launched the temporary registration process of political parties, in anticipation of their official registration at a later stage, once supporting voters are registered across different regions. After decades of conflict which resulted in a fragmented country, Somalia does not have national political parties.

On 10 September, with project support, the NIEC initiated a Voter Registration Feasibility Study to examine all aspects related to the introduction of a voter registration system for Somalia in preparation of universal elections.

On 26 August, the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MOIFAR) organized a coordination session on the drafting process of the Electoral Law with key partners from the federal government. As an outcome of the session, an Election Taskforce was established.

Strengthening South-South cooperation, in July, the Joint Programme assisted the NIEC with an international workshop on political party registration, inviting representatives from different election administration bodies from the Arab States and Africa to share international experiences, based practices and knowledge. The NIEC became on 31 August 2017 a formal member of the Association of the World Election Bodies (A-WEB), enhancing its international status and benefiting from international practices and electoral knowledge. On 4 August and 8 August, IESG supported the NIEC to visit the national elections in Rwanda and Kenya, respectively, enhancing their understanding of electoral processes and of potential challenges that an election commission could face.

SITUATION UPDATE

In July and August, the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) addressed the Federal Parliament of Somalia, presenting its quarterly report and its strategic plan for the period 2017-2021. It was the second time NIEC was invited by the Parliament, the last time being in July 2016. The NIEC was summoned by the House of the People on 26 July and 8 August to give a briefing on its planning for universal elections and to answer questions regarding the Commission's work towards the path of "one person, one vote" elections. On 22 August, the NIEC addressed in a similar session the Upper House.

On 24 August, United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Mr. Jeffrey Feltman, visited the Somali National



SOMALIA UN MPTF

Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) as part of a high-level visit to the country. The Under-Secretary-General welcomed the development of the NIEC’s strategic plan for 2017-2021 as a roadmap in preparation of Somalia’s universal elections.

On 27 September, the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MOIFAR) and the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs (MOCA) led the first meeting of the Pillar Working Group 1 (PWG1) on Inclusive Politics, co-chaired by the EU and Switzerland.² The first meeting provided an update, including from MOIFAR and the NIEC on electoral issues, while discussion was focused on the terms of reference of Pillar Working Group-1.

Convening the PWG-1 meeting on Inclusive Politics was one of the requirements from international partners to identify the priority and needs of the Somali Government in 2018 in preparation for universal elections. The Joint Programme for Electoral Support has scheduled a Board meeting on 4 October to present plans for quarter four in 2017 and for 2018. A draft Programme Document for electoral support in 2018 has been circulated for consideration to partners prior to the Board meeting. The UNDP/UNSOM Integrated Electoral Support Group (IESG), that manages the Joint Programme for Electoral Support, continues to provide support to the NIEC and the drafting process for the electoral law led by MOIFAR.

QUARTERLY & ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT RESULTS MATRIX

OUTCOME STATEMENT

“Somalia is enabled to conduct an electoral process in 2016 and to prepare for and hold universal (one person one vote) elections in the longer term through the provision of support to the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC), the development of the legal framework for elections and support to promote better understanding of the electoral process.”

Output 1: The institutional capacity of the NIEC is developed to fulfil its mandate to prepare for and conduct electoral operations.

INDICATOR	TARGET	PROGRESS ON OUTPUT INDICATOR ³	
		THIS QUARTER	CUMULATIVE 2017
The extent to which the NIEC's	The NIEC is operational and	YES	YES

² The PWG-1 brings together representatives from the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), the Federal Member States (FMS), relevant Parliament Committees, relevant national independent commissions, civil society organizations, UN, bilateral donors, implementing partners and International Financial Institutions (IFIs). The priorities of the PWG-1 include: 1) advance inclusive political dialogue to clarify and settle relations between the FGS and the FMS and initiate a process of political and social reconciliation to restore trust between communities; 2) To set foundations for durable peace, stability and end the violent conflict that has caused unnecessary loss of lives and human displacement; 3) Finalize and adopt a Federal Constitution by 2019; and 4) Prepare for and hold credible elections by 2020/21.

³ Fill in only the numbers or yes/no; no explanations to be given here.



SOMALIA UN MPTF

institutional capacity is developed	initial institutional capacity in place		
Sources of evidence:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NIEC Strategic Plan presented (incl. budget) and shared with national and international partners ○ Media coverage NIEC launch of temporary registration process of political parties ○ NIEC official quarterly report to the Federal Parliament ○ Official NIEC presentations to donor partners and international community; NIEC advisor reports ○ Social Media articles: NIEC Website (www.niec.so); NIEC Facebook page; UNSOM Facebook page, UNDP Somalia Facebook page ○ Official signed documents between UNDP and the NIEC (Work Plan, Letter of Agreement) ○ Training and workshop reports/materials ○ NIEC accreditation of Association of World Electoral Bodies 			
Output 2: MoIFAR supported in its electoral related democratization role			
The extent to which MOIFAR's electoral-support capacity is developed	MOIFAR takes the lead in coordinating the development of the electoral law	YES	YES
Sources of evidence:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Media coverage coordination sessions amongst FGS ministries led by MOIFAR (OOP, OPM, MOIFAR, MOJ, MOCA) and supported by NIEC ○ Letter of Agreement between MOIFAR and UNDP ○ MOIFAR advisor reports to UNDP ○ Workshop reports: Electoral Legal Framework 			
Output 3: Legal framework for elections and referendum developed			
Progress on development of the electoral laws	Review of the Political Party Law. Compendium of Electoral Legislation	YES	YES
Sources of evidence			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Compendium of Electoral Legislation of Somalia (1953-1969) comprising 12 laws in English, including 6 translated from Italian into to English. Somali translation. 			
Output 4: Increased public and stakeholder understanding of electoral processes and electoral legal framework through civic education.			
Development of Somali-English-Arabic lexicon of electoral terminology	Lexicon with electoral terminology in Somali is finalized	NA	NA
Sources of evidence (as per current QPR)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Somali-English-Arabic lexicon of electoral terminology printed 			
Output 5: Support to the 2016 electoral process			
The extent of support to the 2016 electoral process as supported by the UN	The 2016 electoral process was concluded according to plan and integrity and	YES	YES



SOMALIA UN MPTF

	representation measures as agreed and delivering an accepted result leading to the establishment of a new Federal Parliament		
Sources of evidence			
○ NA: Output is closed since the completion of the 2016 electoral process in Q1 2017			

NARRATIVE

Output 1: The institutional capacity of the NIEC is developed to fulfil its mandate to prepare for and conduct electoral operations.

A major objective of the Joint Programme for Electoral Support is to develop long-term technical and institutional capacity of Somalia's National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC). The NIEC was established in July 2015 as the electoral management body to prepare by 2020 the country's first universal "one-person one-vote" elections since 1969. Its mandate is articulated in the Provisional Constitution of the Federal Republic and the 2015 NIEC Law.

Launch of the temporary registration process of political parties

On 28 September, the NIEC launched the temporary registration process of political parties. The NIEC's Office of the Registrar has been commencing the temporary registration of parties in anticipation of their official registration at a later stage, once supporting voters are registered across different regions. After decades of conflict which resulted in a fragmented country, Somalia does not have national political parties. In accordance with the political parties law which was endorsed in 2016, the NIEC has the mandate to oversee the registration process of political parties. During the ceremony on the 28 September, which was broadcast publicly, the NIEC presented to attending political associations the steps and forms required for temporary registration. While informing the public and specifically political associations to come forward and register as a political party, the NIEC demonstrated it is ready to accommodate the temporary registration process of political parties.

Voter registration feasibility study

On 10 September, the NIEC initiated a Voter Registration Feasibility Study to examine all aspects related to the introduction of a voter registration system for Somalia in preparation of universal elections. The study is assessing the feasibility of different voter registration options and methodologies in the specific context of Somalia that has not had any nation-wide registration system of people in decades. The team sought input and guidance from key government partners of the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and the Federal Member States (FMS), as well as different stakeholders including civil society. The study is to inform the NIEC of the voter registration methodology to be decided and accepted by all key stakeholders in 2018, in order for actual voter registration to commence in 2019 according to the NIEC strategic plan. Preliminary feedback from various stakeholders relate to the issues of accessibility (including security), the wider electoral legal framework, and the need of a political agreement on crucial constitutional issues. The citizenship law will be an important piece of legislation to define eligible voters. Other issues raised relate to the IDPs, nomadic population and the unknown size of the total population.



SOMALIA UN MPTF

NIEC Strategic Plan (2017-2021)

On 20 September 2017, supported by the UNDP/UNSOM Joint Programme for Electoral Support, the NIEC convened a coordination meeting with donor partners and international electoral assistance providers to present the details and budget of its five-year strategic plan. This plan serves as the institution's roadmap to prepare for universal elections in Somalia, with key focus on: institutional capacity development; electoral legislation and procedures; informing the electorate; voter registration; a level playing field for candidates, parties, media and observers; the conduct of credible, free and fair elections; and a post-election evaluation before initiating the next cycle. The NIEC Strategic Plan has been developed after extensive work by the Commission and Secretariat, assisted by other regional electoral experts, and supported by the UNDP/UNSOM Joint Programme for Electoral Support.

NIEC stakeholder engagements with sub-national actors

Supported by the Joint Programme for Electoral Support, the NIEC conducted field missions to different Federal Member States to strengthen its domestic stakeholder relations. After the visit to Puntland in the previous quarter of the year, the NIEC sent a delegation to Kismayo, Jubaland (22 July), Baidoa, South-West (17 August) and Jowhar, Hirshabelle (5-6 September). The NIEC engaged with State leaders and civil society networks to clarify its mandate, presenting its five-year strategic plan for nation-wide universal elections and discussing specific preparations for 'one person, one vote' elections.

South-South cooperation

By participating in different South-South activities, the NIEC gains as a young institution, significant experience from other electoral management bodies (EMBs) to understand the challenges of conducting an election. In this respect, the UN Integrated Electoral Support Group (IESG) strongly encourages the NIEC to interact and exchange views with other EMBs from the Arab States, Africa and the rest of the world. Of significant importance is the acceptance of the NIEC on 31 August as a formal member of the Association of the World Election Bodies (A-WEB). The NIEC, also member of the Arab EMBs since 2016, intends to capitalize on the electoral experience and knowledge of these international institutions. Furthermore, from 10 to 12 July, supported by IESG and in partnership with the Arab Electoral Management Bodies Organization and UNDP Regional Hub for Arab States, the NIEC hosted a three-day international workshop, in Nairobi, Kenya, on political party registration with representatives of different African and Arab EMBs. The NIEC invited a panel of presenters who shared their expertise and experiences. Interactions with the NIEC on these issues help to enrich policy decision-making and administrative approaches, aimed at establishing a strong foundation and developing appropriate systems to comply with legislation. As a result of this international workshop, the NIEC was able to enhance all its preparatory work for the commencement in late September of the temporary registration process for political parties. In addition, on 4 August and 8 August, respectively, members of the NIEC visited the elections in Rwanda and Kenya. Supported by the Joint Programme, these visits allowed the NIEC Commissioners to visit their Rwandese and Kenyan counterparts and observe the preparations being undertaken for the elections.

Institutional capacity development

Strengthening its institutional capacity development, the NIEC is building with the help of the Joint Programme the technical and administrative capacity of its Secretariat. Through on-the-job training as well as specifically



SOMALIA UN MPTF

designed workshops, IESG is assisting the NIEC with streamlining its internal operational processes, procedures and activity planning. On 23- 26 July, IESG for example supported the NIEC with the conduct of a polling and counting training session to prepare and train the secretariat staff and enhance their knowledge and understanding of polling and counting procedures, to be able to conduct by-elections and in preparation of general elections. On 9 August, supported by IESG, the Registrar of Political Parties convened a working session for NIEC staff reviewing all draft forms to facilitate the submission of applications by political associations to register as political parties. This working session is contributing to building the capacity of the Registrar's office and support staff assigned to this process to fulfill its functions of registering of political associations. In late September and early October, together with the (USAID-funded) BUILD project, IESG has been supporting a ten-day internal NIEC management implementation workshop, aiming to streamline the NIEC's organizational structure in line with its strategic objectives. Furthermore, continuous staff training and development has been provided to strengthen the institutional capacity of the NIEC. IESG has also been providing ongoing advisory assistance, logistics support and operational backing to the NIEC, including design plans for the NIEC future permanent office.

Output 2: MoIFAR supported in its electoral related democratization role

The Ministry of Interior and Federal Affairs and Reconciliation (MOIFAR) plays a central role in supporting Somalia's democratic transition, with a lead role in developing the legal framework for universal elections. The Federal Government committed in May at the London Conference that it is dedicated to develop an Electoral Law by the end of 2018, while options for models of representation, are to be presented at the next High-Level Partnership Forum later this year.

The Joint Programme therefore provided capacity development assistance to MOIFAR's conceptual planning to take the lead in the development of the new Electoral Law for universal elections. Through deployment of national advisors in the Ministry, the Joint Programme for Electoral Support assisted MOIFAR with the development of an Electoral Working Group to revitalize the coordination in drafting electoral legislation for universal elections. The idea is to ensure that the planning process takes into account the various stages and processes crucial in law-making, including identifying key resource persons and mapping of institutions, groupings of civil society, youth, women to contribute to the process and broadening the scope of participation.

On 26 August, MOIFAR organized a coordination session on the drafting process of the Electoral Law with key partners from the federal government, including the NIEC, representatives from the Office of the President as well as of the Prime Minister, a Member of the Parliament, MOCA, MOWAHR, and MOJ. The aim is to strengthen coordination within the FGS of key elements of the electoral law, in particular on the eventual choice of the electoral systems of representation. It was agreed that MoIFAR, in collaboration with other partner institutions, will come up with a plan to fully comprehend the different electoral systems, including the pros and cons of each system and recommendations for the best options for Somalia. To strengthen coordination amongst key partners in the government it was further agreed that an Election Taskforce will be established, to commend recommendations and play a coordination role between NIEC, MOIFAR, and other ministries on electoral topics that require political decision-making and buy-in. The participants underscored that women's rights and roles must be clearly stated in the laws and their rights have to be protected.



SOMALIA UN MPTF

Output 3: Legal framework for elections and referendum developed

The legal framework for elections comprises a wide range of legislative initiatives and reviews that have to be undertaken and completed in the upcoming years: most notably the development of an Electoral Law (see above), yet also the review of the Constitution as well as the development of the Citizens Law which evenly include aspects that are significant for the conduct of the elections. In quarter three, this output was mainly inactive as most of the legal attention is currently focused on the establishment of the electoral law under the lead of MOIFAR, which is covered in output 2.

Output 4: Increased public and stakeholder understanding of electoral processes and electoral legal framework through civic education

As the last universal elections in Somalia were held in 1969, many Somalis have limited experience of multi-party elections, which makes it even more important to increase public and stakeholder understanding of electoral processes and electoral legal framework. As many electoral terminologies are unknown in Somali language, the establishment of a consistent and harmonized electoral vocabulary is essential to achieve better public and stakeholder understanding of electoral processes. In this respect, the Joint Programme has been supporting the NIEC and MOIFAR with the development of a lexicon of electoral terminology in Somali language, building on the existing UNDP Arabic-English-French lexicon of electoral terms. After public consultations and input provided by experts in 2016, the lexicon has been finalized and is being printed for wider distribution. While initially scheduled for quarter three, the public launch of the electoral lexicon was postponed due conflicting priorities. A new date is still to be set.

Output 5: Support to the '2016 electoral process'

In the beginning of 2017, the Joint Programme for Electoral Support concluded its support to the '2016 indirect federal electoral process'. This output has been closed after the completion of the electoral process earlier this year.

Other Key Achievements

NA

Challenges (incl: Delays or Deviations) and Lessons Learnt:

After the completion of last year's electoral process with the inauguration of the new Federal Parliament and President earlier in 2017, the scope of the UN electoral support programme is currently under revision, focusing on the new electoral cycle and assisting Somalia with the preparation of its first universal elections since 1969. The transition from a clan-based system (as in 2016) to 'one person, one vote' elections poses big challenges for the country with many uncertainties at this stage.

Those challenges, such as security concerns, limited capacity and funding, logistical and operational difficulties, the question of the type of federalism the country is moving towards to, and an incomplete legal framework which needs inclusive political decision-making on crucial electoral elements, are not purely within control of the



SOMALIA UN MPTF

Electoral Support Joint Programme nor of the direct electoral counterparts such as NIEC and MOFAIR. Therefore, an inclusive politics strategy for the next four years is needed to overarch questions that are linked to the constitutional review process, electoral systems, state building, and rule of law. Electoral security, including access to all areas, will also be a prominent critical factor in the road path for universal ‘one person, one vote’ elections. While state-formation was one of the key pillars of the new Somali nation in the past four years, including the creation of the different Federal Member States between 2012 and 2016, an inclusive politics strategy for the next four years will need to overarch questions that are linked to the constitutional review, electoral systems, state building, rule of law and security reform.

Informed by the NAM, and in consultation with national counterparts, the UN Electoral Support Joint Programme has developed a draft project document for 2018 that is aligned with the NIEC’s Strategic Plan. The revised programme document envisages a multiple-year horizon eying towards universal elections, yet, with a first set of building blocks and milestones built-in for 2018 as to measure progress, and revise activities if required.

Peacebuilding impact

Catalytic effects

Gender

The drafted Project Document for 2018 takes into account strategies and measures to increase women’s participation in electoral processes in Somalia. Additionally, the latest Letter of Agreement with the NIEC includes the recruitment of a gender advisor in cooperation with UNDP’s gender equality and women’s empowerment Project (GEWE).

	Total no. of Outputs	Total no. of gender specific Outputs
Proportion of gender specific outputs in Joint Programme ⁴	5	<i>Each output includes a specific gender target</i>
	Total no. of Staff	Total no. of staff with responsibility for gender issues
Proportion of Joint Programme staff (UNSOM+UNDP) with responsibility for gender issues ⁵	15	2

Human Rights

In 2017, the NIEC developed its Strategic Plan for the new electoral cycle and ‘one person, one vote elections’, with electoral principles derived from Somalia’s international and national obligations, including international electoral standards that are derived from article 21 of the UN Declaration of Human Rights and article 25 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

An important element in the path towards universal elections is ensuring inclusiveness and shifting away from

⁴ Gender Specific Outputs are those that are specifically designed to directly and explicitly contribute to the promotion of Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment.

⁵ Staff members are those contracted to undertaken work for the Joint Programme including full time staff, consultants, advisors, interns, etc. Staff members with responsibility for gender issues are those who have gender related activities included in their Terms of Reference.



SOMALIA UN MPTF

the existing “4.5 power sharing formula” between the main clans. The tenth Parliament, inaugurated on 27 December 2016, comprises a gender balance of almost 25% women. Overall, over 50 per cent of the MPs are new. About 18 per cent of the elected MPs are under 35 years old.

Project activities are designed in a way that all human rights, gender considerations are taken into account. They also ensure that advocacy for women’s representation and partners are recommended to the government.

Has the Joint Programme included a protection risk assessment in its context analysis, including on gender issues, and taken measures to mitigate these risks to ensure they are not exacerbated or new risks created?	Result (Yes/No)
	<i>YES</i>

No. of Joint Programme outputs specifically designed to address specific protection concerns.	Result (No.)
	<i>5</i>

No. of Joint Programme outputs designed to build capacity of duty bearers to fulfil their human rights obligations towards rights holders.	Result (No.)
	<i>3</i>

Other

Does the Joint Programmes have a national cost-sharing component (i.e. funds and/or other resources provided by the FGS and/or FMS (including in-kind contributions)? (if ‘Yes’, describe below).	Results (Yes/No)
	<i>No</i>

Have FMS(s) been engaged in one or more of the following: design, planning, implementation, coordination and/or monitoring of the Joint Programme.	Results (Yes/No)
	<i>No</i>

Support to Drought Response

The Joint Programme for Electoral Support handed-over supporting materiel and equipment from last year’s electoral process to the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MOHADAM) in order to strengthen the capacity of the ministry.

Communications & Visibility

In accordance with the new joint Guidelines on Electoral Assistance, signed between UNDP and the EU in April 2016, the Joint Programme provided each month its input to UNDP’s Global Project for Electoral Cycle Support (GPECS). These monthly global Updates are shared to the EU as part of the EU-UNDP communications and visibility framework for electoral projects.

Banners with donor logos have been designed and used by the NIEC, in particular but not limited to when organizing workshops and posts on social media.

Looking ahead

Once the essential PWG-1 meeting was held on 27 September, the Joint Programme for Electoral Support scheduled a Board in early October to request for an extension of the current programme until the end of the year, while sharing the 2018 plan for consideration and feedback. The Q4 work plan is an extension of the interim phase in anticipation of a revision of the programme envisaging a longer-term electoral capacity development and building the foundations in preparation for universal elections. The 2018 Programme Document will be fine-tuned in the next quarter, aiming to have it endorsed by all partners before the end of the



SOMALIA UN MPTF

year.

In the interim period until the end of 2017, IESG will continue to support to NIEC's capacity development, including assistance to the temporary political party registration, and the finalization of the voter registration feasibility study. As the NIEC is being requested by the Parliament to conduct the by-elections for three empty seats of the House of the People, IESG is providing advisory support and forms from 2016 to help the NIEC with essential preparations. IESG also remains closely assisting MOIFAR with the drafting process of the new electoral law and underscoring the need for a senior-level consensus on electoral systems.



SOMALIA UN MPTF

ANNEX 1. RISK MANAGEMENT

Type of Risk ⁶	Description of Risk	Mitigating Measures
Political / Strategic	There is a risk that the past 2016 electoral process, the political uncertainties in 2017, including on federalism, constitution and political inclusiveness, draws away attention and resources from the preparations and capacity development required for universal “one person one vote” elections.	The renewed mandate of UNSOM in UNSCR 2358 underscores the UN’s support to Based on the recommendations of the NAM, a new Programme is being developed outlining the parameters of future UN support to universal elections; which will be discussed at length with government and donor partners. The different conceptual proposals for the new Programme will also provide different insights on plans of donor partners. While there is much uncertainty surrounding the electoral framework to hold universal elections at the end of the Parliament’s term, priority is given on the essential building blocks in 2018. Preparation for universal elections has been incorporated in the Government’s political strategy on inclusive politics, together with support to the parliaments, the constitutional review and federalism.
Security	Security conditions adversely impact the frequency with which UN advisers can work closely with government partners and other stakeholders.	UN to use alternative means such as videoconferencing. The Joint Programme is working with other actors, including agencies, programmes and projects that support the Somali Support to establishment of a security framework and an elections security task force.
Finance	Long-term sustainability of electoral processes in Somalia could become an issue if the national electoral management bodies (NIEC) does not receive sufficient funding through the government budget and is dependent on international funding. In case of a protracted and costly 2016 electoral process, donor funding for a profound electoral capacity development programme towards ‘one-person one-vote’ elections in 2020 might become an issue.	The Joint Programme works together with the NIEC, donor partners and other stakeholders to include an adequate budget for the NIEC in the Government’s annual budget. An electoral Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) was conducted that discussed with national and international partners to define the needs for an electoral capacity development framework towards universal elections by 2020. The NAM defined essential aspects for UN support in 2018. It is envisaged that a NAM will be deployed on an annual basis to take stock on progress and challenges.
Social and Environmental Screening	Risk that the Project would have inequitable or discriminatory adverse impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups	The NAM has underlined inclusivity as a key element for the UN in the preparations for future universal elections. Within the guidance of the Government and federal institutions, project supports consultative forums with the public, and works with media to ensure adequate information sharing and transparency on the process.
	Risk that the Project would exclude any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups, from fully participating in decisions that may affect them	as above
	Risk that duty-bearers do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the Project	Given the contextualized political and electoral debate, the Project has been building

⁶ Environmental; Financial; Operational; Organizational; Political; Regulatory; Security; Strategic; Other.



SOMALIA UN MPTF

		capacities of the national electoral entities and teams
	Risk that rights-holders do not have the capacity to claim their rights	The new UN strategy on future universal elections looks into rights-holders and their capacity to claim their rights.
	Risk that the proposed Project would have adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls	Project activities have gender components, gender plans and these are considered through all project activities. For example, trainings on “Gender Responsive Elections”. There is collaboration amongst UN gender experts and focal persons from the Joint Programme for Electoral Support, the UNSOM/UNDP Rule of Law & Security Institutions Group (ROLSIG), the UN Resident Coordination Office (RCO) and UNDP CO on gender concerns.
	Have women’s groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process and has this been included in the overall Project proposal and in the risk assessment?	<p>UNDP’s internal Project Appraisal committee reviewed the project document and ensured mainstreaming of gender concerns. Once approved the project was assigned Gender Marker 2.</p> <p>There is collaboration amongst UN gender experts and focal persons from the Joint Programme for Electoral Support, the UNSOM/UNDP Rule of Law & Security Institutions Group (ROLSIG), the UN Resident Coordination Office (RCO) and UNDP CO on gender concerns. To the extent possible gender concerns are included in policies and laws supported by projects, women’s representation is encouraged in workshops and trainings. In cooperation with UNDP’s gender equality and women’s empowerment Project (GEWE), IESG is supporting the NIEC with the recruitment of a gender advisor.</p> <p>The revised Project Document is being shared with relevant partners for feedback. In 2016, the Project provides input to the UN Leadership to implement an inclusive electoral process in 2016. A committee of ‘Goodwill Ambassadors’ was established to champion for a quota of women’s representation in the Federal Parliament. The new Parliament comprises a network of strong Somali women.</p>



SOMALIA UN MPTF

ANNEX 2. MONITORING AND OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES

Monitoring Activity	Date	Description & Comments	Key Findings / Recommendations
Project Board Meetings, PWG 1 meetings, Donor coordination meetings	PWG 1 coordination meeting: 27 September Donor coordination meetings: 20 September	First PWG-1 on Inclusive Politics Coordination meetings with donor partners and international electoral implementation actors conducted on 20 September by the NIEC, presenting its Strategic Plan and budget.	PWG-1: Discussion on TOR of the Committee and request for including NIEC as co-chair of the sub-committee on elections. Donor coordination meeting: enhanced coordination amongst international partners working with NIEC
NIEC and MOIFAR site visits	2017 - ongoing	Follow-up on implementation of LOAs with MOIFAR and NIEC as well as on use of delivered materials	Continuous capacity development support with site visits remains recommended



SOMALIA UN MPTF

ANNEX 3. TRAINING DATA

#	Target Group		Dates	# of participants			Title of the training	Location of training	Training provider
	Ministry. District or UN staff	Others		M	F	Total			
1.	NIEC	African and Arab EMBs	10-12 July	21	8	29	International workshop on political party registration	Nairobi	NIEC; Association of Arab EMBs; IESG / UNDP regional office Arab States
2.	NIEC		23-26 July	8	2	10	Registration, Polling and counting simulation exercise	Mogadishu	JP Electoral Support
3.	NIEC		9 August	10	3	13	Political party registration simulation and review of forms and processes	Mogadishu	JP Electoral Support
4.	NIEC		8-12 September	3	2	5	Review of procedures and practices as part of the preparation of the NIEC's micro-capacity assessment in 2018	Mogadishu	JP Electoral Support
Totals:				42	15	57			



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ANNEX 4. Photos and illustrations



Figure 1: NIEC banner with donor logos. Figure 2: NIEC training on polling procedures (24 July 2017, Mogadishu) Photo credit: NIEC. Figure 3: Jubaland President letter supporting NIEC in its mandate (22 July 2017)



Figure 4: NIEC brochure (supported by JP Electoral Support). Figure 5: NIEC accredited associate membership of A-WEB (31 Aug 2017, Bucharest), Photo credit UNSOM. Figure 6: NIEC training on political party registration (9 August 2017, Mogadishu) Photo credit NIEC



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Figure 7-8. Under-Secretary-General (USG) Feltman meeting NIEC Commissioners, underscoring international support to universal elections (27 August 2017, Mog) – Photo credit UNDP.



Figure 9: NIEC workshop on political party registration with representatives of other African and Arab EMBs. (12 July 2017, Nairobi). Photo Credit: UNSOM