Dear Reader,

High-light of the reporting period is the completion of the workshop for the draft Anti-Money Laundering law. This is a first important step in the project’s assistance to the NFP Budget & Finance Committee to prepare a draft law to be tabled in the next plenary session. A major achievement also is the first ever Puntland HoR website going online beginning of October.

Another important development was the inclusion of the UNDP Parliamentary Support Project in the Multi-Partner Trust Fund mechanism. Previously the Project had been funded through bilateral donor agreements. The Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility (SDRF) on 5 Oct 2015 welcomed the inclusion of the Project in its funding mechanism and approved 960,000 USD for the Project. These funds are provided by Norway and Sweden/Sida. On behalf of the benefitting parliaments the Project wants to take the opportunity to thank both donors for their generous support. In order to solidify the financial basis of the project UNDP Somalia decided to allocate an additional USD 500,000 TRAC money from its core resources to the project.

The UNDP Parliamentary Support Project (PSP) provides support to the NFP, and the Parliaments of Puntland and Somaliland in order to capacitate them to operate as inclusive, transparent and effective law-making, oversight and representative bodies. The project provides technical assistance to

1. enact quality legislation and to maintain effective oversight over the government
2. establish effective institutions, with a functioning administration and infrastructure
3. empower MPs to represent and remain accountable to the people and to provide leadership

The Project is supported by the European Union, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom and UNDP. The total budget for 2013-2016 is 11.7 million USD.
PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT PROJECT

LoA Implementation by National Counterparts

As part of the LoA all three parliaments regularly receive cash advances which during the reporting period were used in the following way.

National Federal Parliament

NFP covered the DSA of participants of the workshop on Money-Laundering and Anti-Terrorism Financing draft bill for the parliamentary committee on finance and budget in Nairobi.

The procurement process to hire a capacity development consultancy firm has been finalized and the contract is signed. In an effort to re-establish the archive of the parliament, the legal department continued to compile the missing laws from the different libraries and ministries. Young Graduates salaries for the month of September are covered from LoA funds. Similarly internet the fee for the Office of the Speaker and parliament offices has been covered. In support of the committee works, project paid catering services provided to several committee meetings and work planning sessions.

Puntland Parliament

Using LoA funds PL HoR during the has implemented the following activities: RoP were revised and will be submitted to the plenary for approval in the session starting 25 Oct. Some members of HoR conducted oversight and constituency visits to districts visited for the first time since 1998.

Refurbishment of parliament offices completed; planning of a major refurbishment to improve the plenary hall is in an advanced stage. A set of workshops was conducted for both secretariat staff and MPs re M&E. A new modern website has been created for to pass achievements and information of the house to the public.

Somaliland Parliament

During the reporting period the Somaliland HoR used LoA funds for the following activities: In an effort to improve the outreach in the regions, the HoR arranged distribution of recently developed brochures in order to expand communication of the HoR regional offices and to enhance the knowledge of local communities.

By using LoA funds the HoR supported an ad hoc committee consultation meeting with different stakeholders on the draft Education Law. The HoR paid the travel of two MPs to participate in the 6th Global Conference of Parliamentarians Against Corruption in Indonesia (6-8 Oct). The conference was a joint initiative of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia, GOPAC, the South East Asian Parliamentarians Against Corruption (SEAPAC) and GOPAC Indonesia.

Using LoA funds the HoR furthermore covers monthly expenses for the five constituency offices in Somaliland Regions (staff salaries, utilities, electricity and stationeries).

UNDP Parliamentary Project Trained 665 Participants (Nov 2014 - Sep 2015)

As part of the overall capacity building activities for national counterparts, UNDP Parliament Support Project delivered 40 capacity building trainings within the period of November 2014 till September 2015 with a total of 665 participants out of which 17.3% were female.

These trainings were provided to parliamentary committees and staff of NFP, Puntland HoR and Somaliland HoR in order to enhance their ability to exercise their functions in terms of law making, oversight and representation. The trainings provided focus on different areas including drafting legislation, strategic planning, developing parliamentary rules of procedures, budget preparation and financial oversight procedures, gender sensitivity etc. The objectives of these trainings were to develop human capacity within the three parliaments, by supporting sustainable skills transfer through international and national technical experts.
**UNDP Parliamentary Support Project Included into MPTF / SDRF**

Since its start in March 2013 the UNDP Parliamentary Project has been funded by four donors (EU, Norway, Sweden/Sida and UK/DFID) which so far were providing their support through bilateral cost-sharing agreements. In addition UNDP contributes financial resources from its own core funds. In September 2013 a New Deal Compact between Somalia and the international community had been signed which should guide the reconstruction of Somalia, based on the New Deal Principles. The Compact is the result of an inclusive process to determine the priorities of Somalia for the next three years (2014-2016). The Somali Compact is intended to be the only and overarching framework for all international donor and partner engagement with the country. It identifies a set of key priorities for the reconstruction of Somalia over the next three years under five Peacebuilding and State building Priorities (PSG). As part of the Compact, the Federal Government of Somalia and development partners agree to establish the Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility (SDRF) in order to enhance the delivery of effective assistance. For more info click on this [link](#).

The project board meeting on 27 August decided to seek inclusion of the project in the UNMPTF pipeline. The PSG 1 meeting on 21 September supported this proposal and the SDRF meeting on 5 October welcomed the support to parliaments as an additional funding priority for the UNMPTF and endorsed their inclusion in the UNMPTF pipeline as part of PSG 1. This is an important achievement with regard to a long-term perspective for support to exist-

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**Norway and Sweden Pledged USD 960,000 to the UNDP Parliamentary Support Project**

Norway and Sweden share a long-term commitment of support to building inclusive institutions of Parliament and inclusive political process in Somalia.

Both countries indicated their readiness to increase their support to parliaments and to provide additional funds for 2015. Hand in hand with the decision to include the parliamentary project into the MPTF mechanism, the SDRF meeting on 5 October also approved the allocation of 960,000 USD to the UNDP Parliamentary Support Project which are provided by Norway (702,000 USD) and Sweden / Sida (258,000 USD). On behalf of the benefitting parliaments, the project would like to express its great appreciation for this generous support.

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**UNDP Somalia Allocates USD 500,000 TRAC Funds to the Parliamentary Project**

The Project in 2015 will deliver a significantly higher amount of support to parliaments than in 2013 and 2014. In practice this means more assistance to the five parliaments (National Federal Parliament, Puntland HoR, Jubaland Assembly, Galmudug Assembly and the House of Representatives in Somaliland) than in past years.

In order to close a possible funding gap UNDP Somalia decided to allocate USD 500,000 to the Parliamentary Project from its core resources. In “UN speak” this is TRAC money or ‘Target for Resource Assignment from the Core’. This TRAC money comes from voluntary contributions from member states, forms UNDP’s regular resources, is not earmarked (not reserved for any specific purpose by the donor) and is used to run UNDP.

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**PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT PROJECT**

The UNDP Parliamentary Support Project is supported by the European Union, Norway, Sweden (Sida), the United Kingdom (DFID), and UNDP, and is managed by the United Nations Development Programme in Somalia.
In order to close the gaps identified by the HACT Micro capacity assessment conducted by ABRIMO, companies and consultants contracted via LoA delivered a number of capacity building activities for NFP, SL HoR, PL HoR and MoCFAD.

National Federal Parliament: With assistance of the project team, the NFP completed the procurement of the services of a specialized local consulting firm which will undertake capacity development activities for the NFP secretariat during the next months. AA Idris & Associates which is a certified public accountants firm has been selected through an open, competitive recruitment process. Their task is to develop for the NFP policies, guidelines and procedures, deliver training and offer other technical assistance in the areas of accounting and financial management, staffing, organizational change, internal controls and procurement.

Puntland HoR: With the assistance of a local consultant supported by UNDP, the PL HoR produced the following deliverables:

- Development of a fixed asset manual and establishment of a fixed asset register;
- Delivery of staff training to conduct a physical inventory of fixed assets at least once every year;
- Development of annual staff training plan, training policy and employee performance appraisal system;
- Development of accounting and finance manual, which establishes relevant financial reporting responsibilities and outlines reporting formats for financial reports;
- Delivery of staff training on preparing financial statements.

Puntland MoCFAD: The project team assisted the Puntland Ministry of Constitution, Federal Affairs and Democratization (MoCFAD) in order to implement capacity improvements:

- Delivering of staff trained on the HACT guidelines and LoA management;
- Delivering of fixed asset management training and establishing a detailed fixed asset register;
- Delivering of staff trained on conducting a physical inventory of fixed assets at least once every year and establishing detailed guidelines and count sheet for conducting inventory exercises;
- Delivering staff training on preparing reports detailing a comparison between actual and budgeted expenditure for each budget line on a monthly basis, providing explanation next to each variance identified.

Somaliland HoR: With the assistance of a specialized consulting firm funded by the Project, the following specific activities were completed:

- Development of a fraud risk management policy;
- Establishment of internal audit function with a written audit charter, clearly stated qualifications and experience requirements;
- Guidelines to ensure that the annual institutional audits of the HoR cover all its activities for the financial year under consideration and not the Government funding only.

New Staff Joining the Project Team

Beginning of October the project succeeded to fill a number of vacancies with the goal to create a strong operational unit. Mr. Irfan Mahmood, who previously worked with UNDP in South-Sudan and in Afghanistan is the head of the newly created Operational Unit. Ms. Annette Mutindi Makau who worked for several years with UNDP in Nairobi joined the team as Programme Associate for finance. Mr. Mohamed Hassan Mohamo who has several years of experience working for INGOs in Somalia started to work as the Project’s Administrative Assistant.

With the new colleagues on board the Project is confident that we will be able to speed up implementation of activities in the upcoming months.
In continuation of its support to assist the National Federal Parliament to improve the legislation the UNDP Parliamentary Support Project in close cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), facilitated a workshop for the NFP Budget, Finance & Planning Committee (BFPC) on the “Anti-Money Laundering / Counter Financing Terrorism Draft-Bill” September 21-27 in Nairobi. The workshop was facilitated by Jen Maiden, a Danish expert and Richard Ogesare, a Kenyan expert in this field.

The Ambassador of Somalia to Kenya attended the opening ceremony and welcomed the participants together with the Chair of the BFPC. The First NFP Dep. Speaker and the Chair of the Justice & Religious Affair Committee attended the closing ceremony. In his closing speech the First Dep. Chair expressed his commitment to include the bill in the agenda of the 7th NFP session. The event got significate coverage from Somali media.

The objective of the workshop was to enable members of the BFPC to gain in depth knowledge on international standards and best practice with regard to the prevention of money laundering and financing terrorism. The workshop focused on the technical review of the Draft Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Financing of Terrorism Act that has been presented to NFP by the MoF.

The first part of the agenda consisted of introduction to AML/CFT; impact of money laundering on development; FATF and Global AML/CFT standard setters; legal system requirements; preventive measures; Financial Intelligence Units (FIU’s); international co-operation; asset recovery, seizure and confiscation.

Two full working days were used on an article-by-article presentation from the experts on the draft AML/CFT Law including recommendations on amendments to the draft. The presentations initiated a very fruitful exchange of views between the Somali parliamentarians and the experts.

This was followed by a presentation on the Kenyan experience in transposing international AML/CFT standards into a national legislation. The Somali delegation also shared an important presentation on the status of the Somali New Deal Compact, the political situation in Somalia and the relation between the draft AML/CFT Law and other laws.

MPs expressed their intention to submit the draft law during the next parliamentary session. However, as also noted by the parliamentarians this will need ongoing project support in order to improve certain areas of the draft, provide professional legal translation into Somali language, and to conduct public hearings and orientation of relevant institutions. UNDP and UNODC are currently planning with the Committee the technical support needed for the next phase of the preparation of the draft law.

In addition to the continuous collection and archiving of the current legislation of the Federal Government of Somalia, the NFP Legal and Legislative department has been busy with the screening and classification of past legislation records with the aim of determining the actual number of clean-records that is on-hand. The initial plan sought this task to finish in September however the department’s work plan was, among other factors, interrupted by other project activities as capacity-building workshops that took place in September. As successful completion of this task is critical to the project’s ambition to re-establish a complete set of legislation for the National Federal Parliament of Somalia, the Project is promoting a timely completion of this task. Consequently, NFP legal department resumed the screening of legislation in mid-October.
**Procurement, Concession and Disposal Bill Finalized**

Following a workshop in August the Budget, Finance and Planning Committee (BFPC) of the National Federal Parliament together with Mr. Dahir Warsame, a consultant recruited by the Project completed the Somali version of the Procurement, Concession and Disposal Bill. The bill will consist of 174 Articles and it is planned that the committee will table the draft in the 7th session of the NFP. The consultant will continue providing technical support and advisory service during the period of discussion in the NFP plenary.

During the drafting process it turned out to be a particular challenge to translate specialized technical procurement terms into Somali language, which does not yet have corresponding terms. If approved by the parliament the procurement, concession and disposal law would be a Novum in Somalia as the pre-1991 legislation was based on a system where the procurement for all state institutions was centralized in the hand of one ministry.

**Puntland HoR for the First-time Launches a Parliamentary Website**

Until now, Puntland HoR did not have an own parliamentary website. With technical and financial support by the Parliamentary Support Project, web development work for PL HoR started on 1st Sep, 2015 and the website went online at the end of September 2015. All work has been done in close consultation with the PL HoR leadership and ICT department in order to make the website responsive to their requirements, needs and capacity. The design of the website incorporates latest functions of today’s modern websites whereas its content has been designed in a way that meets all requirements of a typical parliamentary websites as laid down in the *Inter-Parliamentary Union Guidelines for Parliamentary Websites*. The new website contains menu items to convey full information about the Puntland parliament, its functions, members, contact details, and general info pages for the visitor to know more about the parliament and its work.

One feature of the website e.g. is the ability to search for a member of parliament by using the search box in the front of the website that says *Find your local MP*. A visitor can for example search the representatives from his region like Sool and then the list of the MPs from the Sool region will appear where the person can then find the representative he/she wants to see. Also in the front layout of the website, there is a Facebook page link for the parliament. Similarly, a YouTube channel has been created for the parliament and is integrated with the website. Furthermore, the visitor can immediately access the latest news about the Parliament, latest reports, new bills etc. all in the first interface of the website.

The website has been created to serve as an outreach tool for the people of Puntland and to provide regular and timely information about the parliament and its business. The newly developed website, although still under review, can be accessed via http://www.puntlandparliament.net/
A delegation of two parliamentarians (MPs) from Somaliland House of Representatives attended the 6th Global Conference of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Lawmakers from 74 countries participated in the three-day meeting in Yogyakarta from 6th to 8th Oct 2015.

The Theme of the conference was "bringing perpetrators of grand corruption to justice for a sustainable world where all citizens can live in prosperity and equity." During the 3 days conference, the participants shared different information, experiences and challenges observed in their respected countries. The Conference brought together parliamentarians to study common problems, learn from best practice examples and make recommendations for action.

“This was an important conference for us, we learnt a lot and I am willing to apply it here to stand and combat the level of corruption in Somaliland, in order to prevent crimes of grand corruption. We have to work hard and to start the development of legislations and tools to stop before it can happen here,” said Hon. Abdikadir Jibril Tukale upon his return to Hargeisa.

UNDP responded in September to Jubaland’s request for support to its newly created Regional Assembly with a series of intensive trainings in Kismayo. There is at present no physical building while a permanent structure is being renovated.

A total of 54 newly selected MPs and 1 female MP, took part in a five day training series, followed by another four days with the parliamentary leadership and two parliamentary whips. Topics included an introduction to the historical roles of a parliamentarian as Legislator, Overseer of the Executive, and Representative of the electorate, the latter of which is a major challenge in a region where Al-Shabaab control more than one third of the territory. Another constraint is the absence of an executive government.

The Presidential elections were held in August 2015, followed by the installation of the new President in September. The Council of Ministers has yet to be appointed.

Training and mentoring was also provided on the newly adopted Jubaland Provisional Constitution and the essential Constitutional mandate of the Parliamentary Constitutional Review and Oversight Committee. This latter Committee is now a reality.

Members also discussed a structure for their proposed Rules of Procedure. They received training of the traditional structure of the RoP, and discussed the draft of the Puntland RoP. A parliamentary sub-committee on Rules was created. David Payne, international consultant and former Canadian MP had already assisted Puntland MPs in 2014, so comparative analyses provided added value. UNDP responded favorably to a proposed inter-regional exchange study tour of Jubaland MPs to Puntland likely to occur in December 2015.

Best on a request by Jubaland assembly the project is currently putting together a package of material support for the Jubaland assembly consisting of furniture, ICT equipment as well as a sound system.
There is perhaps no bigger challenge in democratization than for a region to end a conflict at the same time as rebuild state institutions. Jubaland is a recent case, where the Constitution making process took place in a historical context of deep seated mistrust between often unwilling leaders and communities. Compromises and concessions are difficult at any time, but more so in an externally rigid and short time frame like in the present case. UNDP was at the heart of this complex process. David Payne, UNDP Consultant, between Feb and September 2015 mentored and advised the leaders of the Interim Jubaland Administration and the Drafting Committee, proposed structure and framework of the Constitution, and accompanied the members on a daily basis, studying various other Somali Constitutions and peripheral African countries. Members took note for example of Puntland’s Constitution because of long-standing cultural and family ties to the region. They listened to experts and invited ministers to present their views. It took almost three month of intensive daily work.

The End of the mandate of the Interim Jubaland Administration was dated as August 27th, 2015, in the Federal Government of Somalia and Jubaland Agreement 2013). If a Provisional Constitution had not been adopted before that date, it was more than likely that political turmoil and social disruption would have quickly ensued. For one, Al-Shabaab was determined to sabotage the process. And for two, there would be no legitimate government of Jubaland after August 27th.

Jubaland Constitution making process was devised on two axes. Firstly a Drafting Committee of 16 men and women was formed from all sectors of Jubaland society. This Committee was mandated to draft a document for the Constituent Assembly of 300 elected delegates to a four day Convention, in Kismayo, with the sole purpose of debating and adopting the Provisional Constitution. Secondly, the Drafting Committee – composed of leaders, lawyers, students, and NGOs, was mandated to seek the views of citizens throughout the region on a broad-based consultation exercise. But how to accomplish this when 1/3 of the region is under control of Al-Shabaab? The solution – bring the delegates to a safe town such as Doblé or Kismayo.

Constitution-making is not an exact science. No two Constitutions are identical. But each must reflect the values and democratic principles of the citizens that it speaks for. The Provisional Constitution of Jubaland – like the Provisional Federal Constitution – envisaged the creation of a Parliamentary Committee for Review and Oversight, which has four years to extend the reconciliation process to attain the largest consensus.

The project has extended its scope of work by providing technical assistance to the two newly formed parliaments in Galmudug and Jubaland. This support is embedded into UNDPs wider concept of assistance to the Interim Regional Administration (IRA) and the support to the ongoing state formation process. After having made initial contacts with the speakers of these newly formed assemblies the project is currently putting together starter kits for the new assemblies consisting of basic ICT equipment, furniture and stationary.

Furthermore, the project funded the transfer of knowhow of the NFP to newly formed parliaments, e.g. Galmudug, with a training provided by NFP on Business of the House and provision of technical and legal support. This inter-parliamentary cooperation shall help the new parliaments to set up their organizational structures, to prepare their internal governance documents and to learn from the experience of those parliaments who went through a similar phase earlier.

The impact of the project in terms of capacity development of Parliaments of Somalia has produced staff members capacitated by the UNDP project who are now transferring knowledge and experience to emerging parliaments. This will contribute to UNDP’s efforts of ensuring sustainability of results and interventions.