



**MEETING WITH DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
OPERATIONS ROOM, NIGER HOUSE
24 MAY, 2016
SUMMARY REPORT**

BACKGROUND

The ECPF Secretariat had a meeting with the Development Partners Thematic Group on Peace and Security on 26 February, 2016 on the operationalization of the ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework (ECPF) at the Embassy of Austria. During the meeting, the ECPF Secretariat briefed the Partners on the rate of implementation of the ECPF, the redesign and finalization of the ECPF Web Portal, the funding committed for ECPF programmes in 2016 by Partners and ECPF priority programmes in need of funding for 2016.

At the end of the meeting, it was agreed on the need to finalize the Mapping Exercise, which was initially funded by Norway and Sweden, and for Partners to complete their responsibilities for the Mapping Exercise by reporting on the ECPF Components that they are interested in supporting. The ECPF Secretariat were requested to create a template for Partners to indicate their support to ECPF Components. As a follow up to the meeting, the ECPF Secretariat liaised with Mr. Pascal Holliger, Co-Chair of the Thematic Group on Peace and Security, to arrange for a meeting to brainstorm about a mapping tool that can assist development partners to capture their contributions to the ECPF priority areas for 2015 to 2017. In this regard, a meeting was held on Tuesday, 24 May, 2016 on the development of the mapping tool and the process that will lead to the finalization of the Mapping Exercise.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

The meeting with Development Partners was co-chaired by Mr. Constant Gnacadja, Conflict Prevention Officer and Mr. Pascal Holliger, Human Security Adviser, Embassy of Switzerland. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Directorates of Political Affairs, Early Warning, Education, External Relations, Mediation Facilitation, Peacekeeping and Regional Security and the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit. Also in attendance at the meeting were representatives of the Embassy of the Netherlands, USAID and GIZ.

The following are the main issues raised during the meeting:

- Mr. Constant Gnacadja opened the meeting by welcoming the Partners and ECOWAS Directorates in attendance. He stated the two objectives of the meeting:
 - To finalize the mapping tool for partners;
 - To agree on the mapping process;
- Mr. Pascal Holliger in his opening remarks, recalled the background of the ECPF Mapping Exercise, the recruitment of consultants to update the ECPF Priority Plans of Action and the development of a user friendly Web Portal. He pointed out that not all Partners were able to indicate their areas of support to the ECPF process during the Mapping Exercise. Therefore, he acknowledged that he was looking forward to developing the template in order to complete that aspect of the Mapping Exercise. He also mentioned his interest in knowing the status of the Web Portal and its link with the ECOWAS website.

- He also stressed on the need for Partners to provide regular updates on their contributions to ECPF Components. He called on the meeting to develop a user-friendly mapping tool that will add value to the monitoring and tracking of the ECPF.

Finalizing the mapping tool for partners

- In his response to Mr. Pascal Holliger, Mr. Constant Gnacadja presented the ECPF Web Portal which was developed by the ECOWAS Communication Directorate and the Community Computer Centre in collaboration with the ECPF Secretariat. He also explained the status of the development of the Web Portal and informed participants about the process that will lead to its official launch. After that clarification, he presented the mapping tool which is a tool developed for partners' use.
- He explained that the tool was a simple template that will be used to document the pledges of partners. The tool will provide a holistic view of donor support to ECPF components.
- During the presentation, four propositions were made to improve the mapping tool: to include the Directorates, to swap the position of ECPF components with that of Development Partners in order to clearly illustrate the source of funding for each Component, to split Partner support into technical support and financial support and to correct in the title of the Web Portal.

The mapping process

The mapping process is the continuation of the validation of the mapping tool. It consists of the filling of the mapping tool by partners. The mapping tool will be submitted to Partners and the feedback from Partners will be sent to the ECPF Secretariat by next week.

- Mr. Holliger recommended that the template can be submitted to Partners annually in order for them to routinely provide updates on the ECPF Components which they would like to fund.

Transversal discussions

- The participants also acknowledged the importance of the ECOWAS Commission dedicating specific funds towards ECPF programmes and activities. In this regard, Mr. Constant Gnacadja stated that the ECPF Secretariat is working on a strategy to persuade the ECOWAS Management to dedicate a percentage of its funds to the implementation of the ECPF.
- The Participants stressed the importance of bilateral meetings between the ECPF Focal Point Directorates and the Partners in order for there to be more communication on the potential areas of collaboration between them.
- Mr. Pascal Holliger reminded the PAPS staff present in the meeting on the need to schedule a meeting between their Department and the Thematic Group on Peace and Security in order for Partners to be introduced to the new PAPS Commissioner and also discuss peace and security related issues in the region.

- Participants acknowledged the financial constraints at the Commission and requested for feedback from Partners on the possibility of getting support for the ECPF Priority Components for 2016. In this regard, Mr. Pascal Holliger stated that he will send an email to remind Partners about the ECPF Priority Components.

CONCLUSIONS OF MEETING

On behalf of the ECPF Secretariat, Mr. Constant Gnacadja thanked the Partners and ECOWAS Directorates for honouring the invitation to attend the meeting. He promised to incorporate all of the recommended changes to the template for Development Partner Contributions and transmit the document to Mr. Pascal Holliger for circulation to the other members of the Thematic Group on Peace and Security.

He also informed Focal Point Directorates that he will send an email to them once he receives the feedback from Partners on the template. Mr. Pascal Holliger noted that he was looking forward to receiving the revised template which he will circulate to other Partners and he will also send a reminder email to Partners on the ECPF Priority Components for 2016. Mr. Pascal Holliger promised to provide feedback to the ECPF Secretariat on the template by the end of next week.