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# USAID Somalia Strengthening Somali Governance Quarterly Progress and Performance Report *FY 2015 Q2*

As of April 30, 2015

**Strengthening Somali Governance**  
**FY 2015 Q2 PROGRESS REPORT**

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The authors' views expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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## Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACU	Aid Coordination Unit
AfDB	African Development Bank
AMISOM	African Union Mission in Somalia
ASI	Adam Smith International
BRA	Benadir Regional Administration
BFC	Boundaries and Federation Commission
CP	Child Protection
CRD	Center for Research and Dialogue
CSO	Bureau of Conflict & Stabilization Operations
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DfID	Department for International Development
EAFS	External Assistance Fiduciary Section
EISA	Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa
FGS	Federal Government of Somalia
FMIS	Financial Management Information System
GICA	Government Institutions Capacity Assessment
ICRIC	Independent Constitutional Review and Implementation Commission
IJA	Interim Jubaland Administration
JPLG	UN Joint Program for Local Governance and Decentralized Services
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IEC	Independent Electoral Commission
ISWA	Interim South West Administration
JPLG	UN Joint Program for Local Governance and Decentralized Services
KII	Key Informant Interview
MoF	Ministry of Finance
Mol	Ministry of Information
MoIF	Ministry of Interior & Federalism
MojCA	Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs
MoPIC	Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
MoPWR	Ministry of Public Works and Reconstruction
MoWHR	Ministry of Women and Human Rights
MoYS	Ministry of Youth and Sports
NDI	National Democratic Institute
NEC	National Election Commission
NIEC	National Independent Electoral Commission
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
OoP	Office of the President
PESS	Population Estimate Survey for Somalia
PFM	Public Financial Management
PSG	Peace Building and State Building Goal
SFF	Special Finance Facility
SSF	Somalia Stability Fund
SSG	Strengthening Somalia Governance Project
TDR	Traditional Disputes Resolution
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
UNSOM	United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WB	World Bank

## I. **CONTEXT UPDATE (By Region)**

### **Mogadishu**

During this quarter, the Prime Minister announced two new cabinets, as his initial cabinet faced rejection by the Parliament. Members of Parliament requested the exclusion of ministers seen as responsible for causing the political infighting between the President and previous Prime Minister and that ministers possess necessary qualifications and experience. Due to political pressure, the Prime Minister announced a new cabinet consisting of entirely new members. His new cabinet was approved by Parliament on February 9, 2015. The handover process for most of the Ministries took place between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of February, 2015.

The President held a meeting in Mogadishu with other heads of Regional States, namely from Puntland, Jubaland, and the South West State in early February. Galgadud State issued a press statement calling the meeting unconstitutional, as they are part of the Federal Member States and had not been invited to this meeting, which was followed by a protest in Galkayo.

The state formation conference on the central state has seen many problems, including fighting between Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama and government forces. As of the end of this quarter, the conference had not commenced and Dhusomareb wanted assurances that it would be the capital of the state.

### Parliament:

During this quarter, Parliament approved two bills, namely, the auditor general bill and the bill establishing the National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC). Parliament's session officially concluded on February 11, 2015.

On March 18<sup>th</sup>, the Speaker of the Parliament met with the Minister of Constitutional Affairs, the parliamentary Committee on Oversight of the Constitution, and the Independent Review and Implementation Commission. He requested that the Commission review chapter one and chapter 4 of the constitution.

The Auditor General confirmed that he will publish his report and report his findings to the Federal Parliament upon their return from recess. He seemed to imply that his report will show financial irregularities in most government ministries.

### **South Central (Jubaland and SW3)**

Jubaland has opened their conference in Kismayo to set up their regional assembly. The President of the Interim Jubaland Administration (IJA) is said to have had some traditional elders arrested who were taking part in a different conference. There has been criticism of the ongoing conference and accusations that it is not inclusive likely leading to outcomes that will not be accepted by the opposition.

Committees from Puntland and Jubaland Administrations met in Kismayo to discuss issues such as politics, security, trading and investments, and the building of the IJA. The committees were selected by the Puntland President and Jubaland President.

There seems to be more interaction between the Federal government and the regional administrations. For example, the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation initially meeting his counterparts from South West State and who has now met with his counterparts from Puntland and Jubaland in Mogadishu. A delegation led by the Minister of Interior and Federalism also traveled to Jubaland to discuss bilateral agreements.

## **Somaliland**

Talks between Somaliland and Somalia in Turkey collapsed after Somaliland's government rejected further discussions with the Somali government without third party mediations. Mohamed Bihi Yonis, Somaliland's Foreign Minister, warned the region would boycott any more talks with the Somali government, blaming it for the responsibility of the collapse of the Turkish-sponsored talks.

The leadership of the House of Representative met several UN, INGO, and local organizations that support and advocate for free speech. This meeting was the result of recurrent delays of the amendment to the Somaliland media bill, which is currently in the House of Representatives, with representatives from UNSOM, UN-RCO, Star FM, BBC Media Action, UNICEF, Media Support, UNDP, EU, Relief International, Free Press Limited, and others. Former Vice President Hassan Ise Jama strongly criticized the Somaliland government for its suppression of independent media, affirming that this was an occasion for opposition parties to release a joint statement. Mr. Jama advised the government to learn from the experiences of Siyad Barre, who was eventually overthrown because of the oppression of his people and suppression of free speech.

Minister of Civil Aviation and Air Transport, Mr. Mahmoud Hashi Abdi, spoke to the parliament about the civil aviation bill, which is in its first reading. The House of Representatives started the debate against the aviation bill, and called in the Minister of Aviation for questions. The debate and discussion on the aviation bill by the Somaliland House of Representatives is in process to be completed by early April.

In his annual constitutional speech, the Somaliland President Ahmed Mohamed Silanyo raised key issues including the voter registration process and upcoming Somaliland elections, the Somaliland and Somalia talks, foreign affairs, and security. The president also requested the parliament to pass the anti-terror bill, aviation bill, and gender and minority bill.

## **II. SSG EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **Objective 1**

The SSG team initially met with Federal Parliament Secretary General Abdikarim Buh in early February. The project team briefly explained anticipated areas of support to the Secretary General, who later requested a copy of the objective one assessment report so he could also see its findings. SSG, with the help of subcontractor Somali One, later held an introductory meeting with the Speaker, Mr. Mohamed Osman Jawari on March 19, 2015. As a result of this meeting, SSG was invited to attend the leadership retreat in Kampala, Uganda during the first week of April 2015.

Additionally, SSG met with the leadership of the Somaliland Parliament in Hargeisa. The meeting took place on March 11, 2015 and the HoR Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Secretary General (SG), and Director of Planning warmly welcomed the SSG staff. The Speaker and his team were familiar with the project's intent, expressing significant interest in and concurrence with the assessment report's findings. The SSG team and the Speaker concluded their meeting by discussing proposed activities that the project would like to carry out with the HoR of Somaliland. The counterparts collectively agreed that the next step forward would be a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlining the mutually agreed upon activities for implementation.

### **Objective 2**

While the Objective 2 assessment report was finalized late in the first quarter of the project, mobilization during the first eight weeks of the second quarter was difficult due to the subsequent delay of the cabinet appointment and approval from the House of the People (HoP). The project began organizing start-up meetings, although only a few ministries responded, including the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC), Ministry of Public Works and Reconstruction (MoPWR), Ministry of Interior and Federal Affairs (MoIFA) and Ministry of Finance (MoF). Overall, initial engagement meetings with the selected key ministries were positive, with the ministries showing interest in working with the project and sharing their priorities. Nevertheless, activities were delayed because the ministers themselves were new to their ministries' respective portfolios or were engaged in internal planning exercises to determine strategies and targets for 2015/16.

### **Objective 3**

The Objective 3 assessment was conducted in January and February 2015, with the purpose of understanding the current situation in which local CSOs and media operate, gauging the level of citizens' understanding around constitutional rights and responsibilities, and providing initial recommendations for activity-level interventions in support of SSG's Objective 3 goal. The assessment focused primarily on interviewing civil society and media organizations in Somalia, Somaliland, and Puntland. Government institutions in Somaliland and Puntland, including Parliament and selected ministries, were visited to learn about citizen outreach activities. SSG submitted a draft ASOW for Objective 3 to USAID, with its purpose being to develop the Objective 3 elements within the work plan and log frame for the duration of the project. SSG staff met with different CSOs and government institutions as well as INGOs implementing other USAID-funded projects to better comprehend their types of activities. These projects included Mercy Corps' civic education activities under the Somali Youth Leadership Initiatives (SYLI) and International Organization for Migration – Transitional Initiatives for Stabilization IOM-TIS' planned activities for the upcoming voter registrations in Somaliland. In addition, SSG staff met with National Election Commission (NEC) to discuss and learn areas in which SSG can support the commission on/during the voter information as well as building the capacity of commission on information management and disseminations. Furthermore, SSG held meetings with Mogadishu-based CSOs to pave the way for a planned basic communications training, the preparations for which are completed and finalization of the training consultant is underway.

## **A. Key Narrative Achievements**

During this quarter, SSG engaged with different government ministries and parliamentary institution. The project was also able to meet with the Speaker of the House of Representatives in Somaliland, along with the Deputy Speaker, the Secretary General, and the Director of Planning where they discussed proposed activities with the HoR of Somaliland.

In addition, SSG introduced the project to the selected key Ministries of the Federal Republic of Somalia, where they discussed areas of mutual collaboration in addition to identifying areas of possible support.

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## **B. Quantitative Highlights**

As this report covers SSG's start-up period, the major M&E related activity was the drafting of an initial M&E plan, which was revised and submitted to USAID for review.

## **C. Activity Administration**

Between the formation of the new cabinet and Parliament being on recess for much of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, there have been difficulties in getting meetings and reaching agreement on steps forward with ministries and Parliament. However, progress has been made with activities being planned with the Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Planning and a communications training for CSOs planned under Objective 3.

Security will certainly remain an ongoing consideration when designing activities, especially in Mogadishu as well as in field locations in South Central Somalia. The continued bombings of hotels and targeting of government officials, will present a continuous challenge as the project team considers training and meeting venues, and building relationships with ministries where turnover can be high. Even day-to-day activities may be delayed in the event of a major security incident due to increased checkpoints throughout the city, or restricted movement.

## **D. Subsequent Reporting Period's Work Plan**

During this quarter, the work plan was updated, revised, and submitted for re-approval, but additional changes were needed. These are currently underway and will be good sources for quantitative data as called for in our M&E plan.

### III. KEY NARRATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS

#### Objective 1

SSG's meeting with the Speaker facilitated the project in starting discussions with him regarding some of the work areas where SSG could collaborate with the Parliament. More importantly, it provided the opportunity to be invited to the leadership retreat, allowing the project to be part of the planning and coordination meeting of the leadership itself. Following the meeting, the SSG team also met with Sacid Addow, the Director of the Speaker's Office, and Abdinasir Osman, the Speaker's Personal Secretary for International Relations, to discuss proposed activities and where they felt the gaps were.

The project was also able to meet with the Speaker of the House of Representatives in Somaliland, along with the Deputy Speaker, the Secretary General, and the Director of Planning on March 11, 2015, all of whom were well aware of SSG. The project team used this opportunity to explain in detail that SSG was in the process of setting up offices and getting registered in Somaliland before commencing work with them. The team was able to highlight the findings of the Objective 1 assessment report and both counterparts wanted the relevant extracts from the assessment reports to be shared with them. Furthermore, the SSG team discussed proposed activities to potentially be carried out with the HoR of Somaliland, although it was decided that the next step forward would be to get a Memorandum of Understanding signed before going into the details of this collaboration. The MOU is currently being reviewed by all invested parties, and is expected to be executed in the beginning of the third quarter.

Additionally, SSG is looking forward to working with the regional assembly of Jubaland once it is formed. The meeting with the State Minister and the Senior Advisor to the President of IJA was fruitful, with the two representatives receptive to SSG areas of support. SSG received email correspondence, in which their offices agreed that basic induction training for the new regional assembly can be a first area of partnership.

#### Objective 2

SSG took efforts to introduce the project to the selected key Ministries of the Federal Republic of Somalia, meeting with the following ministries and discussing areas of mutual collaboration in addition to identifying areas of possible support.

**Ministry of Planning and International cooperation (MoPIC)** was the first ministry to be approached and contacted after the assessment had been carried out and report produced. SSG met with Abdirahman Yusuf Hussein Aynte, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, on his first official day. During the discussion, the Minister was particularly keen on creating a Data Center for all government documents. While major IT investments are not within SSG's scope, the team mentioned the possibility of considering providing expertise in the design of the center that will assist the entire government. Afterwards, the SSG team had a series of meetings and correspondence with the ministry, which is currently engaged in developing a wider national development plan and an internal planning and strategizing exercise. The ministry requested an external expert with experience in building accountable work plans for government ministries, which they aim to finalize by the end of April 2015. An international travel approval request was sent for the MoPIC work planning expert. While the ministry has pushed the deadline for all work plans to the end of May, the ministry awaits the expert and hopes to start as soon as is possible.

The MoPIC has taken over the Aid Coordination Unit, noting the need for assistance in institutional and technical capacity building to key ministry staff in association with their departments.

The Ministry requested assistance from SSG in the following areas:

- Facilitation of their work plan

- Capacity building and training for staff on technical skills
- Assistance in reviewing documentation systems and the prospective Ministry Resource Center, which could include historic government documents, land records, and technical documents

**Ministry of Public Works and Reconstruction (MoPWR)** SSG met with H.E. Eng. Salah Osman, Minister of Public Works and Reconstruction and shared findings of the assessment report. In lieu of the ministry's priorities, he asked for SSG assistance in planning an event to "kickstart a Somali-led and Somali-owned infrastructure and development process." MoPWR is actively working out any conflicts between ministries with overlapping activities and its mandates via the Intra-ministerial Infrastructure Working Group.

The ministry sent a concept note illustrating the various items for which they would like SSG support. In response to the request, SSG will provide support in the following areas:

- Venue costs
- Conference material costs
- A facilitator for the event, who would work with a sub-group of attendees to develop a concrete scope of work for the ministry's role in regulating construction and contracts, tying this to the regulation of the multi-donor trust fund programs for infrastructure activities

Preparations for the event with the ministry are still ongoing and the Ministry-appointed team is currently developing the program of events. The latest tentative date for the MoPWR Conference is May 5, 2015.

**Ministry of Finance (MoF):** In an effort to reach out to the ministry, SSG met with Hodan Osman, Advisor of the MoF. The discussion concerned areas where SSG could complement the work of other organizations and avoid replication. Many of the basic aspects of capacity building are done – for example, internal policies and guidelines on procurement and budget reporting forms already exist. Despite this fact, they are not well-adopted or regularly used by MoF, or by any other ministries for which MoF must provide financial oversight. SSG has discussed the possibility of assisting MoF in putting some of these already existing items into action. SSG shared the findings of the Objective 2 assessment report, highlighting activities proposed by the assessment. These include;

- Building on MOF assessments of ministries (health checks) and supporting capacity needs in key areas identified in their check,
- Legislative drafting and process opportunities,
- Budget preparation and communications including citizen forums or town hall meetings, training support for other ministries on the MOF standardized reporting templates and other forms they have developed,
- Financial reporting opportunities internally and possibly externally,
- Internal/cross ministerial financial communication, coordination, and strategy,
- Needs around developing regulatory frameworks and regulations around revenues, and supporting the auditor general's office.

On a second engagement meeting, SSG discussed areas of collaboration with Hon. Mohamed Aden Ibrahim, the Minister of Finance. The Minister shared his vision and their current strategic planning process and areas of their priorities, which include the following;

- Capacity building/training of Somalia HoP Finance and Planning Committee and strengthening the oversight committee, auditor general and central bank on PFM;
- Internal communications (cross-departmental, to show staff the benefits of their work and program results);
- External communications (including how to communicate with the international community and engage with the public);

- Creating awareness about taxes;
- Transparency around budget execution and planning (to show how the system is working and civic engagement);
- Long-term strategies for capacity building in addition to short trainings (many staff lack needed experience);
- Capacity building of the parliamentary oversight committee to understand laws put before them
- Developing legal frameworks and policies;
- Developing criteria or metrics that will convince donors that direct funding to the country system is a viable support option;

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was drafted and shared with the Minister. SSG awaits the comments and acceptance of the Minister and once signed, will begin activities with the MoF.

**Ministry of Interior and Federal Affairs (MoIFA):** SSG met with Abdirashid Mohamed Hidig, State Minister of Interior and Federal Affairs and the ministry's technical advisors. The discussions focused on introducing the project to the ministry and what support SSG could provide. Currently, the ministry is forming the independent commissions for National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) and Boundaries and Federalism Commission (BFC) as part of the vision 2016 state formation process. The ministry has developed a work plan/wadajir (joint) program which elaborates on a donor matrix against identified output and activities for the election commission and BFC. The ministry asked for SSG contributions and areas in which the project could provide support including:

- Support NIEC to develop its organizational structure, staff ToRs, budget planning, and management process
- Briefing workshops, retreats, and trainings for the commissions
- Provide technical expertise; training advisers and other advisers/consultants for the commissions
- Basic office supplies

The State Minister asked for commitments from partners on their support, including the budget they are willing to allocate. The SSG team explained that they would need to see more details about what each of the areas on the list will entail before any commitment is made.

**Minister of Justice (MoJ):** SSG met with H.E. Abdullahi Jama, the Minister of Justice with the intent of hearing about his perspective on the priorities for the ministry, given the separation of constitutional affairs from it since the assessment. The Minister, however, preferred not to share his priorities and instead asked SSG to come with an action plan for activities.

**Office of the Prime Minister (OPM):** Dalmar Hassan, from the OPM, met with the SSG team to ask what assistance could be provided and listed many potential areas for collaboration, few of which met with SSG's parameters and scope. He requested that the team meet with the deputy prime minister upon his return for further discussions. The team let him know that they would be happy to meet with him to discuss the project overall and initial conversations with ministries, however, SSG is focused on working with OPM to coordinate with other capacity building efforts rather than implementing specific activities with them.

### **Objective 3**

The Objective 3 assessment and ASOW are now in their completion stage, with a revised draft of the assessment addressing USAID feedback submitted. The revised ASOW will be submitted early in Q3. While undertaking these assessments, SSG had meetings with local media, CSOs, and government counterparts, focusing primarily on interviewing civil society and media organizations in

Somaliland, Somalia, and Puntland. Government institutions in Somaliland and Puntland, including Parliament and selected ministries, were visited to learn about citizen outreach activities.

SSG had meetings with some Somaliland NEC commissioners, serving as an introduction and a means to explore possible areas in which SSG can support NEC during the voter registration which will start July 2015 Areas suggested by NEC were:

- **Training of the political party's representative on voter information dissemination:** SSG learned that during past voter registration, political parties contributions on voter information dissemination to voters was relatively neglected because it was seen as too political, although trying to promote democracy is necessarily a political act. Because of the limited funds and support for the voter information awareness raising campaigns The NEC, Somaliland and CSOs on their own cannot offer a wider and comprehensive voter information to all citizens. Furthermore, this is a potential area where there is no current INGO or donor support, as Interpeace is leading the support for voter registration and general elections processes and Saferworld is providing training to CSOs and some local voter observers. Possible activities that SSG can consider under this option would work to support NEC in facilitating training for representatives of the political parties on voter information management, tools, and dissemination.
- **Training NEC Secretariat on Voter Information:** The NEC secretariat is already supported by Interpeace regarding staff salaries and office support costs, although there are no training activities ongoing or planned to support the capacity of the NEC secretariat. Areas mentioned by the commissioner were training NEC secretariat on voter information management and dissemination and supporting the development and implementation of the NEC strategic outreach plan with a focus on message development, tools, and dissemination apparatuses.
- **Support CSOs to participate in voter information dissemination processes and plans:** This point has less support from the commissioners mainly because it becomes too difficult for NEC to coordinate with CSOs' outreach plans effectively and efficiently when the processes start,. Still, there are some champions for this idea inside the commission. *Possible activities that SSG can consider under this option:* Establish a small sized grants scheme available to CSOs, community-based organizations (CBOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to conduct civic and voter education activities (targeting 3 to 5 main urban cities)

SSG attended the IOM-TIS led one day information sharing and coordination meeting for the upcoming Somaliland elections in Hargeisa. Afterwards, the team had a brief meeting with one NEC commissioner to learn more about the coordination structures, NEC outreach plans, and other agencies and organizations interested in civic and voter education, such as Interpeace.

During this quarter, SSG began to plan a communication training for CSOs in Somaliland, Somalia and Puntland. As part of the communications training planning, SSG met with SOSENSA a network of civil society organizations based in south center which has 64 CS members, and briefly spoke about the project and its objectives, providing updates about the Objective 3 assessment report and the key areas that the project will focus on based on its findings.

## **IV. PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS**

### **Objective 1**

SSG has had some setbacks due to its previous a change in objective one leadership, necessitating time this quarter to mend relations. Furthermore, in January, the Federal Parliament was preoccupied by the aftermaths of the political crisis between the President and the previous Prime Minister and lobbying for Ministerial positions once the new PM was sworn in. Following this, the Parliament closed for their holidays, leading to the unavailability of MPs for SSG engagement. In Somaliland, the Parliament was in recess when project staff met with the leadership. The team concluded it is best to first open the regional office in Hargeisa and obtain project registration before commencing work. SSG used this time to focus on finalizing the MoU with the HoR. As for Jubaland, the regional assembly was in the process of formation during this quarter and were not yet available for engagement.

### **Objective 2**

While quite a few activities were planned under the Objective 2 work plan and scope of work for the second quarter, such as workshops, training and round-table discussions, no significant achievements have yet been possible. These delays are due to a number of reasons, including the postponement of the cabinet's appointment during the first eight weeks and the need for the newly appointed ministers to first engage in an internal planning and strategizing exercise to map out approaches for the upcoming year before being available to participate in SSG activities. However, activities originally planned for the second quarter will be incorporated in the upcoming third quarter. Revisions were made to the work plan and a list of activities for the next six months was developed.

### **Objective 3**

Since both objective 3 assessment and the ASOW development were underway, there were no planned activities for this quarter under objective 3, rather the finalization of the ASOW and assessment were the priority, both of which are currently in the final stages. Planning for a basic communication training for the CSOs is also underway, for which all plans have been completed and the finalization of the consultant agreement is in progress.

## V. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

SSG activities include support towards developing the capacity of governance institutions at the federal level in Mogadishu and in Somaliland and Puntland, as well as other entities that emerge as legitimate government structures that are ready for, and in need of, assistance. Therefore, the SSG team developed a draft capacity building strategy that will set the guidelines and mechanisms for ensuring the quality and consistency of all project capacity building activities, and in particular those with government institutions and civil society. The Capacity Development Specialist started with studying the basic documents of Chemonics/SSG program, the Objective 1 and 2 assessments along with Chemonics technical proposal document and Chemonics standards of business conduct. This strategy standardizes guidelines for the design and delivery of all of the project's training and capacity building activities for the full three years. It sets standards for SSG staff and external consultant as they participate in the capacity building activities. The capacity building strategy includes provisions to ensure that any experts conducting capacity building will run through the training with SSG staff to ensure that quality and the content of the training execution, and so staff learn and understand the training materials to better assist participants after the training ends. This will happen before the consultant implements the training with the target trainees. Trainers will be required to create a written course notebook to better measure participant knowledge and conduct pre- and post-training tests for participants. The strategy defines the project's approach to capacity building and outline the standards to be followed to ensure successful results/outputs. In addition, the strategy highlights the significant areas of engagement, with clear indicators to verify that capacity building objectives are well met. The document will greatly contribute to rendering high quality capacity building activities to government institutions and civic societies in Somalia, Somaliland and Puntland.

SSG's M&E plan was submitted to USAID in December 2014 and has been under review. USAID feedback was incorporated this quarter and revisions were submitted to USAID.

## VI. LESSONS LEARNED

**Political:** SSG's work is very much affected by the political situation in Somalia. There was a delay in the first 8 weeks of the second quarter due to the subsequent delay of the cabinet appointment and approval from the HoP. This delay was aggravated by the political discernment between the president and the former prime minister. SSG is making every effort to set up meetings with selected key Ministries via email correspondence and has succeeded in meeting with various government leaders.

**Security:** Another major challenge faced was that the first communications specialist candidate for the communication training pulled out at the final stage of the onboarding process. Likewise, the next consultant selected refused coming to Mogadishu following the recent terror attacks on the Ministry of Education at KM4.

## VII. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

The Initial Environmental Examination and Request for Categorical Exclusion for USAID/Somalia Peace and Security (PS) and Governing Justly and Democratically (GJD) assessment was for FY2010 through FY2015. All activities anticipated under the SSG contract are covered by the categorical exclusion issued in the IEE. The relevant text is included below for your reference:

*The following activities are Categorically Excluded from initial environmental examination as no environmental impacts are expected as a result of these activities. These fall under the following citations from Title 22 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Regulation 216 (22 CFR 216), subparagraph 2(c)(2):*

- (i) Activities involving education, training, technical assistance or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.); (ii) Activities involving controlled experimentation exclusively for the purpose of research and field evaluation and carefully monitored; (iii) Activities involving analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings; (v) Activities involving document and information transfers; (viii) Programs involving nutrition, health care, or family planning services except to the extent designed to include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, water supply systems, waste water treatment, etc.); (xiv) Studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries and organizations to engage in development planning.

## VIII. PROGRESS ON LINKS TO OTHER ACTIVITIES

No new information is available to report on this period. However, SSG was represented at the last USAID/Somalia implementing partners meeting in Nairobi. Information gained from that meeting was used to help inform work during this quarter.

## IX. PROGRESS ON LINKS TO HOST GOVERNMENT

Host government agencies have been a primary focus of SSG's initial work as they were heavily consulted in the development of each of the assessments, as were Parliamentary leaders. Please see the below table for further details:

Organization	Name	Title
<b>Mogadishu</b>		
Federal Parliament	Hon. Mohamed Osman Jawari	Speaker HoP
	Hon. Abdikarim Buh	Secretary General HoP
Ministry of Planning and International cooperation (MoPIC)	H.E Abdirahman Yusuf Hussein Aynte	Minister of MoPIC
Ministry of Public Works and Reconstruction (MoPWR)	H.E. Salah Osman	Minister of MoPWR
Ministry of Finance (MoF)	H.E. Mohamed Aden Ibrahim	Minister of Finance
MoF	Mrs. Hodan Osman	Technical Advisor
Ministry of Interior and Federal Affairs (MoIFA)	H.E. Abdirashiid Mahamed Hiddig	State Minister
Ministry of Justice (MoJ)	H.E. Abdullahi Jama	Minister of Justice
Office of the Prime Minister (OPM)	Mr. Dalmar Hassan	Director of National Capacity Development Program
<b>Somaliland</b>		
National Election Commission	NEC commissioners	
Somaliland House of Representatives	Hon. Abdirahman Mohamed Abdillahi	Speaker - HoR
	Hon. Ali Yusuf Ahmed	2nd Deputy speaker - HoR

## **X. PROGRESS ON GENDER STRATEGY**

As this was the start-up period for the SSG project, the team made considerable efforts to ensure each of the three assessments incorporated appropriate consideration for gender. The gender expert who was part of the first assessment team has consulted with the other two teams to provide guidance and tools to ensure consistency in the gender analysis and activity suggestions across all three assessment reports and ASOWs.

SSG recruited and hired a gender and social inclusion officer who has begun work with the program.

## **XI. SUSTAINABILITY**

As this report covers the SSG start-up period, the most notable achievement to date is ensuring that proposed activities included in the ASOWs keep sustainability in mind. To that end, activities incorporate not just politicians or their appointees, but also include the secretariats and other permanent staff members who support them and their respective parliamentarian's or ministry's work.

SSG is committed to working with the staff of various ministries and Parliament as well as bringing in short-term technical assistance rather than embedded long-term advisors, with a focus on building the capacity of government staff and institutions in order to ensure long-term sustainability of the capacity building interventions and not "quick fixes" through providing someone to do the work for the government.

## XII. UPCOMING REPORTING PERIOD'S WORK PLAN

As the SSG work plan is under review, the tables below detail the interim activities to be implemented in the upcoming report period alongside the project's counterparts and subcontractors. We have included in Annex IV a summary of the planned activities for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter from the draft work plan.

### Areas of Support for Commissions

Output	Activity	Max Planck Foundation	Tentative SSG support
<b>National Independent Election Commission (NIEC)</b>			
NIEC supported to develop capacity to conduct elections and referendum	Support NIEC to develop its organizational structure, staff ToRs, NIEC budget, and planning and management processes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of Staff TORs</li> <li>Provision of short term technical advisor that will provide training</li> </ul>
Legal framework for elections and referendum developed	Consultations, roundtables, meetings and workshops related to the development and drafting of electoral legislation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workshops on drafting of electoral legislation</li> </ul>
	Provision of technical expertise: Advisers/Consultants		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of short term technical advisor</li> </ul>
Increased understanding of the electoral legal framework and electoral processes amongst stakeholders	Consultations, roundtables, meetings and workshops related to increasing understanding and awareness raising		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workshops relating to raising awareness</li> </ul>
	Provision of technical expertise: Civic/Voter Education Adviser, other advisers and consultants		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of civic education adviser/consultant</li> </ul>
<b>Boundaries &amp; Federation Commission</b>			
Physical establishment of the BFC	Activity 1.2 Procurement of office equipment, furniture, 2 armored vehicles for BFC in Mogadishu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procurement of office computer, scanner, printer and copy machine, laptop, and supplies like ink and paper</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Basic office supplies</li> </ul>
Sub-Output 2.2: BFC supported to develop capacity to demarcate borders	Activity 2.2.1: Support BFC to develop its organizational structure, staff ToRs, BFC budget, and planning and management processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ad hoc advice and development of drafts as per the request of the Commission by the recruited Somali Technical Adviser and the International Research Fellow</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of staff TORs.</li> </ul>
	Activity 2.2.2 Briefings, workshops, retreats, training for BFC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of a training manual on federalism for the Commission and other actors of the Somali federalization process</li> <li>Ten days initial training on federalism and the work of the BFC in the Somali context (possibly outside the country)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ad hoc trainings and workshops held in Mogadishu.</li> </ul>

Output	Activity	Max Planck Foundation	Tentative SSG support
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ad hoc advice and presentations by the Somali Technical Adviser as per the request and needs of the Commission</li> </ul>	
Sub-Output 2.2: BFC supported to develop capacity to demarcate borders	Activity 2.2.3 Provision of technical expertise: Training adviser and other advisers/Consultants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruitment of one (full-time) Somali Technical Adviser for constant (daily) engagement with and technical support to the Commission</li> <li>Recruitment of one Somali Administrative Assistant to support the Commission with any kind of administrative issues on a daily basis</li> <li>Recruitment of one International Research Fellow in Heidelberg, Germany to constantly prepare research and materials as instructed by the Commission or the Somali Technical Adviser</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Short term technical advisors that will provide training</li> </ul>
Sub output 2.3. Legal framework for boundaries and federal process developed	Activity 2.3.1: Consultations, roundtables, meetings and workshops related to boundaries & federalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation of presentations, materials and documents for consultations, meetings and conferences as per the request of the Commission by the recruited Somali Technical Adviser and the International Research Fellow</li> <li>(Limited) Financial support to Commission travels</li> <li>Support to travel arrangements and logistics by the recruited Somali Administrative Assistant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizing of roundtable meeting on Federalization</li> </ul>
	Activity 2.3.2: Provision of technical expertise: Advisers/Consultants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentations and lectures by the recruited Somali Technical Adviser as per the request of the Commission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of a short term technical advisor that will delivery training and assistance on drafting of legislation.</li> </ul>
	Activity 2.3.3 Participatory legal framework development supporting the drafting of the legal framework		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of training for support staff on basic drafting skills.</li> </ul>
	Activity 2.3.4 Drafting the Boundaries and Federal Law for submitting to Parliament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ad hoc advice, research and preparation of drafts by the recruited Somali Technical Adviser and the International Research Fellow as per the request of the Commission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public hearing on draft bill of the Boundaries and Federal Law before submission to Parliament.</li> </ul>

### Internews Work Plan – Quarter 3

Start-up SOW	Activities
Provide technical assistance in support of initial activities under Objective 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train a dedicated cohort of journalists working on governance issues</li> <li>• Host six (6) roundtable discussions bringing together senior officials from various Ministries, Parliament, a dedicated cohort of governance-focused journalists, and CSO representatives to enhance mutual understanding and improve procedures for better two-way communications between government and citizens</li> <li>• Set-up and train staff to maintain and regularly update website in four (4) ministries and Parliament to maximize information publicly available on existing or pending legislation, consultations, and public or stakeholder events.</li> <li>• Train up to two (2) staff in each ministry and Parliament to maintain the website from the four (4) ministries and Parliament, SMS, social media platforms, and other technologies as interactive fora for information flows and citizen participation in governance processes.</li> <li>• Host four (4) roundtable discussions with CSO and civic organizations on how to engage effectively with members of parliament and ministries on planning, budget, legislative, legal, women and youth related issues.</li> </ul>

### ASI Work Plan – Quarter 3

Start-up SOW	Activities
Provide technical assistance in support of Objective 2 and Objective 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) to strengthen their financial management system by ensuring they have sufficient standards operating procedures (SOP), accounting systems, policies and cost accounting codes and or charts of accounts that match the Ministry of Finance systems.</li> <li>• Review administrative SOPs of MoPIC and recommend revisions as needed</li> <li>• Review and ensure proper operations and logistical financial systems of MoPIC are in place</li> <li>• Review, analyze and recommend at least 10 internal and external revenue sources for future use by the MoPIC to ensure a move away from donor funding and toward sustainable operations budgets.</li> <li>• Work with the MoPIC to strengthen human resource management systems, particularly identifying human resource gaps and options for securing technical expertise needed.</li> <li>• Introduce the concept and processes of competence based management, and ensure its initial implementation within the MoPIC</li> <li>• Work with Ministry of Public Works and Reconstruction (MoPWR) to strengthen their financial management system by ensuring they have sufficient standards operating procedures (SOP), accounting systems, policies and cost accounting codes that match the Ministry of Finance systems.</li> <li>• Review administrative SOPs of MoPWR and recommend revisions as needed</li> <li>• Review and ensure proper operations and logistical financial systems of MoPWR are in place</li> </ul>

## **XIV. ACTIVITY ADMINISTRATION**

### **A. Constraints and Critical Issues**

While not unexpected, the context for development work in Somalia, and in particular in Mogadishu, poses considerable challenges. Items we recognize as basic administrative aspects of our work, such as wire transfers and banking, procurement in compliance with USAID regulations, and recruitment and hiring have all posed unique challenges to the team. Additionally, the inability to get modern, reasonably priced information technology equipment in-country has proven challenging as these items must be shipped from the US or brought in with travelers. For each of these challenges, the team has found ways to deal with the constraints that include planning ahead and trying to always think of multiple solutions to any challenge.

### **B. Personnel**

Recruiting personnel has been challenging for a number of reasons. Highly qualified personnel often want salaries and/or compensation for benefits that are outside the standard policies and norms of both USAID contracting and Chemonics' policies and procedures. While candidates are told about benefits and salary parameters in advance, candidates still want to negotiate terms after receiving an offer which has often resulted in a lengthier than anticipated recruitment process that is ultimately not successful. Chemonics conducted an analysis of candidates' original salaries, offers made, and how their experience would rate them on the FSN scale and found no major discrepancies. In addition, higher costs in Mogadishu including for secure housing as well as overall security concerns has affected the decision of potential candidates. SSG has brought in a home office recruitment specialist to help the field office push forward on recruitment.

### **C. Changes in the Project**

Security concerns necessitated adjustments in the locations for the Objective 3 Assessment, moving the base of activities from Mogadishu to Hargeisa. For future activity-related approvals, we may want to consider language that builds this flexibility into the request so quick changes can be made without necessitating a second approval process.

The resignations of the Chief of Party, and Objective I Team Leader, presented major shifts for the team. The new Chief of Party is scheduled to arrive in early April. In the interim, support from the home office focused on moving initial technical activities forward was in place. Recruitment for a new Objective I Team Leader is underway.

### **D. Contract, Award or Cooperative Agreement Modifications and Amendments**

There were no modifications to the contract during this reporting period. A contract modification is anticipated in the future in light of the approval for key personnel change of chief of party, Bradley Baxter.

## **Annex I: List of Deliverable Products**

### **1) List of Deliverables**

1. Year 1 Work Plan
2. Objective 1 ASOW
3. Objective 2 Assessment Report
4. Objective 2 ASOW
5. Objective 3 Assessment Report
6. Objective 3 ASOW
7. Monitoring & Evaluation Plan
8. Grants Manual
9. Branding Implementation Plan and Marking Plan
10. Annual Foreign Tax Report
11. January 2015 Weekly Updates (4)
12. February 2015 Weekly Updates (4)
13. March 2015 Weekly Updates (4)

### **2) Public Outreach Documents**

- January 2015 Snapshot
- February 2015 Snapshot
- March 2015 Snapshot

## **Annex II: Security Update**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Incident</b>
	The US confirmed the death of a Senior Al-Shabaab (AS) member, Tahlil Abdishakur, who was the chief of Intelligent.
1/2/2015	Al-Shabaab attacked a military base on outskirts of Baidoa killing 7
1/4/2015	Al-Shabaab took responsibility for an attack near the airport. A car bomb was detonated killing 5 people.
1/22/2015	Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for an attack outside SYL Hotel (opposite the Presidential Palace) where a meeting was taking place involving the Turkish Ambassador to Somalia and the Turkish Foreign Minister as part of a 70 Turkish delegate who were attending the meeting. A suicide car rammed into the police guarding outside the hotel.
1/24/2015	Two men were killed in two different districts, one in Yaqshiid who worked for the local district and a young man in Wardhiigley
	Al-Shabaab are said to have kidnapped 42 residents of a town in the Bay region and have asked for ransom money
1/31/2015	US drone is said to have killed a senior figure within Al-Shabaab along with other members in the Bay region
	AMISOM soldiers were arrested by police after a car accident that caused fatalities in Mogadishu – they were released within hours.
	Members of the Somali security forces have killed the Deputy District Commissioner of Buurdhuubo.
	A well-known Sheikh was killed in the Baidoa region by Al-Shabaab
2/3/2015	27 members of Al Shabaab were killed in an airstrike in Lower Jubba.
2/4/2015	An explosion was reported in a market in Karaan district of Mogadishu.
2/5/2015	Fighting broke out in Wajiid, Bakool region
2/6/2015	Fighting broke out between militias in Beletweyne, Hiiraan region
2/7/2015	Al-Shabaab killed two women after accusing them working for NISA in Jilib, Middle Jubba region
2/8/2015	Two aid workers were killed in an attack in Mogadishu
2/9/2015	MP Abdullahi Qayaad Bare was killed on his way to Parliament in Hamarweyne district of Mogadishu
2/10/2015	Fighting broke out in Guriel between Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama and government forces
2/14/2015	A cleric was shot dead in Baidoa
2/15/2015	AMISOM Convoy was ambushed by Al-Shabaab and 10 killed in South West Somalia
2/15/2015	An employee of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation was shot dead in Dharkenely district of Mogadishu
2/15/2015	Explosion in Waberi district of Mogadishu
2/16/2015	There was an airstrike on Al-Shabaab in Jilib town of Lower Shabelle
2/16/2015	Four men were killed in k4 (Mogadishu), 3 who were government officials working at the airport including the deputy director of the airport
2/17/2015	A well-known business man was shot dead in Beletweyne, Hiiraan
2/20/2015	Attack on Central Hotel left countless dead (media claims 28, but figures seem to be almost three times as much) and many more injured. The twin explosions were carried out by a Somali Dutch – the suicide bomber, a woman who was a Dutch citizen had been working at the hotel as a receptionist. Those killed in the hotel included the deputy mayor of Mogadishu, two MPs and other senior politicians
2/23/2015	Massive explosion was reported in Afgoye, Lower Shabelle
2/24/2015	Car bomb in Taleex killed the driver and injured passenger
2/25/2015	The body of a woman was found on the beach
2/26/2015	Al Shabaab executed a man after he had been accused of working for the government
2/26/2015	Mortars were fired into Villa Somalia killing one and injuring two – Al Shabaab claimed responsibility
2/27/2015	Car bomb in Wardhiigley district of Mogadishu killed two and injured two
2/27/2015	Al Shabaab executed a man who they found to be a magician (sorcery) in Dinsoor, Baay region

Date	Incident
2/28/2015	Al Shabaab spokesman warned of further attacks and that they were aware of all the parts of Mogadishu where 'bad behavior' was going on
2/28/2015	Two explosions in Huriway district of Mogadishu killing a NISA officer and injuring three
2/28/2015	Massive car explosion in Hodan district of Mogadishu – car full of explosives is said to have passed a checkpoint and was then chased by National Intelligence and Security Agency (NISA) after which they started to exchange fire until the car went into a military base and exploded there
3/5/2015	Figures from Senior Security agencies such as the Police, NISA and the Military were arrested in relation to the explosion on SYL hotel.
3/5/2015	A delegation led by the Minister of Defence succeeded in getting a temporary agreement signed between the two parties fighting in Guricel, namely, the government soldiers and Ahlu sunnah wal jamaah. It was agreed that there would be a temporary ceasefire and that the government soldiers would return to Dhusomareb where they were initially.

Date	Incident
3/6-7/2015	A well-known elder in Belet Weyne was killed in his home, his wife and son injured and his nephew abducted and later killed
3/7/2015	AMISOM troops from Djibouti moved from Belet Weyne, Hiiraan to Guricel.
3/7/2015	The Internal Security Minister announced that the Somali army will deploy drones against Al-Shabaab.
3/7/2015	Al-Shabaab bomb maker in Galgadud surrendered to the authorities.
3/6-8/2015	Heightened security alerts in Mogadishu.
3/8/2015	The President of Jubaland made strong statements insisting that his army would disarm militias in the town of Kismayo by force.
3/9/2015	MPs from the Central State of Somalia have held a meeting in Mogadishu, in which they opposed the currently ongoing state formation in Central State and accused the President of Somalia, Hassan Sheikh of wanting to put in charge in Central State those that are backed by Ethiopia.
3/11/2015	A grenade was thrown at Makka Al Mukrama hotel followed by a car explosion which killed one
3/12/2015	Al-Shabaab stormed a compound housing UN and South West Region Administration killing 8. The head of South West Region, Sheikh Hassan Sheikh Adan managed to escape. It is believed that the five men who attacked the compound were killed.
3/13/2015	A hand grenade was thrown near the Sea Port.
3/14/2015	A senior military official was killed in his home along with five other family members by Al-Shabaab in Luuq, Gedo region.
3/15/2015	Three men were brutally killed, two having their heads decapitated, in Qoryooley, Lower Shabelle.
3/15/2015	An engineer who worked at Hormud was shot dead by armed gunmen in Bakara, Mogadishu.
3/16/2015	A well-known Quran Teacher was killed by armed men in Beletweyne, Hiiraan.
3/17/2015	Air strike by the Kenyans in Gedo region.
3/17/2015	A woman was killed by armed group of men in Dharkenly district of Mogadishu
3/17/2015	Heavy explosions reported on the border between Somalia and Kenya.
3/18/2015	The person in charge of the killings of journalists in Somalia for Al-Shabaab, Hassan Hanafi has asked for forgiveness from the government.
3/19/2015	The president of South West State has informed that there will be changes made to the security details of the presidential palace in Baydabho and that many will lose their jobs and will be replaced following the deadly attack by Al-Shabaab.
3/19/2015	US confirmed the killing of a top Al-Shabaab official, Adaan Garaar in an airstrike.
3/21/2015	Inter-clan fighting has broken out again in Deefow, Hiiraan region.
3/21/2015	A man was executed by Al-Shabaab following a conviction of being a spy for the Ethiopians and faced the firing squad in Galgadud.
3/21/2015	Two killed in hand grenade attack in Afgoye.
3/22/2015	Two government soldiers shot dead in Yaqshiid district of Mogadishu. Two explosions have been reported in Hodan district of Mogadishu.
3/22/2015	AMISOM and government soldiers have recaptured the strategic island of Kuddey, near Kismayo from Al-Shabaab.

3/22/2015	Two explosions have been reported in Hodan district of Mogadishu.
	Pirates have managed to seize an Iranian ship that was said to be illegally fishing off the coast of Somalia. This is the first time in three years since Pirates have been successful in seizing a ship.
3/27/2015	Al-Shabaab attacked Makkah Al Mukrama Hotel at approximately 16.45. Following a loud explosion, they managed to storm the building and kill and take hostages. It was thought that there was a conference held there that day on the New Deal. Alpha (an elite American trained security forces) tried to get hold of the building however, Al-Shabaab managed to remain inside the building until the following morning around 9.30 am. At least 20 people are said to have died during this incident, including the Somali ambassador to Switzerland, one Somali female diaspora working for the central bank, five security forces, three hotel guards and four Al-Shabaab attackers. 27 have been wounded in this attack. Al-Shabaab have claimed responsibility for this attack and have also issued a further warning to Hotels in Mogadishu that they should not host government officials or else they will be attacked. The government has claimed to have killed 5 or 6 Al-Shabaab men that were responsible for the attack. However, Al-Shabaab have also released a press statement claiming that some of the attackers were able to escape unharmed.
3/27-28/2015	Many explosions were heard throughout that night into the early hours of the next morning. These included heavy gunfire, hand grenade and mortar attacks. Some were said to have been used by the Al-Shabaab hostage takers thrown from the hotel and others were said to have been from Somali Security forces thrown at the hotel. In addition to that, there were other reports such as an attack on Wardhigley police station which lasted approximately 30 minutes. There were also claims that mortars and rockets were being launched at Villa Somalia.
3/27/2015	At least two people were reported to have died following a huge roadside bomb that was targeting AMISOM convoy in Merka.
3/30/2015	A senior Al-Shabaab officer has handed himself over to the government in Bakool region.

## **Annex III: Contextual Update**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Item</b>
1/20/2015	Somalia ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989.
1/21/2015	The governor and the mayor of Bule Burde (in Hiiraan) were arrested for food aid diversion.
	The Auditor has complained about threats and not being able to enter and exit their offices in Presidential Palace. The Office of the President has requested that the Attorney General look into this matter.
1/21/2015	National Language day – the President announced that all government offices must write all their official communication in no other language than Somali.
1/25/2015	MP Mohamed Ibrahim Xaabsade died in hospital following heart problems.
	In his visit to Somalia, the Turkish President officially opened the new terminal at the airport as well as a new hospital now named after him. Additionally, he promised further investments in Somalia.
1/31/2015	Dr Xuseen Kadara, a prominent Somali academic, died in Mogadishu of natural causes.
2/15/2015	The deputy (acting) prime minister received Chinese diplomats in order to discuss public reconstructions
	Kenya briefly suspended exporting Khat to Somalia.
2/23/2015	Fire broke out from petrol in Black Sea. Whiet no one was killed, it did cause substantial material damage.
	After a seven day conference in Mogadishu, AGASOM was formed, the Academy of Somali Language – which brings together all the Somali speaking countries including Ethiopia, Kenya, Djibouti, and Somalia.
	The US has appointed a new ambassador to Somalia for the first time since 1991 – Katherine Simonds Dhahani.
	Journalists who had been arrested and detained seven months ago have finally had their cases heard. One was accused of public incitement and two of publishing false information. They were told to pay fines between \$500 and \$10,000.
3/3/2015	The Somali government confirmed that they had detained a Somali- US citizen wanted by FBI.
3/3/2015	Talks in Istanbul between the Federal Government and the Somaliland administration broke down without reaching any tangible agreements. Both sides blamed the other for the breakdown.
3/6/2015	The Minister of Women and Human Rights Development strongly signaled that violence against women would no longer be tolerated, particularly as International Women's Day was coming up.
3/7/2015	Government forces forcefully evicted IDPs in X-Control, Afgoye.
	The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has started a campaign to raise awareness against migrating from Somalia using dangerous paths such as the sea.
	It has emerged that several checkpoints manned by the military between Mogadishu and Walaweyn have been forcefully taking money from youth travelling to Walaweyn, a town well known for eloping.
	300 demonstrated following dismissal from their jobs at the sea port.

## Annex IV: Quarter Three Activities

SSG Upcoming Project Activities for Quarter Three	
Task No.	Tasks
<b>Objective 1: Legislative, oversight, and representational functions of Somalia's deliberative bodies improved</b>	
<b>KRA 1.1</b>	<b>Somalia's federal and regional parliaments understand and are better able to carry out their roles</b>
	<i>Workshops for Somalia MPs, secretariat, and key line ministries on basic governance principles and options for administrative and fiscal federalism</i>
<b>Objective 2: Ability of targeted government institutions to carry out essential functions improved</b>	
2.2.6, 2.4.4	<i>Capacity-building and light equipment support to NIEC and BFC</i>
2.4.4	<i>Providing experts to support roll out of MOPIC planning guidelines to all ministries (work plans that feed into the National Development Plan)</i>
<b>Objective 3: Citizen Awareness of and engagement in government decision-making increased</b>	
3.1.5	<i>CSOs have the skills needed to carry out civic education campaigns</i>
<b>Objective 1: Legislative, oversight, and representational functions of Somalia's deliberative bodies improved.</b>	
<b>KRA 1.1</b>	Somalia's federal and regional parliaments understand and are better able to carry out their roles
<b>1.1.2</b>	Facilitation of roundtable discussions with Committee members and key Government ministries regarding role of Parliament in approving and overseeing public contracting and contract implementation <i>and role of Government in responding to Parliamentary oversight</i> [Federal Parliament of Somalia-Key Committees]
<b>1.1.3</b>	On-the-job practical trainings for committees working on pending bills [Federal Parliament of Somalia-MPs & Committees]
<b>1.1.4</b>	Trainings for the Budget Committee on <i>procedures for government budgeting and budget execution reporting</i> [Federal Parliament of Somalia-Key Committees]
	Trainings for MPs and staff on government budgeting and budget execution reporting [Somaliland Parliament - MPs & Committees]
<b>1.1.6</b>	STTA to provide advice to Leadership and have plenary workshop plus producing material [Federal Parliament of Somalia-Leadership & Plenary]
	Trainings on the role of the Committee Secretaries [Federal Parliament of Somalia-MPs & Committees]
<b>1.1.8</b>	Leadership will be invited to all workshops held for MPs and staff [Puntland Parliament - Leadership & Plenary]
<b>KRA 1.2</b>	<b>Parliamentary staff draft law summaries, committee reports, and conduct legislative analysis more frequently</b>
<b>1.2.2</b>	On-the-job training in basic office skills (note taking, filing, etc.) for all offices of the secretariat [Federal Parliament of Somalia-Secretariat]
	Review their organizational structure and management protocol for select departments: Administration and Finance, Hansard and House Affairs (Official Records dep.), Protocol and Public Relations; and Archives. [Somaliland Parliament - Secretariat]
<b>KRA 1.3</b>	<b>Role of women MPs in meetings and plenary sessions enhanced</b>
<b>1.3.1</b>	Nominate gender representatives and for SSG to follow up their observations [Federal Parliament of Somalia-Leadership & Plenary]
<b>1.3.2</b>	Local advisor to support the caucus with research [Federal Parliament of Somalia-MPs & Committees]

<b>SSG Upcoming Project Activities for Quarter Three</b>	
<b>Task No.</b>	<b>Tasks</b>
<b>KRA 1.5</b>	<b>Citizen and civil society input into parliamentary deliberations and decision-making processes increased</b>
<b>1.5.1</b>	Training on managing civil society involvement in Parliamentary policy- and decision making and media relations [Federal Parliament of Somalia-MPs & Committees]
<b>Objective 2: Ability of targeted government institutions to carry out essential functions improved</b>	
<b>KRA 2.1</b>	<b>Targeted government staff and civil servants conduct research and analyze information to inform decision-making more frequently</b>
<b>2.1.2</b>	Hold workshops on the legislative drafting process with emphasis on the role ministries play. [MoIF, MOPIC, MoPWR, scalable to other ministries as needed]
<b>2.1.3</b>	Trainings and discussion forums on basic concepts of democratic governance and concepts of federalism [Ministry of Interior & Federalism]
<b>KRA 2.2</b>	<b>Targeted government staff and civil servants understand and carry out their roles and responsibilities more effectively</b>
<b>2.2.1</b>	Training(s) on governance basics, including public financial management, with emphasis on the role ministries play in a democratic system [lead ministry: MOPIC, all target ministries, TOTs for scalability to other ministries]
	Training(s) on day-to-day office skills and tools (note-taking, filing, scheduling, etc.). Where possible consider having these with a mix of Parliament and ministry staff to encourage interaction. [lead ministry: MOPIC, all target ministries, TOTs for scalability to other ministries, incoming secretariat members]
<b>2.2.2</b>	Workshops on standard procedures for preparation of annual ministerial work plans, in consultation with other relevant ministries, Somali HoP Committee, and civil society stakeholders [lead ministry: MOPIC; will include all target ministries]
	Provide work planning experts and coordination consultants to provide on the job training in work planning process to target ministries and to mentor MOPIC employees on facilitating the process. [lead ministry: MOPIC; will include all target ministries]
	Workshops with other key line ministries regarding implementation of MOPIC annual work planning procedures [lead ministry: MOPIC; will include all target ministries]
	Workshop to prepare NIEC protocols, draft commission mandates, and commissioner and staff terms of reference.
<b>2.2.3</b>	Workshop with MoPWR to develop an overall strategy and priority list based on its workplan. and lobby effectively for support of its objectives, priorities, and needs [Ministry of Public Works & Reconstruction]
	Meet with NIEC to identify capacity building needs for fulfilling its mandate [National Independent Electoral Commission]
<b>2.2.4</b>	Work with MoF to develop training for ministries on the FY 2016 budget cycle, including MoF guidelines and templates, and basic budgeting concepts for government ministries.
	Work with MoF to identify and provide training of trainers on FY 2016 budgeting training to Somalia-based resources.
	Training based on MoF guidance to prepare ministries for the FY 2016 budget cycle including basic concepts of budgeting, compliance with MoF requirements, stakeholder consultation, linking budgets to performance objectives, budget execution monitoring and reporting [MoIF, MOPIC, MoWPR, MoJ]
	Workshops and on-the-job training on MoF guidelines on budget execution, and financial/budget monitoring and reporting templates [MoIF, MOPIC, MoWPR, MoJ]
<b>2.2.5</b>	Facilitate outreach to citizens on budget through forums/town hall meetings for the targeted ministries as part of the FY 2016 budget process [lead ministry: MoF].
<b>2.2.5</b>	Support the roll out and use of standardized manuals developed by MOPIC including developing Ministry briefing books that document mandates and TORs, and internal policies and procedures with key line ministries [MoIF, MOPIC, MoWPR, MoJ]

<b>SSG Upcoming Project Activities for Quarter Three</b>	
<b>Task No.</b>	<b>Tasks</b>
	Develop briefing books with the commissions based on the standardized manuals developed by MOPIC. [NIEC and BFC]
<b>2.2.6</b>	Meet with NIEC to identify office and IT equipment needs and to procure and deliver equipment in-kind [See 2.2.3; NIEC]
	Meet with Boundaries and Federalism Commission to identify office and IT equipment needs and to procure and deliver equipment in-kind [See 2.2.3; BFC]
	Meet with Capacity Development Directorate and Policy Coordination Unit office to ascertain IT equipment needs and to procure and deliver equipment in-kind [Office of the Prime Minister]
	Meet with the Auditor General to ascertain IT and capacity building needs, and to procure and deliver equipment in-kind.
<b>KRA 2.3</b>	<b>Targeted government institutions are able to develop and implement effective policies regularly</b>
<b>2.3.2</b>	Workshops and on-the-job training for NIEC and BFC members and staff to prepare NIEC protocols and briefing books on Commission and staff mandates, organization chart, staff terms of reference, administrative systems and procedures, human resources management, financial management, record-keeping, etc. [NIEC, BFC]
<b>2.3.3</b>	Workshops and on-the-job training on implementation of OPM Policy Development Guidelines [MOPIC, MoIF, MoPWR, MoJ]
<b>KRA 2.4</b>	<b>Targeted government institutions coordinate internally and externally on a routine basis</b>
<b>2.4.2</b>	Workshops with other key line ministries regarding implementation of annual work planning procedures [MOPIC]
<b>2.4.4</b>	Work with MOPIC to develop national development plan procedures and implementation strategy regarding development of national development planning procedures and implementation strategy, in consultation with other relevant ministries, Somali HoP Committee, federal state administrations, and civil society stakeholders
<b>KRA 2.5</b>	<b>Transparency and accountability of targeted government institutions increased</b>
<b>2.5.5</b>	Round-table discussions among MoCA, MoIF, and Somali HoP Oversight Committee on Internal Affairs, Regional Administration, and Security to finalize MoU regarding Constitutional review and revision process roles and responsibilities and civic outreach program
	Support for MoCA to implement civic outreach program regarding revised Constitution [Ministry of Justice]
<b>KRA 2.6</b>	<b>Citizen and civil society input into budget, policy, and other government decision-making processes increased</b>
<b>2.6.1</b>	Workshops and round-table discussions regarding development of national development planning procedures and implementation strategy, in consultation with other relevant ministries, Somali HoP Committee, federal state administrations, and civil society stakeholders [MoPIC]
<b>KRA 2.7</b>	<b>Executive communication and collaboration with Parliament improved</b>
<b>2.7.2</b>	Workshops, on-the-job training, and round-table discussions to prepare elections-related draft legislation, including consultations with other relevant ministries, independent commissions, Somali HoP Committee, and civil society stakeholders [MoIF]
	Workshops and round-table discussions regarding development of national development planning procedures and implementation strategy, in consultation with other relevant ministries, Somali HoP Committee, federal state administrations, and civil society stakeholders [MoPIC]
<b>Objective 3: Citizen awareness of and engagement in government decision-making increased</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	Citizens better understand their government, constitutional rights and responsibilities, and opportunities for engaging government
<b>3.1.1</b>	<i>Civic education strategies strengthened</i>

<b>SSG Upcoming Project Activities for Quarter Three</b>	
<b>Task No.</b>	<b>Tasks</b>
<b>3.1.1</b>	Hold workshops with civil society, government, National Human Rights Commission and media to enhance civic education strategies with citizens
	Work with NEC on voter registration and education strategy development
	Workshop with civil society, government and media to enhance civic education strategies with citizens
<b>3.1.2</b>	Engage the National Electoral Commission to determine specific needs of the Commission with regards to voter education. Select several CSO partners to implement a variety of voter education activities throughout Somalia (South-Central) as possible. Focus efforts on the public as Commission is likely to be well-supported by other donors. [Somalia/Somaliland]
<b>3.1.5</b>	Provide grants to CSOs to carry out civic education activities
<b>3.1.6</b>	Civic education for citizens on constitutional rights and duties [Somaliland, Puntland, Somalia]
	Civic awareness through radio and TV
	Development/ Dissemination of IEC materials on civic rights, etc.
<b>3.1.7</b>	Development/ Dissemination of IEC materials on civic rights, etc.
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Interactions between civil society organizations (CSOs) and parliaments increased</b>
<b>3.2.1</b>	Training on communication and information sharing for CSOs
	Training for CSOs on negotiation/ conflict resolution
	CSOs share information on expertise, capacity and activities implemented (and citizen feedback) [through Caucus groups, CSO profiles, etc.]
<b>3.2.3, 1.5.2</b>	<i>Processes in place for public input into parliamentary decision-making (measured under 1.5.2)</i>
	In coordination with UNDP, support Parliament's efforts to better publicize its legislative agenda for each session and create a more accessible record of Parliamentary proceedings to the public [with objective 1]
<b>3.3.1</b>	Training on communication and information sharing for CSOs
	CSOs share information on expertise, capacity and activities implemented (and citizen feedback)
	Support (through grants) research or survey activities in partnership with a CSO coalition seeking to influence a ministry on an important policy topic
<b>3.3.3, 2.6.1</b>	<i>Key line ministries develop policies and procedures for soliciting participation by public, civil society, and other stakeholders in government planning and decision-making (measured under 2.6.1)</i>
	Sponsor a workshop or a series of workshops between members of civil society (SOCENSA/Somalia, SONSAF/ Somaliland, PUNSA/Puntland) and key ministries (identified in Objective 2 or around new laws and policies) to identify how each side can better support each other. Address questions on what Ministries needs from civil society beyond position papers, what guidelines or official avenues are in place for civil society to formally engage in a policy debate, what technical needs do Ministries have, etc. Focus on broad collaboration instead on specific policies.
	Work on development of legislation and policy development guidelines, with particular emphasis on civil society involvement and information dissemination [With objective 1&2]

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Task No.	Tasks
	Contribute to the development or strengthening of outreach or communication plans for Ministries [with objective 2]
	Work with NEC on voter registration / education strategy development
<b>3.3.C</b>	<i>CSOs and government officials interactions increased</i>
<b>3.3.5</b>	Facilitate events on significant days (ex. Women's day, youth day, holidays, etc.)
	Facilitation of CSO attendance/ observation of government processes
<b>3.3.6</b>	<i>Opportunities for CSO input into Ministerial decision-making increased</i>
	Sponsor a workshop or a series of workshops between members of civil society (SOCENSA/Somalia, SONSAF/ Somaliland, PUNSA/Puntland) and key ministries (identified in Objective 2 or around new laws and policies) to identify how each side can better support each other. Address questions on what Ministries needs from civil society beyond position papers, what guidelines or official avenues are in place for civil society to formally engage in a policy debate, what technical needs do Ministries have, etc. Focus on broad collaboration instead on specific policies.
<b>3.3.7</b>	<i>Public input into legislative and policy frameworks and strategies solicited</i>
	Help CSOs facilitate public consultations on law and policy development [joint with Obj 1 &2]
	Assist public/ CSOs to access consultation sessions by MPs and Ministries
<b>3.4</b>	<b>Targeted CSOs to engage political actors and advocate for citizens' interests more frequently</b>
<b>3.4.1</b>	Facilitate sessions where CSOs can develop/ define their "constituencies"
<b>3.4.4</b>	Support website(s) or other interactive media that allowed for increased interactions of CSOs in different areas
	Provide opportunities through networking meetings, workshops, etc. for CSOs to interact/ work together/ learn from each other
	Roundtable discussions for civil society to interact and discuss issues between them (to air differences and work towards the ability to present united views)
<b>3.4.6</b>	Training on advocacy skills [Training of networks to then train their members]
	Provide small capacity develop grants to networks in order to provide training to their members (and other coalition groups/ actors) on advocacy skills
<b>3.4.7</b>	Provide technical assistance/ training to CSOs in specific areas related to advocacy topic or policy/legislative input identified
	Utilize peer information exchanges amongst civil society organizations via workshops or peer mentoring relationships.
<b>3.5</b>	<b>Targeted CSOs and media outlets hold government accountable more frequently</b>
<b>3.5.1</b>	Produce a democracy and governance manual to explain the roles and responsibilities of government institutions for media and civil society organizations.
	Provide CSOs (including Media) with training on government structures, constitutional implementation process, and the roles and responsibilities of elected officials.
<b>3.5.2</b>	Training on research and data collection (specific to government activities, budget, etc.)
<b>3.5.5</b>	Support a new civics/governance training course for journalists through the work of NUSOJ via the Media Resource Center

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Task No.	Tasks
<b>3.5.6</b>	Provide support to media (including radio and/or a selected television stations) for an interaction/dialogue program where selected government officials are interviewed about policy
<b>3.6</b>	<b>Media and CSO reporting on government plans, policies, programs, deliberations, and activities increased</b>
<b>3.6.1</b>	Provide training to CSOs on governance topics (see 3.5) Provide training to CSOs on evidence based advocacy (see 3.4)
<b>3.6.2, 3.5.5</b>	Support a new civics/governance training course for journalists through the work of NUSOJ via the Media Resource Center.
<b>3.6.3</b>	Produce and broadcast original radio programming to inform on public policy developments throughout all regions. Working with selected journalists, produce a monthly original radio program that focuses on the development of policy and governance in Somalia. This will be developed and produced at the Media Resource Center in Mogadishu and aired by various partners throughout Somalia.
<b>3.6.4</b>	Engage with both external and internal influencers (i.e., diaspora, international community, etc.) thru interactive social media. Expand its current website to include a curator tool to aggregate conversations on various social media sites including Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and many others. Use a social media analysis tool, Symosos, to collect and report on social media trends including social media's most influential actors. [Somalia/Somaliland]