

Note to the File
Pillar Working Group 1
Promoting Good Governance, Peace and Security

Date: 5th October 2006

In attendance:

Name	Institution	Name	Institution
A.S. Sheku	MPPA/Chairman	Ahmed Sannoh	ONS
Mr. E Gaima	DECSEC/Co Chair	Graine O'niell	Irish Aid
Rashid Sesay	DACO	Mark White	DfID
Mrs. Neneh Dabo	ACC	Jane Hobson	DfID
Winston Cole	PFMRU, Finance	Francesca Varlese	EC
Brinsley Johnson	PFMRU, Finance	Mathias Reusing	EC
Ms. Jeannette Eno	ENCISS	Kwame Anno-Kumi	UNIOSIL
Mohamed T. Kutubu	MODEP	Mariama Yilla	DACO
I.S Dabor	N.E.C	Sophie Conteh	DACO
Rtd. Brg. Kellie H. Conteh	ONS	Steven Bonzu	DACO

Agenda

- Prayers
- Opening Remarks
- Reading & correction of minutes
- Presentations:
 - ✓ Committee on Decentralization
 - ✓ National Security Council Coordinating Group
- A.O.B

Summary of opening: In his opening, the chairman, Mr. A. S. Sheku thanked and welcomed everyone to the PWG 1 meeting.

Reading and correction of minutes

- In the Presentation Section, it was suggested that instead of 'Discussion was led by' it should read '*matrix on progress was presented by*'
- Page 2 bullet 3, last sentence under comments should read '*It was proposed that the Justice and Security Sectors to hold a workshop to properly address this issue*'.
- Second to last bullet under the Justice Sector presentation, it was made clear by Ms. Eno that, that the JS to look at some of the surveys done by civil society and other partners to properly inform their matrix- especially voices of the poor.

Matters arising form minutes

- The meeting that was scheduled with the Minister of MPPA was held. In attendance were ACC, MPPA, ESO, DACO and GRS. It was resolved in the meeting that GRS to look at the issues of the pending documents (documents for gazetting) and other issues raised in the Governance sector report. The chairman informed the meeting that during the next PWG meeting, an update will be given on actions taken so far from their deliberations.
- It was suggested that a scoping exercise be done to determine the problem with the Government Printers. However, it was agreed that GRS would be in the better position to do that. Also that the Government Printer should look at the possibilities of printing documents from the Private Sector.
- It was suggested that ongoing programmes should not be given as recommendations but it was made clear that the recommendations were the ones stated by the MDA in the Matrix
- Technical Civil Service Committee to meet with Partners at the Presidents Lodge to harmonize their procedures.
- The meeting was informed by Mr. Cole from PFMRU that he asked members of his committee to validate the progress report by the 4th October 2006 but up to the time of the meeting, that has not been done. He promised to send a reminder immediately after the meeting.

Sector Presentations

Committee on Decentralization (Matrix on progress was presented by Mr. Gaima of DECSEC)

Before his presentation, Mr. Gaima informed the meeting that on the 9th and 10th October the Framework will be validated.

Comments/suggestions

- The meeting was informed that some MDAs devolved functions are not funded. For instance, MSWGCA has about 17 activities that are not funded. It was made clear that, it is not deliberate by government not to fund these activities, but the MDAs did not make such activities priority in their planning budget, so as such these functions when devolved to councils remained unfunded.
- The issue on performance of some of the administration of councils was raised. It was suggested that a Peer Review Mechanism be used though they can be easily branded as party stalwarts. Another suggestion was the use of performance scorecards for councils that will be put in the public domain. However the meeting was informed that on the 1st December a full national assessment report on council's performance will be published.

- In terms of civil society performance in Council activities, it was suggested that open day be used where people will be educated about the meaning and potentials of the decentralization process.
- The meeting was informed that Parliament is working on upgrading the Town councils to City councils. The controversy was, what criteria were used for a town council to be upgraded to city council, as Chairmen in some councils demand to be called Mayors. The meeting was informed that Parliament is working on this issue.
- The Task Force set to develop policy for legislative review will be inaugurated on the 12th October 2006.

Security Sector (Matrix on progress was presented by Rtd. Brigadier Kellie Conteh of ONS)

In his presentation he emphasized that security sector focused on four key areas. These areas;

- Enhancing effective coordination and oversight
- Participation of non state and state actors in the security sector
- Capacity building for both primary and secondary forces e.g. Prisons and Fire Force
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Comments/suggestions

- It was observed that the engagement of civil society and civil authorities was not reflected in the presentation. ONS responded that there are plans to widen their engagement with Civil Society come January 2007.
- It was suggested that the Public Perception survey for RSLAF should go beyond the police to tasks conducted by the police as to know which image needed improvement.
- Concern was raised over Ministry of Internal Affairs capacity to handle the sectors under its supervision, namely - RSLAF, SLP, NFF, and Prisons. However the meeting was informed that a diagnostic study has been conducted and the PRS Committee is currently looking at the report. ONS to check with Mr. Coker of GRS if the Ministry of Internal Affairs is part of the review.
- With regards to the 25 Green Goddess Fire Engines expected from the UK, it was suggested that ONS is obligated to inform the public about the age and make of these vehicles so the entire blame of misuse (when they break down) will not entirely be on the department it was given to.
- The question was raised on how donor funds provided for salaries to ONS are linked to the government budget provision.
- Concern was raised about elections not mentioned in the presentation. ONS responded that activities are ongoing for the preparation of elections but due to security reasons cannot be disclosed but to rather note that election is subsumed in the missions activities

- Concern was also raised over the clash of meetings between DECSEC and ONS. It was suggested that a meeting calendar be prepared to synchronize activities. However, ONS informed the meeting that Provisional Security Council meeting is fixed and is fortnightly.

AOB

- It was agreed that next meeting will be communicated to members after reports have been validated and collated.