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SUMMARY REPORT

STAKEHOLDERS' CONSULTATIVE FORUM ON THE VALIDATION OF THE NATIONAL CONFLICT MAPPING REPORT AND MOBILIZING SUPPORT FOR EARLY WARNING AND EARLY RESPONSE IN KENYA

**HELD ON 22 JULY 2011
AT THE SILVER SPRINGS HOTEL
NAIROBI, KENYA**



A Stakeholders' Consultative Forum on the Validation of the National Conflict Mapping Report and Mobilizing Support for Early Warning and Early Response in Kenya

Introduction

On 22 July 2011, about 90 stakeholders met at the Silver Springs Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya, to participate in the validation of the National conflict mapping report and mobilizing support for early warning early response in Kenya. The stakeholders were drawn from civil society networks, government and intergovernmental bodies, UN agencies as well as other development partners, media, inter-faith institutions and academicians. The forum was convened with partnership from the NSC (under the Ministry of Internal Security), UNDP, Nairobi Peace Initiative –Africa (NPI-A), PeaceNet and GPPAC Foundation.

Background

Prior to the December 2007 general elections in Kenya, various initiatives were undertaken by both state and non-state actors, including civil society, the media, UN agencies and the government, to encourage peaceful campaigns and elections. Following the violence that broke out with the announcement of the disputed Presidential elections, further initiatives were undertaken, this time aimed at averting the violence and encouraging the resolution of the electoral dispute through dialogue. Among the numerous responses to the crisis by the various actors, NPI–Africa, in its role as the Regional Secretariat of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) in eastern and central Africa, commissioned a study on how “**Mobilizing Early Response**” a national early response mechanism would look like for Kenya. That project was entitled “**(MERP I)**”. Similarly, the National Steering Committee on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management, with financial and technical support from UNDP Kenya, commissioned a National Conflict Mapping and analysis process in June 2010. The latter was undertaken and a draft Report was presented to the stakeholders’ meeting on 22 July 2011 for validation.

It is acknowledged that research and intervention studies are a critical component in the peace, security and conflict sector. The studies conducted by the various actors in the last three years, following the experience of the Post Election Violence (PEV) will inform future interventions. In particular, these studies have delved into an assessment of the structural causes of conflict in Kenya, the capacity of the various peace and conflict actors, the response options and intervention measures.

Additionally, a number of developments have taken place in Kenya over the last three years. Key among them is the promulgation of the New Constitution on August 2010 that will deal with issues related to governance, land, rights, the judiciary, among others, that for a long time had led to structural injustices/imbances and a ready environment for violent conflict. A number of sector reforms and the establishment of a number of commissions to address anomalies in the electoral process, land boundaries, historical injustices, and the implementation of the new constitution are on-going. The NSC is also

facilitating the process for the review of the draft National Policy on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management in light of the current developments.

Objectives of the Stakeholders' Forum

The overall aim of the Forum was to validate the national conflict mapping and analysis report.

The specific objectives were:

- To assess the current peace and security context in Kenya
- To map out initiatives being carried out by the various actors
- To identify any gaps and recommend possible interventions/activities
- To envision a multi-stakeholders' action plan for preventing violent conflict in Kenya prior to and during the 2012 general elections.

Areas of Focus

The conflict mapping analysis focused, among others, on actors in and causes of conflicts in the following six dimensions: Political, Security, Economic, Socio-Cultural, Legal and Environmental. Participants were presented the possible scenarios, best and worst, as relates to issues of ethnicity, access to justice, environmental degradation, elections and economic situation. Discussions that ensued identified gaps in the analysis and added suggestions to recommendations for an early response plan. A more elaborate report will be availed shortly.

Conclusion

As a way forward, the draft conflict mapping analysis report will be finalised by the researchers with inserts from the forum and be made available to the public by the National Steering Committee on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management. A separate publication is intended which will highlight the scenarios and recommendations for action to be taken by various actors/stakeholders as drawn from the conflict mapping analysis report and discussions at the forum. The publication is hoped to serve as a tool for awareness raising and a guide for Kenya on how to engage all communities within the country to work towards preventing violent conflict in the period prior to, during and after the 2012 elections.