

PROPOSAL 000 46513
PROJECT 000 55465



Government of United Arab Emirates

United Nations Development Programme

Strengthening the Capacity of the UAE's Federal National Council

Brief Description

The main objective of this project is to support the Federal National Council (FNC) of the United Arab Emirates in its efforts towards enhancing its institutional capacity in the long term. Towards achieving this objective, the project will 1) conduct two workshops in capacity building of the Secretariat of the FNC 2) develop an orientation programme for the Secretariat of the FNC 3) build the capacity of the FNC's permanent Committees through Trainings to Trainers (ToT) consultants, seminars and/or presentations. The project will be launched to coincide with the commencement of the new legislative term of the FNC.

Part 1. Situation Analysis

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The recent FNC elections in December 2006 represented a historical event in the development towards a democratic system in the UAE. In the newly formed FNC, half of the members (including one woman) were elected through electoral systems representing all seven emirates, while the other half (including eight women) were appointed by the executive branch of UAE's seven emirates. With 9 seats held by women in the FNC, United Arab Emirates has one of the highest rates of women representatives in the Gulf countries.

The government of the United Arab Emirates is committed to strengthening its governance institutions to ensure that it effectively and efficiently responds to the needs of its citizens and to the demands of the ongoing modernization with increasing international competitive environment. In addition, the Secretariat has identified the need for further capacity strengthening among Secretariat officials and support staff, including the Research and Studies Unit. Areas of particular concern include development of the research skills and writing and analysis skills.

The FNC has both a legislative and supervisory role under the Constitution. It is responsible for examining all proposed federal legislation, and it is empowered to question any federal minister regarding the performance of their ministries. The FNC also reviews and discusses the annual budget. Permanent committees (eight specialized committees, see annex 1) and a research and Studies Unit have been formed to assist the FNC with the increasing demands of government. The FNC is a member of the International Parliamentary Union (IPU), as well as the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union (AIPU).

In the light of the ongoing parliamentary reforms recently introduced in the UAE, the FNC and the government recognize the need to review and strengthen its institutional capacity and to develop the capacities of its secretariat and its members in order to a) respond to and oversee the growing and complex demands of government, b) engage more actively with civil society, c) adopt a gender-sensitive public policies which ensures women empowerment initiatives in all areas of social life. d) assess periodically the development needs of the country.

The beneficiaries of the current project will be the FNC's Secretariat and FNC members (parliamentarians) to some extent, and in the long run the project will contribute to national capacity building of the FNC as well as enhance national ownership of institutional building in line with the tentative democratization programme embarked on in recent past.

Part II. Strategy

UNDP's development mandate is based on assisting countries to achieve sustainable human development, which includes strengthening governance, such as parliamentary development and is one of UNDP's main priorities and service lines within its world wide corporate objectives.

In recent years, UNDP has provided technical assistance to the FNC on performance based budgeting and performance management and initiated a technical cooperation in order to support the parliamentary development. Additionally, the new CP (2007-11) envisages and accommodates institutional building as one of the corner stones of CO activities in the years to come, consistent with national interest and includes the FNC Secretariat and member's capacity building jointly implemented with national counterparts.

Towards achieving the FNC's desired outcome of strengthening its institutional capacities, this project will focus on strengthening the national capacity of the FNC secretariat and, in turn, enhance national ownership through the ToT method. It will deliver three key outputs: 1) two workshops for the Secretariat based on the results of the last needs assessment 2) an orientation package for the Secretariat which will include: ToT (Trainings of Trainers)/presentations to selected Secretariat's members and the development of an Orientation Manual including the best practices 3) TOTs/presentations on sectoral issues to selected Secretariat's members within the FNC's specialized Committees.

Inter Regional Cooperation (under the banner of south to south cooperation), information and best practices of legislators will be utilize on the all above mentioned activities.

The issues covered by the orientation package will include the following: the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the UAE and the remaining ones to be achieved, human rights, and the development needs in the country (in particular on the less developed Northern Emirates). Additionally, Gender-Mainstreaming was also identified as one of the main components in order to ensure a gender-sensitive capacity building support to the FNC.

By building the capacity of the whole FNC through the institutional building of its Secretariat, the project will establish a foundation from which the FNC can build on and continue with institutional capacity development for its Members and Secretariat.

In addition, familiarity with the second UAE's national MDG Report findings will give an opportunity to the FNC members to align all national development policies with the vision and strategies agreed upon in the Millennium Declaration. Without the active involvement of the FNC members, full support to the remaining areas of the MDGs in the UAE may be impossible.

Part III. Management Arrangements

The implementation period of the project is twelve months. During that period (March 2007-March 2008) UNDP in the UAE will arrange for the implementation of technical assistance and training by national/regional consultants with relevant experience as and when needed (with special emphasis to South to South Cooperation).

The Project Board will be composed as follow:

- Executive to chair the group: High-Level decision making FNC Secretariat's representative;
- UNDP UAE Senior staff member;
- Senior Beneficiaries: Two FNC's members (one man, one woman) selected by all other members.

The project is funded by UNDP (the Democratic Governance Thematic Trust Fund-DGTTF) with the amount of US \$ 50,000 and by the Federal National Council with the amount of US \$ 50,000.

It should be mentioned that this project document (including annexes) is subject to amendment and revision in consultation with all stakeholders (UNDP/FNC) if and when requested.

Part IV. Monitoring and Evaluation

The project will be subject to the standard of UNDP review, monitoring and evaluations guidelines. Monitoring will focus on outputs and their contribution toward the intended outcome. Information from monitoring will provide the basis for making decisions and taking action. A combination of monitoring tools will be used, including feedback forms from participants in the seminars and projects reports.

Part V. Legal Context

The project document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article I of the Standard Basic assistance Agreement between the Government of UAE and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), signed by parties on 19 January 1977. The host country-implementing agent shall, for the purpose of the standard Basic Agreement, refer to the Government Cooperating Agent described in the Agreement.

SIGNATURE PAGE

Country: United Arab Emirates

UNDAF Outcome(s)/Indicator(s):
(Link to UNDAF outcome., If no UNDAF, leave blank)

Expected Outcome(s)/Indicator (s):
(CP outcomes linked t the SRF/MYFF goal and service line)

Expected Output(s)/Indicator(s):
(CP outcomes linked t the SRF/MYFF goal and service line)

Implementing partner:
(designated institution/Executing agency)

Federal National Council

Other Partners:
(formerly implementing agencies)

Programme Period: _____ 12 months _____
Programme Component: _____
Project Title: _____
Project ID: _____
Project Duration: _____
Management Arrangement: _____

Budget	_____
General Management Support Fee	_____
Total budget:	\$ 100,000
Allocated resources:	_____
• Government	\$ 50,000
• UNDP	\$ 50,000
• Other:	_____
○ Donor	_____
○ Donor	_____
○ Donor	_____
• In kind contributions	_____
Unfunded budget:	_____

Agreed by (Government/Implementing Partner):
Dr. Mohamad Al Mazroui, Secretary General

Agreed by (UNDP):
Dr. Khaled Alloush, UNDP Resident Representative

Annex 1

- **Committee of Internal Affairs (7 members)**
- **Committee of Defence (7 members)**
- **Committee on Financial and Economic Industrial Affairs (7 members)**
- **Committee on Legislative and Legal Affairs (7 members)**
- **Committee on Educational, Youth and Cultural Affairs (7 members)**
- **Committee on Health, Labour and Social Affairs (7 members)**
- **Committee on Foreign Affairs, Planning, Oil, Mineral Resources, Fisheries and Agriculture (7 members)**
- **Committee on Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and Facilities (7 members)**

Annex 2: PROJECT RESULTS AND RESOURCES FRAMEWORK

Intended Outcome as stated in the Country Results Framework:			
Outcome indicator as stated in the Country Programme Results and Resources Framework, including baseline and target.			
Applicable MYFF Service Line: 2.2 Parliamentary Development			
Partnership Strategy: UNDP and the Federal National Council will strengthen their partnership to enhance the capacity of the FNC through an institutional capacity programme designed for the FNC's Secretariat.			
Project title and ID: Strengthening Capacities of the FNC in the United Arab Emirates.			
Intended Outputs	Time Period	Indicative Activities	Inputs
1. Building Capacity of Secretariat's professional and supporting staff	March- April 2007	- Based on the finding of the last needs assessment for the Secretariat, design and conduct two workshops for the Secretariat's staff of the FNC. Potential subjects are: research skills, writing and analysis.	Regional Experts (4 days) US \$ 7,000
2. Building the Institutional Capacity /Develop an Orientation Package for the FNC's Secretariat.	April 2007	- Develop the training skills of 6 selected members of the Secretariat through the TOT practice.	Training in a Specialized Company in Dubai (10 days) US \$ 25,000
	May-July 2007	- Develop the Orientation Manual for the Secretariat with special emphasis to the following issues: MDG's in the UAE, Human Rights, Gender-Mainstreaming and Development Needs in the UAE.	3 National Experts 3 Regional Experts (two weeks) US \$ 35,000

	September 2007	- Conduct advanced TOTs on the Orientation Manual for the 6 selected members of the secretariat.	Regional Expert (1 week) US \$ 6,000
	October- December 2007	-Publication of the Orientation Manual and of all the related learning material.	US \$ 7,000
3. Building Capacity of the FNC's Specialized Committees.	December 2007- March 2008	--Conduct TOTs/presentations for selected Secretariat's members in all 8 sectors of interest of specialized Committees (Economic Affairs, Defence, Legal Affairs, Internal affairs, Education, Social affairs, Foreign affairs, Islamic affairs).	Regional Experts (4 days each) US \$ 20,000
			Total Budget US\$ 100,000

**Annex 3: WORKPLAN AND BUDGET-
2007/2008**

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	KEY ACTIVITIES	TIMEFRAME				RESP. PARTNER	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Source	Description	Amount
1. Building Capacity of secretariat's professional and supporting staff	-Design and conduct two workshops for the Secretariat's staff	X				FNC	UNDP	Regional Experts	USD 7,000
	-Develop the training skills of 6 selected members of the Secretariat through OT practice	X				FNC	UNDP	Training in Dubai -National Experts	USD 25,000
2. Building the Institutional capacity/Develop an Orientation Package for the FNC's Secretariat.	-Develop the Orientation Manual for the Secretariat	X	X			FNC	UNDP/FNC	-Regional Experts	USD 35,000
	-Conduct TOT on the Orientation Manual			X		FNC	UNDP/FNC	-Regional Expert	USD 6,000
3. Building Capacity of the FNC's Specialized Committees	-Publication of the Orientation Manual and related documents			X	X	FNC	UNDP/FNC	Publishing	USD 7,000
	-Conduct TOT for Secretariat's members in selected Committees				X	FNC	UNDP/FNC	-Regional Experts	USD 20,000
TOTAL									USD 100,000