



# UNAMID/UNCT JOINT UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECRETARY -GENERAL'S PLANNING DIRECTIVE FOR THE PLANNING AND PREPARATION OF THE UN TRANSITION IN DARFUR

This note summaries progress achieved in 2019 against the expectations of the SG's Planning Directive of February 2019, a guide for the planning and implementation of UNAMID's transition which involves its drawdown/liquidation process.



## Joint Transition Action Plan

In line with the SGs Planning Directive, UNAMID and the UN country team (UNCT) have developed and are implementing a Joint Transition Action Plan (JTAP) covering political/peace, programmatic/peacebuilding (the State Liaison Functions (SLFs) and security transition in Darfur as well as two cross cutting issues around operations and communication.



## End-State Matrix

The Mission has also developed an end-state matrix which articulate activities that contribute to peacebuilding to be accomplished before the Mission's exit or to be transferred to authorities/civil society or the UNCT.



## Joint Transition Cell

To strengthen transition coordination, communication and information sharing, a Joint Transition Cell has been established and is functional. In addition to the Government of Sudan and the UN high level coordination, a joint GoS and UN technical coordination committee has been established to improve SLF planning and monitoring of implementation while also addressing challenges.



## Programmatic Activities

Regarding the programmatic activities, a total of **USD 32.2 million** was allocated to SLFs from January to December 2019 for stabilization and peacebuilding. SLFs programme are undertaken in four priority areas: a) rule law; b) human rights; c) livelihoods; and d) immediate service delivery. The interventions are aimed at addressing land and other resource-based intercommunal conflicts as well as promoting resilience/durable solutions for returnees, internally displaced people (IDPs) and host communities, identified through joint GoS, UNAMID and UNCT analysis. The projects contribute to peacebuilding and strengthening of social cohesion in communities in four Darfur states through, infrastructure development or rehabilitation, capacity building and awareness raising, advocacy as well as monitoring and reporting.



## Human Rights and Protection strategy

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights has drafted a human rights and protection strategy which elaborates options for sustained human rights and protection of civilians' engagement in Sudan, including Darfur, during the transition and beyond. The draft is being aligned with the Human Rights and Protection of Civilians' priorities developed during the UNCT visioning exercise held in August 2019 and will be circulated to relevant parties for the next round of comments.



## Mission Protection of Civilian (PoC) vision

UNAMID has also developed a Mission Protection of Civilian (PoC) vision for the transition, including support to the UNCT to re-establish coordination mechanisms in areas of withdrawal. The PoC vision recognizes protection challenges that are likely to remain post UNAMID, articulates immediate duties to be carried out by the Mission and finally identifies protection tasks to be undertaken by the UNCT and other stakeholders.



## Transfer of UNAMID's Institutional Memory

Apart from expanding programmatic activities of the UNCT in Darfur, embedding **90** UNAMID staff within the UNCT ensured transfer of UNAMID's institutional memory and the development of joint conflict analyses that informed responses.

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## Resource Mobilization

Regarding resource mobilization efforts for Darfur, in December 2019, the Transitional Government signed a two-year USD 20 million peacebuilding programme focusing on rule of law, durable solutions and peacebuilding. This programme also includes support to the Darfur Development Strategy (DDS) refresh consultation process and a UNCT capacity mapping. Efforts were made to ensure complementarity with the SLFs.



## Lessons & challenges

Despite achievements, lessons were learned from challenges experienced. The SLF innovation, with additional functions was initiated during a time of aggressive drawdown. The rapid pace of SLF implementation provided little time for effective planning, execution and monitoring. As such, feedback between the Mission and the UNCT for necessary adjustment in programming was constrained. The SLFs generated additional management, administrative and technical functions for which the Mission had limited capacity. This included unforeseen and increased program oversight, monitoring and evaluation. The fluid political and economic environment in Sudan challenged the transition process and the focus of the UNCT shifted from transition in Darfur to Sudan wide political transition.



## Joint Communication Strategy and Plan

A joint communication strategy and plan was developed in March 2019 which strengthened messages on the transition and harmonised SLF branding.



## Lessons & challenges

Government leadership changes at state level, inflation, shortage of fuel and cash all affected implementation. This resulted in a no-cost extension (three months) of SLF implementation, with a knock-on effect to the following phases (II and III). These challenges are worth noting for future UN transitions utilizing the SLF model to contribute towards stabilisation and prevention of a relapse into conflict.



## Operational Matters

On operational matters, the UNCT conducted a preliminary assessment of logistics, administrative and security reliance on UNAMID. All assets requested before June 2019 were supplied. Data and information needs have been identified and non-confidential material transferred. A Darfur medical assistance project that will provide primary healthcare clinics in five Darfur States and roving doctors has been launched.



## Comprehensive and Inclusive Peace

An unprecedented opportunity for a comprehensive and inclusive peace for Sudan (that includes Darfur) exists through the new political dispensation and establishment of a transitional government. As part of the political transition, the UN is providing support to the peace negotiations in Juba including technical and logistical support to the secretariat. The UN is also supporting the Peace Commission including to ensure the participation of non-state actors, such as women, IDPs and other stakeholders in the peace process.



## Moving Forward

As UNAMID gears up for October 2020, priorities will continue to focus on; a) support to the peace process; b) mitigating protection threats and reducing tensions that could escalate into conflict and c) preparation for the follow-on presence in support of the transitional government of Sudan. This is in addition to the implementation of peacebuilding in Darfur.



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Date published:  
May/2020