## I: PROGRAMME PURPOSE

This is a national programme whose overall objective is to strengthen the capacity of national and local government and civil society to effectively prevent and reduce levels of armed violence in order to nurture peace and enhance development opportunities in Kenya, and to enhance prospects for cross-border cooperation and dialogue. More specifically, it aims to consolidate the successes of previous and on-going interventions such as the Uwiano Platform for Peace through supporting the strengthening of national capacity for conflict prevention; strengthening and expanding the coverage of district peace committees; supporting civil society activities to anticipate and prevent violence around the next general elections in 2012; responding to the challenges posed by the proliferation of small arms and light weapons; strengthening national cohesion and integration and mainstreaming the role of women and youth in peace building, conflict and violence prevention in Kenya. The peace dividend component seeks to consolidate the gains made in expanding development opportunities for prudent resource use in addressing the security-peace-development nexus. It seeks to demonstrate that youths and women can engage in "licit" and gainful livelihood and income generation activities.

**Programme partners:**

The programme is funded by UNDP and the Government of Kenya and executed through both National and Direct modalities. NSC is the main Implementing agency, with other partners serving as implementing partners:

*Partnership for Peace and Security (PfPS).* This is a Platform of civil society which brings on board capacities for civil society coordination, collaboration, and mobilization, mediation and grassroots participation of CSOs. It provides a framework of civil society actors in peace and security sector management with a view to strengthen both national and local level coordination between CSOs, Academia, State and non-state actors in the realm of Peace and Security. The Partnership complements the NSC component on strengthening national capacities.

The programme component seeks to address the gap of strengthening and consolidating national

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capacities of civil society in the field of peace building and conflict prevention. Civil society plays a pivotal role in this field but often times, these efforts are not properly coordinated and/or documented. PfPS is bridging the gap by coordinating civil society initiatives to anticipate and prevent violence around 2012 general election and beyond.

## II. RESOURCES

The programme component was managed by Partnership for Peace and Security. Some of the activities conducted during the period under review were financed through the direct execution mode.

## III. RESULTS

### 1. Strengthened National and Local Capacity for Civil Society Coordination & Collaboration

During the year, the programme supported revitalization of the Partnership with a view to bringing together CSOs working in the field of peace and security in the country on a common platform. This need is brought on by the realization of the tremendous work CSOs are engaged in within the country but oftentimes goes uncoordinated and undocumented. This creates a scenario where various initiatives are duplicated thereby limiting the impact they would have had they been coordinated. The Partnership embarked on a process of harnessing the efforts of CSOs from the national to the community level with an objective of joint strategic framework for analysis, coordination and response on matters of peace and conflict in the country.

Recognizing the comparative advantage each partner brings to the platform, and also cognizant of the need to have a coherent strategy towards 2012 and beyond, the Partnership provided member organizations a strategic forum for synergy, better coordination, and partnerships necessary for identifying challenges and opportunities in peace building and conflict prevention and consequently formulating a single framework of mitigation and response. This approach has seen the efforts of civil society in the peace-building arena better coordinated through pooling of resources, both human and technical, among members within the partnership thus providing coherent, efficient and effective programming in the field.

Throughout 2011, PfPS coordination capabilities were boosted at the national and local level through recruitment of new members thus creating a strong community of peace building actors whose capacities have been built in readiness for general elections in 2012 and beyond. Through trainings, the Partnership has strengthened capacities for national and community level actors on conflict and violence prevention while documentation of capabilities, niche and presence of each member organization has served to reduce duplication of efforts and subsequently increasing the borders within which the impact of its work is felt. While further efforts targeting the counties shall take place in the early days of the coming year, so far the coordination framework for CSOs has been strengthened resulting in a more coherent approach necessary for response and policy dialogue on peace building and conflict management.

### 2. Organization Support for Strengthened Capacity of PfPS

Cognizance of the need to strengthen the Partnership for better CSO coordination and policy dialogue, the programme supported PfPS in terms of organizational capacity that included rent, personnel and other administration costs. Other organizational support areas include formulation a strategic plan and development of a website for the partnership.

During the last quarter's reporting, the Strategic Plan formulation process was still underway. Regrettably, the final document handed in did not meet the threshold and quality desired by the

Partnership and its partners. It is expected that recovery approaches shall be initiated early on during the first quarter of 2012. This matter is reported in detail under the challenges and constraints section of this report.

To support visibility, documentation, and knowledge management, the programme is currently supporting development of the Partnership's website. It is expected that the Partnership, being a knowledge platform, will continue to achieve this objective by making available current and cutting edge research findings, studies and discourse on peace and security as well as its activities in its website for global consumption.

Both the Strategic Plan and the website development are procured through direct execution.

### 3. Support for Research, Policy and Practice in Peace, Conflict and Security

During the year and with the programme support, the Partnership held monthly forums bringing together state and non-state actors to deliberate on various issues on peace building, conflict prevention and management, security sector reforms, violence prevention, the role of women and youth in peace building and conflict management as well as discuss relevant and current matters of national concern trending at that time. These forums came up with recommendations that were incorporated in programming and policy frameworks.

In addition, PfPS entered into a partnership with various institutions of higher learning spearheaded by United States International University to hold national high-level colloquiums on quarterly basis with the objective of bringing together researchers and practitioners to reflect on peace and security matters, as well as to provide evidence for programming and policy formulation through research findings. During the last two quarters if the year, the Partnership held two high level colloquiums drawing scholars, researchers and practitioners from various corners of the world. As reported in the Progress Reports, these colloquiums have provided cutting edge research findings that have been incorporated in policy formulation as well as in programming. Organizations have also had the advantage of accessing this information for their consumption with the Partnership thus achieving its objective of being a knowledge platform in the field.

The scholarly works and discourses presented during the forums have been published while the rest are undergoing the due diligence requisite for publication.

### 4. Communication and Knowledge Management

Through the monthly forums and colloquiums, the Partnership has continued to provide knowledge and information for evidence-based programming, supporting policy formulation and response with the findings of studies carried out and also through sharing of best practices and scenario building. This information is shared to all interested audiences and shall also be available in the website currently under construction.

By documenting and disseminating findings of research findings and best practices, the Partnership has served a critical role of knowledge management and this shall further continue and improve once the web portal is up.

### 5. Established and Consolidated Partnerships

Through the programme, strategic partnerships have been fostered in recognition of the uniqueness and complementarity that each member/partner organization brings to the platform. These partnerships are critical in setting the pace for peace and conflict management in the country. During the first quarter, the Partnership embarked on revitalization and recruitment drives aimed at strengthening its presence and coordination role. Such strategic partnerships have been nurtured

during the year with organizations like National Steering Committee on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management, Uwiano, UNDP, Usalama Reforms Forum, Kenya Action Network on Small Arms; tertiary institutions of learning (such as University of Nairobi, United States International University, Kenyatta University, USIU, Strathmore University among other institutions of higher learning ); research institutes, international actors such as IGAD, Society for Peace Studies and Practice (SPSP, University of Ibadan) to mention a few. These partnerships bring together the three important arms of peace work-theory/research, practice and policy-with an objective of supporting policy formulation and response with evidence-based knowledge of current trends and challenges in peace, security and conflict, and anticipating future occurrences through scenario building. By enhancing dialogue and collaboration among these interrelated fields, programming and response to issues of conflict are evidence-based as opposed to being ad hoc.

Other alliances developed during the year involve the European Commission which has been championing strengthening of networks in the run-up to 2012. This initiative dubbed *Sikika Hasa Campaign* (loosely translated to Be Heard Now Campaign) managed by Poverty Eradication Network (PEN) has been keen on supporting PfPS, which is one of the identified networks, in its role as the CSOs coordinating body towards enhanced national capacities for conflict prevention. This initiative continued throughout the year with various trainings for the member organizations being carried out. These trainings covered such critical areas as conflict prevention and management, and organization development among others.

Recognizing the role of media in conflict areas, the Partnership together with NSC, Life and Peace Institute (LPI), Safer World and Care International carried out trainings for media personalities on Conflict Sensitive Journalism. This is a campaign aimed at preparing the media for elections taking place in 2012, and equipping them with necessary skills to avoid a repeat of 2007/8 where the media was accused of insensitive reporting during the post election violence.

## IV.  CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

During the period under review, the main challenge was delayed approvals of Work Plans and disbursement of finances. This is hoped to be overcome in the coming year by having the work plans signed early in advance to allow a seamless transitioning to the next financial period.

Minor challenges included constraints experienced while managing a network and keeping members interested. This challenge is tackled by keeping constant and active communication with the member organizations, assigning each organization specific tasks to implement while following through constantly.

Managing independent consultants who have been commissioned to carry out specific work sometimes proves a minor hiccup. A case in point relates to the Partnership's Strategic Plan formulation process. The consultant submitted a sub-standard Strategic Plan in spite of an elaborate process with all members and partners. An acceptable document has not been submitted and a decisive plan of action is expected to be taken in the early days of the first quarter of 2012.

## V.  FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION

The financial report for the implementation of these activities is presented separately.

## VI. LOOKING AHEAD

The Annual Work Plan focuses on coordinated Civil Society to respond to conflict, joint response mechanism to avoid duplication of initiatives, research and documentation of pertinent issues in peace and conflict in Kenya. In fact, collaboration between civil society and academia will continue in the coming year.

In the coming year, the Partnership shall establish new and also foster existing relationships with organizations at the community level in various counties. This creates a coordinated framework of action to create capacity to anticipate and respond to the challenges that may occur in 2012 being a campaign period in the run up to the general election later on in the year.

Details of the planned activities and estimated budgets are contained in the 2012 Half Year Work Plan.