## Somalia SO 200440 B/R No.: 01

## BUDGET REVISION OF SO FOR THE APPROVAL OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR

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## NATURE OF REVISION:

The budget revision is to provide for:

1) An extension in time for the Somalia Food Security Cluster (FSC) until the end of 2014

2) Cover the associated costs for coordination, capacity development, response reporting and gaps identification; emergency preparedness and contingency planning; preparation of best practices until end 2014

## JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REVISION:

In September 2012 SO 200440 was launched based on the guidance of the Global Food Security Cluster (gFSC) mission in January 2012 to consult with key stakeholders of the Somalia Food Security Cluster (FSC). Based on the findings of their mission the Somalia FSC established a robust coordination mechanism that invested in capacity development of the cluster members and provided advocacy and leadership through the oversight of the humanitarian food security responses throughout Somalia.

The purpose of the SO was to provide the Somalia FSC with the resources to support cluster members responses in addressing acute food security needs; and to develop a multi-year vision to address both the acute needs of the Somali populations in crisis and invest in resilience to reduce the vulnerability of future generations of Somalis. To accomplish this, the FSC identified six strategic priorities in order to facilitate the transition of humanitarian responses from a season approach to a multiyear response addressing both acute needs and investment in resilience. These six priorities for the FSC were:

i) Coordination of responses and strategic response guidance;

ii) Reporting, monitoring and gaps identification;

iii) Emergency preparedness and contingency planning;

iv) Development and application of technical standards, and collecting and disseminating best practices;

v) Advocacy and resource mobilization;

vi) Strengthen the capacity of humanitarian actors

To date, the FSC has developed a multi-season response plan that is embedded in the three year CAP; supported local level operation contingency plans identifying in advance the who, where and what would be required with its members in areas potentially affected by flooding, provided regular reporting, monitoring and gaps identification at the 11 subnational clusters, the Nairobi level for both the FSC members and the Somalia Donor community, invested in the capacity of humanitarian actors, providing different thematic trainings to individuals of the agencies that are partners of the cluster. Specific accomplishments include:

1) Average number of regional operational coordination cluster meetings in Somalia per month - 11

2) Average number of people attending field and Nairobi level cluster meeting- 250

3) Number of FSC agencies in decision making and leadership roles - 30

4) Number of trainings facilitated by the FSC to members in Nairobi and Somalia (Number of humanitarian partners / Cluster participants trained) - 700

5) Number of localized operational contingency plans developed - 5

6) Number of FSC response updates (including response gaps) prepared for cluster members, donors, humanitarian community and general public - 300

One year on, and after a gFSC led internal self-assessment (January 2013 -annexed to this budget revision-) and gFSC review mission in May 2013 to consult with cluster stakeholders to understand the evolving needs of the cluster membership, it has been recommended by the gFSC that an eighteen month budget revision be prepared to allow the Somalia FSC to continue to provide leadership in humanitarian responses to food insecurity. The evaluation mission report, annexed to this budget revision, makes several clear recommendations on extending the duration of the special operation, and identified areas where the Somalia FSC should strengthen the services it provides to its partners. The points below outline the features of the extension of the special operation based on the recommendations of the gFSC mission.

- 1) This budget revision is prepared for a 16 month period (September 1st 2013 to December 31st 2014) as recommended by the gFSC mission.
- 2) SO 200440 has now budgeted for a Somali Regional Cluster Support Officer and a Federal Government Liaison Officer from July/August 2013 until the end of the SO to be based in Mogadishu with one of the FSC's Cluster Co-coordinators. The Somalia FSC's Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) has endorsed the recommendation to create these posts within the Cluster Secretariat and copies of the ToRs for these positions, as well as the revised organogram, have been annexed to this budget revision.

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- 3) This budget revision includes resources to assist the agencies that have accepted the voluntary leadership role at the field level to cover the costs of facilitating monthly coordination meetings and develop a mechanism by which the elected vice-coordinators can link with the strategic advisory group to strengthen the field level strategic advisory interaction. Furthermore, the budget revision has increased the training budget to include recommended trainings at the field level on the roles and responsibilities of the vice coordinators, and support to the new Federal Government of Somalia.
- 4) The budget revision will provide the resources for the Somalia FSC to expand the number of co-coordinators from two to three. This will facilitate the FSC's to seek a third co-coordinator that will be seconded from an INGO partner and further strengthen the inclusiveness of the cluster partners.
- 5) Throughout the extension of the special operation, the FSC will continue to rollout the FSC's Information Management tool to the cluster's members, partners and government officials. In doing so, the cluster will broaden the humanitarian community's access to real time information on food security responses, planned activities and response gaps. Over the extended duration of SO 200440, the FSC will seek to develop further information management modules that will allow the capturing and reporting of the outcome of the FSC's partners' and members' activities.
- 6) The Somalia FSC will continue to provide capacity building opportunities to partners with a focus on the Government and the Vice-Coordinators and their constituents. As previously mentioned, the FSC has increased its training budget and is considering, with the SAG, to look at how the annual training programme can be reviewed at the mid-year marker and the training schedule adapted to evolving cluster members and government needs.

Budget revision 01 will provide the Somalia FSC the ability to seek resources from the donor community in Somalia. The resources will allow the Somalia FSC to continue to provide leadership to the humanitarian actors providing food security solutions in Somalia over the next 16 months; as well extend the FSC's ability to work with its members to look at responses that invest in the livelihoods of rural and poor urban households, and over time strengthening their resilience. The Project Objectives of this special operation, the FSC's six priorities, the Risk Assessment and Mitigation Assumptions, and the Monitoring & Evaluation targets as elaborated in the original project document, remain in effect. In addition, the Somalia FSC will continue to work with the Humanitarian Coordinator through the FSC's Co-Chairs to develop an exit and handover strategy of the FSC coordination and information management infrastructure to government led sector groups.

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