UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME Office of Audit and Investigations



AUDIT

OF

UNDP GUINEA

PROGRAMME DE PREVENTION DES CONFLITS ET CONSOLIDATION DE LA PAIX (Directly Implemented Project, Output Nos. 79755, 89057, 89058, 89060, 89061, 89062, 89063, 89064, 89065, 89066 and 89068)

Report No. 1320

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Report on the audit of UNDP Guinea Programme de Prévention des Conflits et Consolidation de la Paix (Output Nos. 79755, 89057, 89058, 89060, 89061, 89062, 89063, 89064, 89065, 89066 and 89068) Executive Summary

The UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI), from 5 to 23 May 2014, through Moore Stephens LLP (the audit firm), conducted an audit of "Programme de Prévention des Conflits et Consolidation de la Paix", Output Nos. 79755, 89057, 89058, 89060, 89061, 89062, 89063, 89064, 89065, 89066 and 89068 (the Project), which is directly implemented and managed by the UNDP Country Office in Guinea (the Office). This was the first audit of the Project.

The audit firm conducted a financial audit to express an opinion on whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material aspects, the Project's operations. The audit covered the Project's Combined Delivery Report, which includes expenditure for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013 and the accompanying Funds Utilization statement¹ as of 31 December 2013 as well as Statement of Assets as of 31 December 2013. The audit did not include activities and expenses incurred at the "responsible party" level. In addition, the audit did not cover the Statement of Cash Position as no separate bank account was established and maintained for the Project.

The audit was conducted under the general supervision of OAI in conformance with the *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing*.

Audit results

Based on the audit report and corresponding management letter submitted by the audit firm, the results are summarized in the table below:

Project Expenditure*		Project Assets	
Amount (in \$ '000)	Opinion	Amount (in \$′000)	Opinion
11,213	Unqualified	118	Unqualified

*Expenditures recorded in the Combined Delivery Report were \$14,463,289. Excluded from the audit scope were transactions that relate to expenditures incurred by responsible parties (\$3,250,140).

Without revising the overall unqualified audit opinion on expenditures, the auditors mentioned that the Combined Delivery Report included ineligible expenditure amounting to \$55,297. The auditors did not qualify their audit opinion because this amount represented only 0.5 percent of total expenditure.

The audit firm issued an unqualified opinion on the Funds Utilization statement.

Key recommendations: Total = 6, high priority = 1

For high (critical) priority recommendations, prompt action is required to ensure that UNDP is not exposed to high risks. Failure to take action could result in major negative consequences for UNDP. The high (critical) priority recommendation is presented below:

¹ The Funds Utilization statement includes the balance, as at a given date, of five items: (a) outstanding advances received by the project; (b) depreciated fixed assets used at the project level; (c) inventory held at the project level; (d) prepayments made by the project; and (e) outstanding commitments held at the project level.

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Quarterly financial reports not received by the Office (Issue 4) The Office did not receive quarterly financial reports or the yearly certified statement of accounts from a United Nations entity as required by the respective Letter of Agreement.

<u>Recommendation</u>: Follow up with the United Nations entity to ensure that the terms contained in the Letter of Agreement related to the submission of periodic reports and yearly certified statement of accounts are adhered to.

Management comments and action plan

The UN Resident Coordinator/UNDP Resident Representative accepted all of the recommendations and is in the process of implementing them. Comments and/or additional information provided have been incorporated into the report, where appropriate.

Helge S. Osttveiten Director Office of Audit and Investigations