

TERMS OF REFERENCE – UN AID COORDINATION ADVISOR

Mozambique

Background

Donors in Mozambique are committed to supporting the Government's Action Plan for the Reduction of Absolute Poverty (PARPA) - the Mozambican poverty reduction strategy (PRS). Traditionally, the most important donor group for promoting government ownership, alignment and harmonisation has been the Development Partner's Group (DPG). Over time the group has seen the emergence of a group of donors supporting Government through Direct Budget Support (DBS). In 2003-04 this led to the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Programme Aid on the Direct Budget Support (DBS) and Balance of Payment Support. The MoU was signed by 13 bilaterals, the European Commission and World Bank (together known as Programme Aid Partners or PAPs). The group is now composed of 18 members (G18).

The UN has undertaken a major and continues repositioning exercise in the changing national and international aid environment. Efforts should still be pursued in improving UN's role in the daily policy dialogue both with the Government and with its other development partners as well as continue the implementation of the Paris Declaration on aid coordination. A more balanced and all inclusive policy dialogue on critical development issues is needed for Mozambique and efforts should be put in place to facilitate that the DPG can re-establish itself as the primary forum for senior-level policy dialogue for the UN, WB, all donors and Government.

Mozambique is an OECD-DAC pilot country in harmonization and simplification (H&S). All donors are deploying major efforts to abide to the recommendations received to that effect. The UN is simultaneously pursuing the implementation of the UN Reform which also prones internal H&S. In order to maintain UN's position as a key actor in the development forum in Mozambique, it is mandatory that the UN continues its re-position process to follow the general trend and adapt to the H&S of its development partners.

Justification

The UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) has identified the need to recruit an Advisor in Aid Coordination. The objective is to assist the UN Resident Coordinator in his/her efforts to better harmonize the work of the UN agencies, internally among themselves and externally with their development partners and align their priorities with the Government and of the UN global reform agenda.

Main tasks and Responsibilities

The work of the Aid Coordination Advisor will focus on the following areas:

- Provide country level input to the global UN reform agenda;
- Assist the UN in its internal and external harmonization and simplification efforts, e.g. in its participation in the Government-Donor Joint and midterm Reviews
- Assist the UN in pursuing its re-positioning efforts and especially the proposals for complementary efforts to those of the DBS partners;
- Support the Paris Declaration Working Group under DPG;
- Advise UN Agencies on internal coordination and harmonization ;
- Promote and facilitate increased use of joint funding and programming mechanisms;
- Assist in the preparation of a Joint UNDAF resource mobilization strategy.

Reporting

Under the overall supervision of the UN Resident Coordinator and direct supervision of the UN RCO manager, the Advisor will be expected to work closely with the UN Country Management Team (composed of the UN Agency Country Representatives), other UN staff, government ministries concerned with development management (principally the Ministry of Planning and Development), and with national Institutes within and outside government concerned with the development process.

Duty Station

Maputo

Duration

One year with possibility of extension

Qualification

- Post-graduate degree in development, economics or related academic discipline;
- Minimum of seven years of proven experience in development policy, aid management issues, communications and corporate governance;
- Previous experience of aid coordination and advice within an international development setting highly desirable;
- Knowledge of the Mozambique aid environment;
- Ability to set priorities and manage time effectively;
- Demonstrated abilities to take initiatives and build consensus;
- Excellent communication skills: speaking, writing and listening;
- Demonstrated interpersonal skills including diplomacy, tact, and ability to negotiate and influence;

- Facilitation skills highly desirable;
- Excellent command in English and good working knowledge of Portuguese;
- Computer skills, including extensive experience using Microsoft Word, Internet and e-mail skills required.

Deadline for applications

5 June 2006