

*Deterioration and Resilient Struggle for Media Freedom,
Safety, and Development in Puntland
2016*

MAP ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FY 2016/17

Media Association of Puntland (MAP)

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1. About us.....	Page 3
2. Our chairman's introduction.....	Page 4
3. Message from our Secretary General.....	Page 5
4. Message from our Senior Projects Manager.....	Page 6
5. Executive Summary.....	Page 7
6. Attacks to Press freedom.....	Page 8
7. STRATEGIC REPORT; Review of the year's activities and future plans.....	Page 9
8. Programs; Promoting Media Sustainability in Puntland	Page 10
9. Puntland Media Law Reform.....	Page 12
10. Program; improving the media freedom, safety and media content for public interest in Somalia.....	Page 13
11. Program; Assessing the Gender Landscape in Puntland.....	Page 16
12. Program; Promoting Peace and conflict Sensitive Reporting.....	Page 17
13. Throwback; MAP activities 2015.....	Page 18
14. Publicity.....	Page 19
15. Networking & Partnership.....	Page 20
16. Financial Report.....	Page 31
17. External Auditor's Financial Accountability Statements.....	Page 22
18. Thank you; Appreciations to our donors.....	Page 28



About the Report:

This is the annual report and audited Financial Statements for MAP, containing major activities and achievements accomplished by Media Association of Puntland - MAP- for the year ended March 31st, 2017

The primary objective of the report is to disclose overall core and partnership activities, learning, and outcomes of the organizational initiatives and demonstrate its track record and competence to execute ideas aligning the key themes of the organization.

The report is expected to serve as a well-documentation of the key efforts of the organization to attain its objectives and a consolidated contribution Media Association of Puntland made to the country's Media development objective.



ABOUT US



OUR VISION

MAP's vision is to realise Puntland where freedom of expression and media freedoms are fully recognized, respected and enjoyed by all the society regardless his/her origin with free expression of opinion

OUR MISSION

MAP's mission is to strive to promote and defend freedom of expression including the media freedom by developing the media and journalists in Puntland:

Our Executive Board Members

1. Chairperson – Faisal Khalif Barre
2. Vice Chair - Mohamed Mohamud **Welcome**
3. Secretary General – Fatima Mohamed Mohamud
4. Acting treasurer – Salim Mohamed Dahir
5. Head of the Communications and Advocacy department – Omar Mohamed
6. Head of the training department – Salim Mohamed Dahir
7. Head of Development and fundraising - Awil Abdi Mohamud
8. Head of Membership – Cawl Khadar Ismail
9. Head of Human rights and Women Affairs – Fatuma Ahmed

Our staffs

1. Nasra Abdirizak – Executive Director/Gender Consultant
2. Senior MAP Projects Manager - Ibrahim A. Mohamed
3. Finance Manager – Fatima Dahir Warsame
4. Office Assistant – Nimca Mohamoud

About us

The Media Association of Puntland (MAP) is an independent, non-profit organization registered in Puntland and recognized as a legitimate representative of Puntland's journalists and media establishments. The organization was founded in January 2009, as freedom of expression movement, to promote and defend the right to free expression by improving the professional capacity, as well as the social and economic rights of media professionals in Puntland, Somalia.

We have 226 members composed of media establishments and individual journalists who are active in Puntland. We are currently engaged in processes that advocate media freedoms, safety, law reform, Gender equality and develop capacities for the media in Puntland State. We do our work through our headquarters office in Garowe, and seven regional offices in Mudug, Bari, Karkaar, Sanaag, Sool, Cayn regions.

Our Governance

Our General Assembly is the highest decision-making body of the organization and is chaired by Mr. Feisal Khalif Barre.

Our Executive Body executes duties and functions as assigned by the General assembly. The executive body is composed of 9 office bearers who are elected by a General assembly every three (3) years.

Our work

The core activities of MAP revolve around press freedom, preservation of journalists' rights, skill training on professional journalism, building a united voice of journalists, forming a foundation for cooperation and confidence, and dialogue engagement on legal and policy issues. We fulfil these activities through:

- ⇒ Advocacies
- ⇒ training needs assessments for the journalists;
- ⇒ organizing workshops, seminars and conferences for the journalists and other stakeholders;
- ⇒ initiating dialogue engagements with authorities; and;
- ⇒ systematic monitoring, investigations and reporting of violations of press freedom.

MAP ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE
According to revised by-laws (structure with membership ORG)

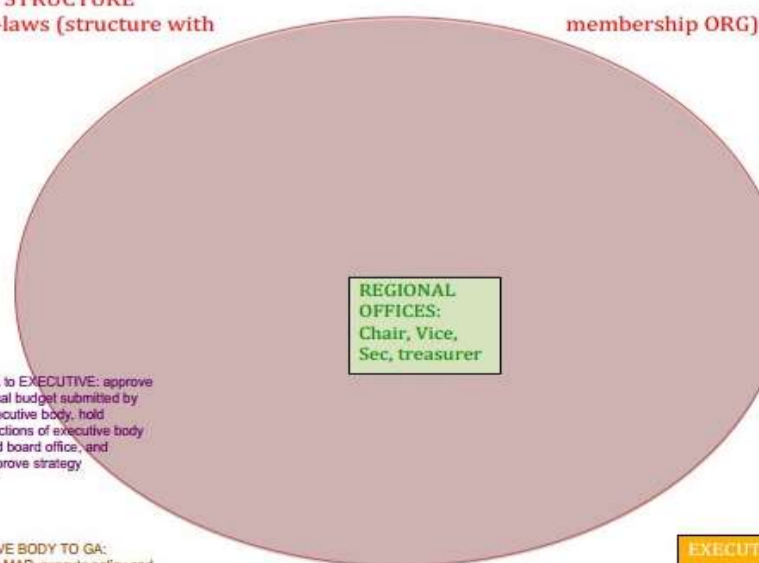
GENERAL BODY/ASSEMBLY:
ALL MEMBERS
(Full, associate, honorable)
Determine the policy and programmes of MAP, appoint accountant, approve reports and audited statements

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
All members

EXECUTIVE BODY:
CHAIRMAN/Vice Chairman:
Constitutional head of MAP, supervise, guide, help, GENERAL SECRETARY: chief executive of MAP, responsible for executive body, prepare agenda, prepare annual report, submission of reports, office management, conduct correspondence, supervision of staff, verify all bills, operate bank accounts with chair FINANCE SECRETARY: maintain accounts, responsible for auditing, receive donations, prepare annual budget, & manage petty cash
Execute policy, strategy and decisions, report back to GA

GA to EXECUTIVE: approve fiscal budget submitted by executive body, hold elections of executive body and board office, and approve strategy

EXECUTIVE BODY TO GA:
Represent MAP, execute policy and decisions of GA.
Prepare and present reports (incl strategy) and account to GA
Fix time and date for GA meetings



REGIONAL OFFICE:
CHAIRMAN/Vice Chairman:
REGIONAL head of MAP, Supervise, guide, help, monitor execution of bylaws.
Regional GENERAL SECRETARY: Implement regional projects/act
FINANCE SECRETARY: maintain accounts, responsible for regional auditing, prepare annual regional budget/reports

REGIONAL OFFICES TO EB:
PREPARE REPORTS AND PRESENT REPORTS

EXECUTIVE BODY:
Chair, Vice, Sec, General, Treasurer
5 department heads:

TRAINING ADVOCACY/LOBBY WOMEN FUNDRAISING PROJECT DEV MEMBER SERVICE



OUR CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

I am delighted to introduce the Annual Report with the Strategic Report and Financial Statements for 2016/17. The Media Association of Puntland (MAP) remains on course as it continues to grow from strength to strength. Its obligation has remained unique given that it is one of the outstanding organizations promoting and defending media freedoms and rights of journalists in Somalia.

Dear Comrades,

MAP made a difference in 2016 – thanks to each and every member journalist, media firm, staff member, technical consultants, activists, lawyers, our diligent staff and most importantly our donors. Please take a minute to read the pages inside this Annual Report to get a sense of how your efforts to improve media freedoms and capacities for Somali journalists joined ours.

We contemplate that you'll be proud of all that was accomplished, and perhaps just as importantly, revel in how our work was accomplished – that is, with valued educational improvements for journalists, strategic partnerships to expand journalists access to information, relentless advocacy for press freedom, a significant push for policy review as well as courage, tenacity, and a spirit of solidarity in a dangerous environment of work. MAP will continually seek out opportunities to respond to the media sector's need for justice, freedom, safety and development for the flourishing of our nation.

In 2016, MAP did well financially, due to the fact that many international agencies contributed significant support to MAP's solicitations for funding. All board and staff members appreciate an improved financial scenario, as this allows us the opportunity to direct more of our focus to the promotion of media freedoms, safety, and access and justice concerns in Somalia.

We would like to specifically thank the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), IMS and Fojo Institute media institute, Free Press Unlimited, and the United Nations Somali Mission.

2017 promises to offer enhanced opportunities for MAP to deepen our efforts to bring a better environment for journalists in Somalia through increased negotiations on safety and protection of our Journalists; establishing the Puntland media council, and improving government resolve to end violence and impunity against Somali journalists. Enormous activities MAP will be proud of this year 2017; will be the development of the Somalia Safety and Protection manual, Establishment of the Puntland Media council and last but not least the study of "Gender in the Puntland Media Landscape".

I would like to make a one BIG announcement for 2017: With no doubts the MAP board of directors have made tremendous undeniable achievements that have widely promoted MAP's mission to strive to promote and defend freedom of expression including the media freedom by developing the media and journalists in Puntland. Despite that, we are set to hold a fair, transparent and a democratic election late this year and will be inviting our general assembly (GA) members for a GA conference that will elect its new leadership of nine Executive Body members.

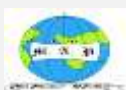
Four positions are chosen by election out of the nine members of the Executive Body. Precisely these positions are; Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary General and Treasurer General. MAP will officially announce the specific dates on when the GA will be held and will depend on the availability of adequate funds.

On behalf of the board and staff, we would like to thank you for your faithful participation in MAP and its work – and we invite you to collaborate with us in the exciting year ahead!

Faisal Khalif Barre

Chairperson

Chair@mediapuntland.org



MESSAGE FROM OUR SECRETARY GENERAL



Promoting the work and advancing the role of women in the news media across Puntland is vital to MAP's mission, and it's mandate in promoting media pluralisms, women rights, transparency and the diversity of voices in the sector.

In the traditional and patriarchal society of Somalia, being born a woman can mean a lack of access to many social opportunities and many barriers to success throughout life. Women in Somalia enjoy fewer privileges and less security than men.

Dear colleagues!

While MAP takes cognizance of the fact that there are many violations of journalists' rights and media freedom such as interference with opinion held or expressed, censorship, confiscation of media equipment and property, self-censorship and thriving impunity of perpetrators – We also recognize the gender gap in the Puntland Media.

Female media practitioners in the Puntland media have representation at non-decision-making levels only, female journalists have weak regional networks; Women's participation in the media remains lower than males, and the media products are not tailored; their landscape is not well researched and their capacity to take an active role in gender sensitive promotion is limited.

In early 2017, with the support of the Free Press Unlimited we have launched a gender study project intended to assess the gender landscape in the Puntland Media – this is a roadmap that will expose the gender gaps in the Puntland media. We will combat gender inequalities in the workplace and ensure our female Journalists enjoy equal pay and equal opportunities throughout the Puntland Media.

With delight and enthusiasm, the MAP projects team and MAP secretariat are reveling all the Puntland and Somali media practitioners who are engaged in the movement to create change. We celebrate their vehemence, their brave endeavors to eliminate injustice, combat impunity on crimes against journalist, promote equal opportunity at workplace and their inspirations.

Finally, we applaud our donors, for their generous support that has been so important for MAP to promote its mission and vision. Your investments tell us how much you value this work and how deeply you believe in our mission.

Fatima Mohamed Mohamud Bisle

Secretary General

SecretaryG@mediapuntland.org

Media Association of Puntland

REVIEW FROM OUR SENIOR PROJECTS MANAGER



The year 2016-2017 presented major challenges as well as opportunities in terms of advancement of the MAP vision and mission. Over the past twelve months we have put in place the architecture that will define how this organisation will continue to build its mission and vision in a time of extraordinary change.

Dear Patrons!

Even while maneuvering and planning how we will advance the professional capacities for the Puntland journalist and campaign against harsh government gag orders, we continue to find reasons to celebrate progress for and breakthroughs that indeed has boosted and encouraged our efforts to ignite change. A major brilliance our projects have achieved is the reform of the Puntland Media law – after – a two and half years of struggle with vast lobby and advocacy to persuade lawmakers and state officials our dreams in reforming the Puntland Media Law came true in December 2016.

Puntland Parliament voted by an overwhelming majority on Tuesday December 6, 2017 in favor to replace the provisions of concern in the Puntland media law while promoting a free, fair and independent Media practice in the Puntland State of Somalia, 32 out of 37 present members of parliament voted “YES” to advance a measure that permit the reform of the restrictive media law. The Puntland President endorsed the parliament approved revised media law early 2017 which makes it official.

To all journalists, partners and the general public, the challenge to defend the media and promote journalists’ rights for effective realization of Freedom of Expression and Information in our country is still with us and we must not give up the struggle since it’s fundamental in engraining democracy and good governance in the country. To the MAP secretariat staff, your tireless efforts have yielded tremendous results amidst serious challenges; you always keep propelling MAP to greater heights.

Finally, on project technical point of view, I would like to sincerely thank the TAYO center for Media excellence our ground technical partners who have been of great importance in our work both at local level in Puntland state and at national level in Somalia. Their technical expertise has helped us execute vital project activities during the year in review that ended February 28, 2017.

Ibrazzy256

Ibrahim A. Mohamed

MAP projects manager

Projects-management-officer@mediapuntland.org



Photo: Mohamed Mohamud Welcome – Vice chair MAP @ press conference condemning government closure of Radio Daljir June 2016

Executive Summary

The role of the media in providing credible information, of giving voice to the people and holding those in power to account is fundamental to the realization of our freedom and human rights. Whilst there may be differences of opinion about whether the media are part of civil society, what is undisputed is the key role that they play in social and economic development, democracy, human rights and the pursuit of justice.

In 2016, press freedom in Puntland faced a more severe and diverse set of challenges than at any point in the past years, our media outlets and media practitioners have been victims of government censorship, intimidation, harassment and unlawful media closure. These high personal risks discontinued experienced journalists from active practice in Somalia. The sector attracts, only, low skilled labor due to the low wages and the dangerous repercussions.

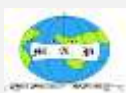
Media Association of Puntland Remains on course as it continues to grow higher, its mandate has remained unique given that it is one of the outstanding organizations promoting and defending media freedoms and rights of journalists in Somalia. The reporting period between March 2016 and February 2017 was another challenging year for MAP.

In spite of the challenging operational context, MAP continued to analyze laws that infringe media and press freedom with a view of making recommendations to policy and law makers. Advocacy work on media law reforms situations in which journalists operate continued through roundtable and a multi stakeholder consultative engagements. The association has publicly condemned government actions against the media in Puntland and has demanded reverse back the blatant gag orders and release of arrested journalists which were 100% successful. This provided the MAP with the platform to air out concerns in respect to the working environment of journalists and create new alliances nationally, regionally and internationally.

MAP continued to research, monitor and document issues affecting journalists in Somalia. MAP executed a countrywide study measuring the safety and protection of Somali journalist and the development of the Somali Safety manual – the manual first of its kind is expected to be published and available for use mid-2017, similarly, MAP kick-started a study intended to assess the gender landscape in the Puntland media. The gender research report will be an intellectual merit for the media and program developers in Somalia and results will inform both the non-profit sector, activists, the Media Association of Puntland and the governments of Somalia. The impetus established by the information from the gender research component will also be used to inform capacity building for female journalists and lobby for the unification of 3 regional unions to establish the Puntland Female Journalists Association.

The Association built capacities of journalists on professional and ethical reporting, personal physical safety and digital security essential for staying safe both off and online, investigative journalism to hold government accountable, Election coverage process in preparation of the latest held Somali National presidential election, advocacy workshops as they expedite their work. It also created platforms of dialogue with media owners and relevant government security institutions to her work.

The Association plans to continue striving for the full realization of her mandate by contributing to the promotion of gender equality at the newsroom, protection and fulfillment of journalists' rights, media freedoms and people's rights.



Attacks to Press freedom

For a number of years now, Somalia has had the dubious distinction of being among the most “dangerous countries” for journalists in the world, according to national and international watchdogs monitoring freedom of expression. The Somali media remains challenged by censorship, intimidation, harassment, unlawful detention, imprisonment and mysterious assassinations bearing the hallmarks of extremism and political instigation.

As Puntland government matures, there are considerable gaps between the laws on paper and how they are applied in reality. The government’s aspiration to dictate what is to be written, said and shown seems to grow stronger. Persons Violating Press Freedoms include the executive branch of government, cabinet ministers, the police and bodyguards of governmental authorities and last but not least, armed groups operating in Puntland. Political leaders have the capacity to command the police and prosecution services to detain a journalist without following the standard procedures for arrest and detention enshrined in the penal code as well as in the criminal and civil procedures code.

The reprisals against media independence, the increase in censorship in recent months, and Puntland Minister of information’s edict to independent journalist or media practitioners to seek accreditation from government that is designed to persecute journalists clearly showed that the government has taken the authoritarian road.

Highlights: Deliberate attacks on the Media

- April 13, 2017; Garowe’s first grade court levied hefty fines to the UK based Universal TV in what MAP described as the first anti-defamation penal action. Universal TV was fined two thousand dollars, suing that the UNIVTV had violated the articles 2 and 16 of Puntland Media law while defaming the Puntland’s President and public.
- March 9, 2017; Puntland officials in Bosaso ordered two major Electronics dealers selling satellite dish antennas and decoders in bosaso to conceal UNIVTV channels in their decoders. D-SAT and Ileys who are the local traders instructed to obscure the channels, have an estimated 16,000 subscribers who are enjoy their services.
- March 5, 2017, Puntland deputy Minister of Information ordered the shutdown of the Universal TV with claims that the UK based TV station published drama programs that created security concerns and unprofessional conduct.
- On the 28th November, 2016, Horseed’s Newspaper editor, Omar Said Mohamed received death threats and was physically assaulted. Oma authored an investigative-piece that suggested allegations of corruption on the bidding process of the Garowe-Galkayo corridor road Maintenance project. The acts of violence against Mr. Said were the perpetration of two local-private-companies, exasperated by the investigative-article that exposed that the local companies were involved in a fraud-cycle in the course of the bidding process on Galkayo-Garowe road maintenance project. Galkayo-Garowe road maintenance venture is supported by the European Union (EU) and Germany under the implementation of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). The allegation was printed on the Horseed Newspaper of the 18 November 2016. However, [GIZ](#) official Christoph Schmidt in a [press-conference](#) held on the 20 November repudiated the fraud-allegation in the bidding process, adding that GIZ will bring in independent international audits to further investigate the allegations. MAP did not receive a copy of the international audit’s report and cannot confirm their findings whatsoever.
- June 22, 2016; Freedom of expression outlawed, Puntland Information Minister issued a letter ordering that journalists should desist from interviewing persons linked to pirates and terrorists – referring to the former Bari governor. The letter stated that “Failing to comply with these orders, no journalist will be accredited to report from Puntland, while any media house that fails to provide its employees list to the Ministry will be banned from broadcasting and operating in the state’s area of jurisdiction.”

Respond from MAP

- July 26th, 2017: In an extraordinary meeting held at the Puntland Presidential palace, MAP, the media advocacy coalition members and the Puntland President met and discussed the boiling points on the recent attacks on the media alongside the enduring restrictive Puntland Media law. MAP has debated the Puntland president over key issues including respect of media freedom/independence and Article 25 of the Puntland constitution vs the Minister of information’s comments threatening to kill journalists, Gag-orders from the same minister calling media practitioners to get accredited by the government. The 6hour meeting resulted in a consensus with the President appointing a committee to carry on the outcomes of the meeting as stated below the committee was tasked to carry the following activities; lead a discussion on the Puntland media law reform (articles of concern), with MAP and the Ministry of information; mediate between MAP & Puntland’s Ministry of information to clear out their differences with respect to the constitution.

MAP, Ministry of information and the mediation committee have met thrice on 3rd, 4th and 5th of August 2016. These meetings were carried on with intense discussions a top priority being the media law reform. Fortunately, as a result, both MAP & Ministry of information) have agreed on the articles of concern and was brought in conformity to both the Puntland constitution and to the international acceptable standards.

The Somali authorities rarely investigate cases of killings or attacks on journalists or prosecute perpetrators; the authorities have only investigated and prosecuted attacks attributed to Al-Shabab, relying on the national intelligence agency, and the country’s military court, whose investigations and trials do not meet international due process standards, says the Human Rights Watch’s 2017 World Report (Somali chapter).

<https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2017/country-chapters/somalia>

A UN report on freedom of expression in Somalia released September 2016 describes progress in state-building in Somalia, but also shows the very challenging environment that continues to confront journalists, human rights defenders and political leaders, including numerous killings, arrests, intimidation and closure of critical media outlets.

[UNSOM FreedomExpressionReport Aug3 12016](#)

While Somali authorities have often committed to holding those responsible for attacks against journalists to account, accountability has been both extremely limited and uneven. For incidents of killings of journalists which occurred since 2014, there has been only one prosecution, quoted from in the Human Rights Watch report – “*Like fish in a poisonous water*” released on MAY 2016 <https://www.hrw.org/report/2016/05/02/fish-poisonous-waters/attacks-media-freedom-somalia>



STRATEGIC REPORT

Review of the year's activities and future plans

Our Strategic Report includes a review of the year's activities and future plans, principal risks and uncertainties and a financial review.

WE WANT TO SEE... A safe Enabling Environment for journalist and a capacity built Professional and ethical Journalists in Puntland for the benefit of the Puntland, Somali Society.

HOW DO WE DO THAT?

OUR FOCUS: Building Professional and Ethical Media Capacities

In pursuit of MAP's mandate of promoting high ethical & professional standards of Puntland media practitioners, the Media Association of Puntland has been persistent in providing trainings to journalist in a number of areas including; Safety and protection of journalists, Advocacy and lobby with focus on policy reform, Electoral coverage and electoral laws, Gender sensitive reporting, investigative journalism among other newsworthy topics focusing primarily on improving media independence, public information standards and methods. The trainings that are custom-made for various categories for journalists also aim at promoting the ethical standards for the Journalists.

Our training seminars have the added value of bringing together journalists from different regions in the country, bestowing participants with the unique opportunity to address collectively issues of common interests and concern.

Trainers are highly experienced and accomplished scholars and career practitioners drawn from the universities, media sector and the Somali based TAYO centre for Media excellence. Donor provided expert-trainers from time to time also come to the field and give trainings to our journalists.

The focus of our trainings is;

- ⇒ Skills on Safety and Protection, Digital Security;
- ⇒ Understanding Freedom of expression;
- ⇒ Basics Journalists Skills
- ⇒ Gender Sensitive Reporting; Conflict sensitive reporting and Hate speech
- ⇒ Investigative Journalism – Government Watchdog;

OUR FOCUS: Defending Media freedom and Freedom of Expression:

Our democracy needs a robust press to hold our leaders accountable and cover the important issues facing our communities. MAP stands up to defend the media and journalist rights whenever attacked or interfered. Our press freedom work defends the rights of journalists and individuals to freely and securely report on the environment around them.

OUR FOCUS: Media Academic Research

While Research discovers, elucidates and evaluates new knowledge, ideas, and the technologies essential in driving the future of society and humanity – MAP conducts academic research in two priority areas;

- ❖ Assessing gender landscape
- ❖ Measuring Safety and protection of Journalist.

In collaboration with the TAYO Center for media excellence. MAP convenes conferences and events;

OUR FOCUS: Media law and Policy reform

MAP engages with stakeholders to review media laws and policies to meet provisional laws and international standards.

PROGRAM RESULTS: HIGHLIGHTS 2016/17

Media Law Advocacy

– MAP Mobilized the Puntland civil society groups, Puntland Human rights independent office, the tireless lobby targeting the Puntland Presidency, Ministry of information and the parliament secured;

- ⇒ Revision of the Puntland media law passed by the Puntland lawmakers and endorsed by the Puntland President

Media Capacity Building and Professionalism

– MAP delivered training to 130 journalists on Election reporting, Investigative journalism, Gender sensitive reporting, Safety trainings, and advocacy workshops in 2016/17

– 100% of journalists enrolled in the 7 training workshops on various topics were satisfied with the training services according to results from 15 participant-led training evaluations conducted at the end of each training workshop.

Media Association of
Puntland (MAP)



Ururka Warbaahinta
Puntland

OUR PROGRAMS

REVIEW TO OUR PROJECT ACTIVITIES 2016/17

OUR FOCUS: Building Professional & Ethical Media Capacities – Media Law Reform



In 2016, the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) greatly supported our objective “to promote, defend and broaden the freedom of expression and Press freedom, through “Promoting Media Sustainability Project” in Puntland (PMSP).



PMSP sought to enhance the sustainability of an independent media sector through trainings on accountability, equality, free and fair elections, as well as to promote media legislation that would support freedom of expression and independent media. The generous support from the National Endowment for Democracy helped MAP to carry out the following activities from April 2016 to March 2017;

1. ELECTION REPORTING AND ELECTORAL RULES TRAINING

MAP enhanced the capacity of 30 journalists through a three-day training focusing on skills that enhance their ability to cover electoral processes. Participants reviewed electoral rules and legal guidelines for access to information, as well as how to obtain data critical to story development and preparation for interviews. Participants discussion on understanding of media ethics, including the concepts of objectivity and impartiality in reporting were part of the workshop. A positive approach of the workshop has been to ensure central coordination between all participating partners through a series of group exercises, question and answers sessions. These opened an opportunity for all to team up in the effort through sharing information and experiences with respect to the overall program.

2. INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM TRAINING

MAP introduced Investigative Journalism training with the intention to expose corruption, enhance transparency and make officials accountable to the people. 30 practicing journalists drawn from print, online and broadcast media from across the Puntland media were trained on investigative journalism that kicked off on the March 19, 2017 at the New-Rays-Hotel in Garowe.

Free, independent journalism is essential for a strong democratic process. During our training in Garowe, we looked at the role of journalists in public debate, the specifics of investigative journalism, the protection of journalists and their rights and duties as defined by international conventions.

The training inquired into the practices as well as components on investigative journalism based on the existing resources such as “UNESCO’s Story-based inquiry: a manual for investigative journalists” and the “Global investigative journalism casebook”.

The “raison d’etre” MAP crafted this training for journalists was to equip local Journalists with vital skills to enhance them on Investigative journalism with a special focus on governments accountability as well as to create a regional platform for Puntland journalists to share experiences and best practices on the promotion investigative Journalism.

Participants found the workshop as an eye opener to investigative journalism against corruption and have more expectations to enhance in-depth knowledge, arts and skills on it. Because of the new and interesting topic relevant to them all participants were encouraged to set their goals and firmly committed to apply the tools and techniques in investigating corruption especially holding government officials accountable.

On an average, participants found the topics, presentation style of the resource persons, organization of the workshop good. The whole course as they assessed at the end of the workshop was very useful and practical for the participants to develop their professional career in investigative journalism. However, they found the 5-day workshop short and were more enthusiastic to devote.



SPOTLIGHT: Puntland Media Law Reform – 2015



Photo: Advocacy Meeting at the Presidential palace: From L-R: Faisal Khalif - MAP chair, Dr. Abdiweli Ali Gaas - President of Puntland, Jama Deperani - Journalist & Member of the MAP coalition team and Mohamed Daahir - MAP Head of the training Dep't and Member of the coalition team.

Like all governments, the Laws of Puntland solemnly proclaim their belief in freedom of expression, especially freedom of the press. Puntland government reviewed the media law in 2014 to give the government full authority on who can become a journalist as well as the power to suspend journalists and media firms at their whim.

In 2015, MAP launched a policy reform campaign demanding for the alteration in lieu parts of the Puntland Media law engaging lawmakers, civil society groups, the Puntland Presidency and the Ministry of Information. With the generous support of the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), MAP achieved the following:

Highlights: Media law campaign 2015 – 2016



Photo Group: Participants of the Advocacy and lobby training

– July 2015: 20 journalists received training on advocacy and lobbying, and established a 5-person advocacy coalition that initiated and led efforts to review repressive clauses in the Puntland media law.



– September 2015: 100% of participants at the first media stakeholders meeting unanimously acknowledged the repressive elements in the revised Puntland media and recommended a technical team to lead the law review in liaison with the Puntland Ministry of Information, Communication, Culture and Heritage, the Media Association of Puntland, and the Puntland parliamentary committee on media affairs.

3. Gender Sensitive reporting

MAP conducted a two-day training on gender sensitive reporting for 10 journalists drawn from across the Puntland media outlets. The aim of this seminar was to develop the skills of the Puntland Journalists on gender sensitive reporting while enhancing their ability to present news and stories from the eyes of women as well as men, and determination to ask questions about freedom of expression for all people and how this relates to a strong independent media sector. The training was held in bosaso from October 9th to 10th, 2016, at the Gacayte Hotel. Participants of the Gender sensitive training were taken through modules that enhanced their ability to present news and stories from the eyes of women as well as men, with extensive work groups discussions on about freedom of expression for all people and how this relates to a strong independent media sector.

At the end of the workshop, the participants identified that lack of knowledge, consciousness and interest of gender sensitivity by news managers at media houses; biased mindset and stereotyping of what women's roles should permanently be like using women in marketing and portraying women as sex objects; lack of knowledge and skills by journalists to make a clear inconsistency on what should be considered a gender sensitive matter, and deliberate negative reporting by the media on women and their activities are some of the factors upsetting effective gender sensitive reporting.

ADVOCACY: STAKE HOLDERS FORUM TO DISCUSS THE PUNTLAND MEDIA LAW.

MAP held a one-day roundtable to discuss the media law. Participants included the director of the human rights office, the Puntland non-state actors' association and the MAP media advocacy team that was formed under the previous NED project 2015. Public service announcements and advocacy communiques were broadcasted in Somali Broadcasting cooperation and Radio Garowe, whereas a joint media law advocacy communique was communicated widely to the Puntland and Somali communities in the country as well as the Somali Diaspora. MAP project team was responsible for monitoring the implementation of the strategy and reporting on it to the broader membership.

The upgrading of the Puntland media law reform advocacy strategy and the expansion of the MAP media advocacy team inclusive with the Puntland civil society members was timely, strong and really productive to the Puntland media law reform. Given the Puntland civil society and MAP advocacy team the zeal to build on a coalition lobby and advocate for a policy reform, the conference was successful. It addressed the media advocacy strategy gaps and that of the Puntland civil society in their relationship with the media and the set objectives of the roundtable conference.

The conference participants deliberated the following action plan; Prepare a joint advocacy communique calling on the Puntland President, the Parliament and the cabinet for immediate policy reform. This was done and the communique was distributed to aforementioned government institutions and was shared with key Somali donors while seeking for external pressure.

Jointly visited the Puntland President office, the office of the Puntland Parliament and the office the Puntland Parliament Speaker and put pressure while demanding for the policy reform.

On December 6, 2017, Puntland Parliament approved a revised version of the Puntland Media Law which was later endorsed by the Puntland President H.E. Abdiweli Ali Gaas. The Media Association of Puntland Publicly commended the Puntland Lawmakers and the Puntland President for the improvement of the Puntland Media law.



PUNTLAND MEDIA LAW – FLASHBACK 2014-2016

BACKGROUND

In 1998, the Media Law of Puntland (Law No. 5) was passed by Puntland House of Representatives (Parliament) and remained in force as Puntland's law with regard to the independent media. In April 2012, Puntland State Constitution was adopted at a Constitutional Convention in the state capital Garowe, superseding all laws prior to this constitution. In 2012, the Puntland Ministry of Information, Communication, Culture and Heritage ("MICCH") began consultations with governmental institutions, non-governmental actors and international partners to revise the Media Law of Puntland and introduce a new Media Bill into the Puntland House of Representatives. Throughout this consultative process, the Media Association of Puntland ("MAP") played an instrumental role managing relations and coordinating efforts between MICCH and Puntland's many independent media outlets.

KEY TIMELINES

- **May 11–12, 2013** – MICCH hosted a consultative meeting ("*Civil Society Media Stakeholders' Consultation Meeting on Ministry Formulated Draft Media Law*"), which was held at New Rays Hotel Conference Hall in Garowe. MICCH Minister Mr. Ahmed Aideed Dirir chaired the Meeting which was attended by MICCH officials, Puntland Members of Parliament, MAP officers, representatives from Puntland Non-State Actors' Association (PUNSAA), and 40 journalists from Garowe, Bossaso, Baran, Qardo, and Galkayo. The discussions were fruitful and consultative and the MICCH Minister and officials took consideration of ideas/recommendations from the other meeting participants, media stakeholders and MAP on revising the First Draft Media Law.
- **July 28, 2013** – The above-cited media stakeholders held a second meeting in Garowe chaired by Puntland Information Minister Prof. Ahmed Sheikh Jama and attended by the media stakeholders. This second meeting was to present the Second Draft Media Law, which incorporated the ideas/recommendations of the civil society media stakeholders, including MAP as the representative body of Puntland media outlets.
- **August 27, 2013** – A third meeting was held at MICCH office in Garowe and attended by MICCH Minister, Director-General of MICCH, MAP officers, 3 Puntland journalists, DIAKONIA and FOJO representatives. The Second Draft Media Law was further discussed and agreed that the MICCH Minister would present to the Puntland Council of Ministers for approval.
- **December 3, 2013** – Puntland Council of Ministers discussed and approved the Second Draft Media Law of Puntland (drafted June 2013). This law was discussed, debated and consulted between Puntland and the civil society media stakeholders, including MAP. As such, the Second Draft Media Law was drafted and consulted to the satisfaction of Puntland, MAP and the media stakeholders.

However, the Parliament made several changes to the agreed-upon Second Draft Media Law, which was the product of a consultative process. The Parliament held no discussion or consultation with MAP, PUNSAA or journalists, but made amendments to the Media Bill in a dictatorial manner in turn was a major setback to the cooperative and consultative relations developed between MICCH, MAP and media stakeholders of Puntland. Puntland lawmakers amended the media law to "legalize" the repression of freedom of speech and media freedoms. Puntland government reviewed the media law to give the government full authority on who can become a journalist as well as the power to suspend journalists and media firms at their whim.

October 25th, 2014 – Media Association of Puntland officially appealed to the Puntland Parliament to revise the media law that was passed by the parliament on July 2014. During his appeal, the Chairman of Media Association of Puntland Faisal Khalif Bare requested the Hon Speaker to look in to the media law that was passed on which MAP expressed discontentment. MAP chairman expressed that the media law that was passed does not favour the media independence in a democratic country.

Articles meddled by the Parliament revision

Article 5: Accreditation of Journalist: –

Before Parliament revision 2014: "*The Media Association of Puntland (MAP) is the authorized body to give any journalist, who fulfils the requirements in article 4 above, accreditation to operate on, which helps in doing his/her work. MAP will inform Puntland's MICCH about the accreditation.*"

After Parliament Revision 2014: "*The Media Association of Puntland (MAP) shall register any journalist who fulfils the requirements in article 4 above, and accreditation to operate shall be granted by MICCH.*"

Rendering the latter revised article; it specifies penalties, fines, and suspension of journalists from their work. It legalizes the closure of media houses and restrains editorial Independence of media outlets. The ministry will have the authority to issue and withdraw journalists' identification cards, according to this law.

Article 21: Nominating Members of the Media Council

✓ Clause 3: –

Before Parliament revision 2014: "*At the first meeting, the council should elect a chairperson, secretary and treasurer.*"

After Parliament Revision 2014: "*At the first meeting, the council should elect a Deputy chairperson, secretary and treasurer.*"

Rendering the latter revised article; it clearly establishes a media regulatory body which is dominated by the Ministry of Information. The council indisputably lacks independence, credibility and the journalistic community and the wider public will have no faith in it.

Article 6: What the Media Cannot Do

✓ Clause 3: –

Before Parliament revision 2014: "*The secrets of Puntland government, where the government has to publicly let know what falls under secrecy.*"

After Parliament Revision 2014: "*The secrets of Puntland government.*"

Rendering the latter revised article; Vague wording, and gives the full power to the authorities to easily block journalist from reporting news that has importance to public.

Article 16: Defamation

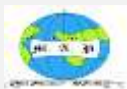
✓ Clause 8: –

Before Parliament revision 2014: "*Any laws that prescribe criminal penalties for media or journalistic offences shall be suspended. Criminal prosecution for journalism offences shall be stricken from the criminal law and handled as civil case.*"

After Parliament Revision 2014: "*Media offences that can create criminal/unlawful acts, relevant government institutions can enact criminal prosecution.*"

Rendering the latter revised article; since fears of journalists increasing, the article legalizes that journalists' cases related defamatory could face to apply any court or any law even in Anti-terrorism law, and absolutely this is danger move.

2017: Status of the Puntland Media Law; Despite the struggles, we finally reached our aims in reforming the Puntland Media law. Following the passing of the reviewed Puntland Media Law by the Puntland Parliament on the December 6th, 2016 which was also endorsed by the Puntland Parliament. This year MAP will mobilize stakeholders and call the for meetings aimed at establishing the Puntland Media council. The council will be



OUR FOCUS

Promoting the Safety & Protection of our Journalists

Page | 13



In August 2016, the IMS/FOJO media institute partnership and the Media Association of Puntland (MAP) signed a Memorandum of understanding to implement a project aimed at improving the media freedom, safety and media content for public interest in Somalia.



Photo: MAP chair @ opening remarks of the Bosaso Safety¹ training Held @ the Ga'ayte Hotel



Photo; Standing left, Somalia programme Coordinator of Fojo/IMS - Abukar Albadri @ opening remarks for the Bosaso safety training held @ the Ga'ayte Hotel in Bosaso



Photo: Participants @ the safety training Garowe



Photo: Participants @ the safety training Garowe

Through this project, MAP conducted Safety trainings; media stakeholders' advocacy workshop intended to promote the professional relations of the law enforcement and media practitioners in Bosaso and Galkaio districts; Countrywide Desk review measuring the safety and protection of Somalia journalists as well as Roundtable meetings as part of an effort to enhance safety for journalists and augment combat against impunity for crimes against journalists in Puntland and Somalia. Through this project MAP will be developing the Somali Safety and Protection manual.

The generous support from the IMS/FOJO helped MAP to carry out the following in 2016 – 2017;

1) Safety Trainings (Bosaso and Garowe)

The two workshops arranged for 4-days each took place from 11 to 14 October 2016, at the Gacayte Hotel in Bosaso and 17 to 20 October 2016, at the New Rays hotel in Garowe. The training programme were designed to equip journalists with Safety & Protection techniques, and Election Coverage. The 4-day teaching and practice workshop that lectured wide-ranging programs with skilful- practical-sessions covering dynamic topics that included, but not limited to; Digital Security, Situational awareness, Media and Security Forces, safety and security related to the risks in election reporting related.

The objectives of these trainings were to augment the safety of the journalists through key-topics including Digital Security, Risk assessment, Personnel & work place security, Situational awareness, first aid, Media and Security Forces, as well as. Similarly, to sensitize journalists on ethical principles guiding elections reporting and coverage.

Journalists participating in the both trainings were equipped on skills that strengthened the capacity of journalists to monitor elections and report them effectively; ensured adherence to professionalism as a deliberate means of entrenching Journalists safety, democracy and good governance in Puntland and Somalia at large.

2. Research; Desk review measuring the Safety and Protection of Somali Journalists

The Media Association of Puntland (MAP) contracted a researcher from the TAYO center for media excellence to lead the study. The study measured the safety and protection status of Somali Journalists was a countrywide undertaking and covered six major Somali regions, especially the 6-high risks rated towns namely Bosaso, Galkaio, Beletweyne, Baidoa, Mogadishu and Kismayo. The Desk review was a multi-stakeholder activity which recruited key backbone media stakeholders in the process, including the TAYO CME, SOMA, SWJA, SSWJA, NUSOJ, SIMHA, MAP, local human rights defenders, Veteran journalists and individual practicing Journalists.

KEY FINDINGS

➤ **Absence of Safety Policies:** A perilous finding the study exposed is that media houses stationed at the six locations targeted had no safety policies and or protection measures set to safeguard the journalists. More than 90 per cent of the respondents indicated they were dissatisfied with the level of safety and security measures in place in their media institutions.

➤ **Poor Leadership in the Newsrooms:** Similarly, the journalists interviewed in this study acknowledged a number of encounters and impediments that compromised their safety in the course of their work. These included lacks of or inadequate facilitation, working under managers who were not trained journalists, and, in some extreme cases, taking directions from unprincipled editors who maintained deals with news sources, especially politicians.

➤ **Government Capacity:** Somali Federal and State institutions remain without internal procedures for dealing with the media. As a result, Institutional capacity and coordination to deal with journalism crimes or address security threats for safe journalism to take place is limited.

➤ **Limited Journalist Safety trainings:** 80% of the journalists who participated in this desk review informed the study they never attended a journalist safety training program.

¹Improving Media Freedom Safety and Media Content for Public Interest Project in Somalia; Journalists' Safety, Protection and Election Coverage Course Program held in Bosaso. <http://mediapuntland.org/1084-2/>

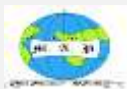


Photo: Workgroup discussion Bosaso Safety training



Photo: Participants @ the Garowe Safety training



Photo: Left - Khadra Abey IMS/FOJO staff awarding a training certificate to a participant at the closure of the Garowe safety training



Photo: Second day Mogadishu roundtable Discussion on the Safety and Protection Manual for the Somali Journalists



Group Photo: Participants @ the Mogadishu Roundtable conference



Photo: Participants @ the Mogadishu roundtable

3. Mogadishu Roundtable

A two-day Roundtable meeting to discuss the findings of the Desk review was held 25th - 26th January, 2017 at Ramada Hotel Conference in Mogadishu. The meeting also discussed the development of the Somali safety and Protection manual.

To ensure inclusivity Media Association of Puntland in its mission to recruit contributors to participate at the Mogadishu roundtable gave a considerable inclusion in reaching key state level media organisations. Targeted media groups are described as follows;

- SSWJA - Somali South West Journalists Association
- JIJA - Jubbaland independent Journalist Association
- NUSOJ - National Union of Somali Journalists
- Galmudug Journalist organisation

17 journalists drawn from the of Bosaso, Galkaio, Beletweyne, Baidoa, Mogadishu and Kismayo. The purpose of the Round Table was to examine the draft desk review report that measured the safety and protection of Journalists targeting Galkaio, Bosaso, Beletweyne, Baidoa, Mogadishu and Kismayo.

Outcomes of the Round table meeting

A nine-member editorial committee was voluntarily selected amongst the participating members, these volunteers will collaborate with MAP in drafting, editing and an oversight check to the manual. Up-to-date the manual is under draft: MAP has submitted to the IMS/FOJO team managing this project and will seek their inputs, feedback and approval.

Recommendations

The participants agreed on the following recommendations for their future work:

⇒ Participants agreed that, overall, the desk review results exactly reflect on the current status or dangerous conditions in which the Somali journalists undergo while performing their duties.

⇒ **Training and Access to Medical Resources;** Participants overwhelmingly agreed that There is also a significant demand for digital security training, mental health resources, and access to emergency assistance, both physical and psychological.

⇒ Media professionals must encourage news organizations to subsidize or cover hostile environment and first aid training for all journalists, including freelancers and local staff. In addition, news organizations must develop and deploy enhanced security protocols for journalists working in hostile environments or covering dangerous topics.

⇒ Advocacy; Participants agreed that Media groups should scale up and demand government to enact a rights-respecting national security law, as set out in the provisional constitution, that defines the mandates of national security agencies and clarifies that the National Intelligence.

⇒ Participants called for a countrywide collaboration on a joint lobby and advocacy demanding for the review of the Somalia Media Law.

On completion, the Somali Safety and protection manual will gather media stakeholders from across Somalia for manual and approval event to be held in garowe that will present and raise awareness of the manual and finally will publish online and printout for use.

4. Advocacy Workshops (Bosaso & Galkaio)

The two workshops arranged for 2-days each took place from 21 to 22 January 2017 in Bosaso at the Ga'ayte Hotel whereas from 22 to 23 January 2017 held in Galkacyo at the Shaariqa hotel. The training drew its curriculum from the UNESCO's freedom of expression and public order training Manual and delved on international conventions and covenants on civil and political rights that include freedom of expression, press freedom and access to information.

Thirty participants attended and were drawn from regional police commanders, Airport police commanders, Seaport police commanders, civil protection, and journalists, aimed to establish more professional relations between security forces and journalists.

MAP engaged a legal consultant to develop briefing materials for the advocacy workshops. The legal adviser reviewed cases brought against the media and conducted desk research on legislative provisions that assured the safety of journalists and rights protected by the constitution, the Somali Penal Code, the Somali Criminal Procedures Code and the Puntland Media Law.

The Legal Adviser found provisions for the safety and impunity of journalists in the constitution, penal code, the criminal procedures code, and the controversial Puntland Media Law. The following articles were presented and elaborated at length as part of the Advocacy workshops presentation;

1. The Constitution of Puntland;
2. The Somalia Penal Code;
3. The Somalia Criminal Procedures Code;
4. The Puntland Media Law

The legal adviser brief gave an independent assessment of the completeness and quality of preparation for a recent police case files on recent media litigation filed by the Puntland government against media organizations. The Legal brief gave a basic overview of crime investigation procedures while highlighting the investigative relationship between police and journalists. Similarly, it explained about the procedures of arrests, warrants, court subpoena and other articles highlight violations of fundamental rights of journalists used against the journalists.

The legal brief made an independent review of a case file brought against Sahan Radio which was filed by the Office of the Puntland Attorney, as well the brief exposed a number of illegal shutdowns of Media house and unlawful detention/pretrial detention period of Journalists in Puntland of the year 2015/16. During the 4-days of training, subjects covered included security procedures in the field, the essential protection of journalists, ways to guarantee journalists access to the information they need, communicating with media, and freedom of expression. Other topics covered included Puntland media laws, state obligation on safety of journalists and protection of journalists, the UN Plan of Action on Safety of Journalists as well as good practices of fostering better relationship between the media, security personnel and the government.

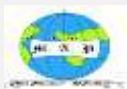
A debated topic was the "access of information" in which Media managers attending the trainings stressed that a major difficulty they faced when access to sensitive information. Media managers in the workshops pointed out the faced difficulties when they approached government officials to seek accurate data of casualties on issues or security incidents. Journalist also shared their stories while talking on situations in which the received death threats, warnings from unknown persons – very emotional stories were courageously shared with the government officials – Journalists also mentioned that they had no confidence on the police to report their cases, due to how previously cases were handled.

In both the Bosaso and Galkaio workshops, the officials pledged to ease the journalist access to information and facilitate the journalist work. Authorities acknowledged the journalists' testimonies and apologized for the lame actions that has put them not to have confidence – as a result – Both the Police commissioners of Mudug and Bari regions have pledged to assign special police officers in which journalists could file their complaints and case sensitive cases.

Follow-up of the workshop's outcomes:

MAP representatives in both the Galkaio and Bosaso locations met with the Police officials to follow-up pledged point of appointing special personnel to deal with Journalists matters while in danger, a reference trustable officer that Media practitioners could inform their cases if threatened or when journalists encounter high risks.





Our Focus:

Promoting Gender Equality in and through the Media²



December 2016, the Free Press Unlimited, a nonprofit nongovernmental organisation, and the Media Association of Puntland (MAP), signed a Memorandum of understanding to implement a gender research project. “Assessing Gender landscape in the Puntland Media” (AGLPM), is a 6-month undertaking scheduled to run from January 2017 – June 2017.

The year in review, under this project, MAP launched the AGLPM project and held a focus group discussion in Garowe intended to assess the organisational development of the Nugaal female journalist organisation. The Project is undergoing the implementation phase and our teams are analysing the data collected so far.



Photos: Participants of Focus Group Discussion held in Garowe



This project aims at developing an in-depth knowledge of the Gender landscape in the Puntland Media which is not available or wasn't done in the past, the information gained will be an intellectual merit for the media and program developers in Somalia.

The gender in the Puntland media study will cover the following key areas;

1. Women's representation in media houses and their percentage in decision making processes
2. Gender equity in work and working conditions
3. Terms and conditions of employment and policies
4. Career advancement and training for women
5. Organizational development assessment tests for 3 females' journalist's unions.

The methodology adopted to realize this study is developed based on UNESCO's Gender-Sensitive Indicators for Media (GISM) which seeks to contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment in and through all forms of media (UNESCO, 2012), whereas the research design chosen is hybrid quantitative-qualitative methods which will offer broad understanding of trends and underlying gender issues in the Puntland Media.

MAP for this project has adopted an organisational development assessment tool (ODAT). **Organizational Development Assessment Tool (ODAT)** is a diagnostic tool designed to help determine the organisational capacity of Regional Female networks in Puntland, in order to promote and develop the performance of organizations as well as develop staff knowledge and skills.

The purpose of such a tool is to:

1. Identify the capacity of Puntland regional female Journalists network.
2. Promote and develop the performance of organizations.
3. Develop the organization staff's knowledge and skills
4. Develop the capacity of Puntland Female Journalists network in order to improve and advance the efficiency of development work in Puntland, and reflect positively on Puntland media.

MAP engaged a researcher from its vital partner TAYO centre for Media excellence (TCME) will be giving technical expertise to this project on the research activities.

This project ends in June 2017, and so far, the activities are going so smooth. Our teams are in the field, already ongoing are the survey questionnaires targeting 116 respondents from Garowe, Galkaio and Bosaso. Respondants are drawn from media practitioners 9 media outlets – 3 media outlets from each location. Similarly, the focus group discussions will be targeting three regional female journalists network based in Bosaso, Garowe and Galkaio.

The impetus established by the information from this AGLPM research project will also be used to inform capacity building for female journalists and lobby for the unification of 3 regional unions to establish the Puntland Female Journalists Association.

² Puntland: MAP Launches A 6-Month Gender Project – Assessing Gender Landscape in the Puntland Media (AGLPM) <http://mediapuntland.org/1220-2/?amp;camp;>



Our Focus: Promoting Peace & Conflict Sensitive reporting: GALKAIO CITY



Page |
17

Background to the Galkayo conflict (1993 - 2016)

Galkaio, a city located in central Somalia, is divided between the Puntland and Galmudug administrations. The north side of the city is administered by Puntland while the south is controlled by Galmudug. On 4 June 1993, the then leaders of the Somali National Alliance (SNA), the Somali Salvation Democratic Front (SSDF) and the Somali National Democratic Union (SNDU), General Mohamed Farah Aidid, Colonel Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed and Ali Ismail AbdiGiir, signed an agreement in Mogadishu to solve a conflict that had devastated the city. Community elders and intellectuals from both sides of the divide also played a key role in these negotiations.

Following this agreement, the city experienced relative stability for almost two decades with no major conflicts until 22 November 2015 when a violent conflict broke out between the Puntland and Galmudug forces. This conflict, which lasted until December 2015, left at least 20 people dead and 120 others injured. Over 90,000 of the city's residents were also displaced. A peace agreement was signed on 2 December 2015 between the Puntland and Galmudug administrations, observed by the Prime Minister of the Federal Government of Somalia, the leaders of the Jubbaland and South West administrations, community elders and delegations from the United Nations, the European Union (EU) and the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD). Less than a year later, on 7 October 2016, another fierce battle broke out in the city leaving at least 45 people dead and 162 people injured. According to UN reports the conflict also displaced more than 85,000 of the city's residents.

On 1 November 2016, the leaders of Puntland and Galmudug, Abdiweli Mohamed Ali and Abdikarim Hussein Guled, signed a ceasefire agreement in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), which committed them to establishing a committee to find a solution to the conflict. However, this agreement was not implemented and the clashes continued. On 18 November 2016, the same leaders met in Galkaio and reached a cease fire agreement brokered by Prime Minister Omar Abdirashid Ali that established a two-kilometer-wide buffer zone between their fighters stationed in the city. Following this agreement, an 18-member joint committee of Puntland and Galmudug was established with the responsibility of ensuring the implementation of the ceasefire and the building of confidence between the two sides. An international ceasefire team led by IGAD and supported by the UN was also deployed to Galkaio to work with the joint committee and monitor the implementation.

Puntland's construction of a new road and Galmudug's resistance to the road construction ignited the November 2015 conflict. The more recent October 2016 hostilities were related to a dispute over the construction of a livestock market that Puntland started to build in the Garsoor neighborhood of Galkaio. The media also played a major role in the Galkayo conflict. Both the Puntland and Galmudug Media outlets contributed negatively fueling the conflict by promoting the propaganda of the two sides and disseminating negative perceptions and accusations.

MAP's Intervention

On the October 17th, 2017, in a press conference held in Garowe, MAP expressed serious humanitarian concerns over the unsettled conflicts in Galkaio between the Galmudug and Puntland states of Somalia. The Association called out Puntland and Somalia media outlets to stop tolerating or publishing hate speeches from politicians of the warring sides, MAP called on the Somali Media fraternity to promote peace and avoid any type of news that could promote and escalate the conflict.

The lack of sincere resolution, opposing administrations within the city, undesirable perceptions of each other among the two communities, weak central authority, and unhelpful media coverage contributed to the continuation of the conflict. MAP's intervention was solely directed towards combatting hate inflammatory speeches while engaging the media executives of the Galmudug and Puntland based in Galkaio.

Freedom of speech is a right for everyone, including politicians and public figures and it is the job of the journalist to ensure that everyone has their say, but that does not mean granting a license to lie, or spread malicious gossip or to encourage hostility and violence against any particular group. When people speak out of turn good journalism should be there to set the record straight for all. As part of the reporting process, journalists and editors have a special responsibility to place the speech in its proper context - to disclose and report what are the objectives of the speaker.

MAP Sent a team to Galkaio to raise awareness: While marking the NOV 2nd, 2016 international day to end impunity in Galkaio, MAP organised an extraordinary meeting inviting Key media executives from the North in Puntland and from the south in Galmudug based in Galkaio, the meeting was held right at the BAKHAARKA NABADA (Peace Warehouse). The roadside border meeting resulted to a successful momentum in promoting peace while it called for the establishment of an all-inclusive editorial committee to steer the outcomes of the meeting that was initiated by the Media Association of Puntland (MAP). The MAP through this meeting established an 8-person editorial committee members tasked in countering online/offline inflammatory speeches and creation of programs that promote peace and social integration have been actively monitoring the offline and online media. Despite the achievements reached in lowering the inflammatory news in Galkaio media outlets, MAP still believes there are areas that still seek special attention, especially capacity building Galkaio north and south media practitioners on the following topics:

⇒ *Countering hate speech in media and social media; Promoting conflict-sensitive journalism practice; Promoting cross-border dialogue; and; The safety of journalists.*

The advent of a north-south Gaalkacyo Media editorial committee establishment to promote peace through the media and eliminate inflammatory news – agreed at the borderline meeting – is a welcome development, but it remains to be seen whether there will be the necessary institutional coordination and financial, human and technical resources to ensure effective implementation. MAP's ultimate aim is to protect and promote a free and pluralistic media for the benefit of the Somali people.

THROW BACK: MAP ACTIVITIES 2015

In 2015 MAP pursued our objective improve professional journalism and independent reporting in Puntland. 12 training workshops were organized and conducted by the Media Association of Puntland in 2015. 190 journalists from the different regions of Puntland attended workshops and seminars held in different locations across the state of Puntland. Puntland journalists were trained on a number of areas including Freedom of Expression and Journalism Through training journalists on Ethics, Journalism safety, introduction to environmental reporting, conflict sensitive journalism, community needs reporting, Somali language usage for the media, and public health communications. The 12 important workshops were made possible by the kind support of our partner organizations;

- 8 April 2015, Role of Media in Polio Awareness; This workshop brought together journalists and public health practitioners in Puntland State. 45 journalists were informed on the role of media in public health communications. Journalists were trained in planning and implementing public health communications initiatives with a focus on polio campaigns through the media.
- 4 jun 2015 Improving Lingual Proficiency among Women Professionals in Puntland State. 50 women journalists received training on Somali language usage and the role of the media in preserving the Somali language. In the workshop, common misuse and substandard usage of the language in the media was identified while the importance of women in preserving language in the Somali society was also highlighted.
- 15 August 2015 One Month Technical Media Training; This was a hands-on training Workshop. 20 journalists were equipped with new skills to improve the quality of their work. Journalists were trained on professional photography, programs production and documentary films development and production.
- 19 Oct 2015 Puntland Media professionals urged to play a greater role in environmental awareness. 20 journalists were informed on the environmental situation in the state and trained on environmental reporting which until recently was not covered by the media. It is hoped that the new skills will enable journalists to promote environmental protection and contribute to national efforts aimed at preventing environmental degradation.
- October 2015, Strengthen Somali Governance (SSG) provided Social media training for 30 journalists. They were trained on utilizing different social media platforms to enhance the visibility of their work and broaden interaction with their audiences.
- Conflict sensitive Journalism and Mentoring; Internews trained and provided mentoring to 8 Puntland journalists on conflict sensitive journalism. Apart from conflict sensitive reporting, journalists were provided with guidelines to enhance their safety and security in active conflict settings.

In 2015, MAP continued to support our objective “To promote, defend and broaden the freedom of expression and Press freedoms, to enable citizens express their feelings and opinions liberally “with the help of the Peace Development Research Centre (PDRC) initiative;

Media Embedment Initiative



PHOTO: Journalists @ PDRC/MAP media embedment training

MAP partnered with PDRC with support from the International Peace building Alliance – Interpeace; to implement a project entitled “Improving Field Access to Enhance Community Development” since December, 2014. The Media Association of Puntland (MAP) co-facilitated and coordinated the 3 different components of the project.

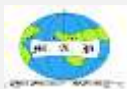
The central focus of the program was embedding journalists in PDRC’s Mobile Audio-visual unit during their regular fieldwork. This aimed at providing communities with an opportunity to voice their concerns, challenges and general consultation to a wider audience through free media coverage.

PDRC invited MAP members to a One-day sensitization workshop where it solicited the commitment 20 mainstream media firms to cover and broadcast community needs and issues. MAP members agreed to the PDRC proposition and declared commitment to the program. Upon their endorsement, 40 journalists were selected to the first phase of the embedment program and took part in a 7 day PDRC Journalist Embedment Training workshop. The training workshop improved story development capacities of media personnel and provided journalists with orientation on the nature of fieldwork covered by PDRC’s MAVU.

Finally, 27 journalists were embedded with PDRC MAVU on 17 field visits. A total of 120 online articles; 51 news items; 24 featured reports and/or televised programs and 15 newspaper articles covering different community issues were transmitted to millions of Somali audiences across the globe.

The EMI contributed to development, social reconciliation and progress for communities in 17 districts of Puntland State, Somalia.

- ❖ A feature television program on Hafuun Salt Factory prompted the interest of Turkish investors;
- ❖ a series of website articles on the Anti-Tahrib Campaign with sports engagement as an alternative for youth encouraged students from Northern Virginia Community College in the U.S.A to donate sports equipment and clothing items;
- ❖ newspaper articles and television news items on a joint sports initiative for youth gave birth to the establishment of Puntland Basketball Federation.



Publicity

During the year in review the Media Association of Puntland has been active in various epochs. MAP appeared in print, electronic media and social media. This were attained during key functions among others;

Media Campaign:

MAP undertook various campaigns through print and electronic media which complimented the advocacy efforts for effective defence and promotion of journalists' rights. These included;

a). Press Conferences/Statements

The below table describes the details of the press conferences/statements held on cross cutting purposes intended to defend media independence and freedom of expression on attacks against journalists and the media. The press conferences/statements also provided a platform to depict MAP position on such attacks with a view of ensuring that journalists and media freedoms are enjoyed and protected.

Date	Purpose	Venue	Web links
<i>April 2017</i>	Advocacy: Puntland: Hefty fines levied on UK based Universal TV in first anti-defamation penal action.	MAP HQ office Garowe	http://mediapuntland.org/1290-2/
<i>March 2017</i>	Advocacy: Authorities Endure Clampdown with a New-fangled Order directed towards traders vending Satellite Antennas & Decoders to Conceal Universal TV.	MAP HQ office Garowe	https://madmimi.com/p/e38db9/preview
<i>March 2017:</i>	Advocacy: MAP demands Puntland Gov't to Immediately Retreat Its Decision of banning Universal TV programs in Puntland.	MAP HQ office Garowe	
<i>February 2017</i>	Advocacy: MAP Applauds the Newly Elected Somali President & Demands For Genuine Accountability, Protections for the Somalia's Journalists.	MAP HQ office Garowe	http://mediapuntland.org/somalia-map-applauds-the-newly-elected-somali-president-demands-for-genuine-accountability-protections-for-the-somalias-journalists/
<i>October 2016</i>	Promote Border Peace: MAP – Calls for Immediate Halt to Belligerent-conflict in Gaalkacyo Between Puntland & Galmudug State Authorities: Causing Mockery of Commitments to Peace and Huge Influx of Civilian Displacement.	Garowe, New RAYS Hotel	http://mediapuntland.org/1094-2/
<i>November 2016</i>	Marking the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes Against Journalists; Countering hate Speech Promoting Peace at the Galmudug and Puntland Border	Galkaio	http://mediapuntland.org/IDEI2016-to-promote-peace-and-eliminate-demagogic-news
<i>December 2015</i>	Advocacy: MAP expresses vital concerns over the newly passed" Somali Media Law" by the Federal Parliament.		http://mediapuntland.org/532-2/

b). Website and social networks:

MAP has maintained an online presence and updated its website – <http://www.mediapuntlad.org>, Facebook page – [Media Association of Puntland](#), Twitter – [@MAP_Puntland](#). This has enabled the organization to maintain an online presence depicting adaptability to new technologies in advancing strategies aimed at amplifying MAP mandate online.



Networking & Partnership

The Media Association of Puntland continued to collaborate with national and international agencies, development partners, donors and human rights groups to promote its vision and mission. Through joint campaigns on policy reform as well as enhancing the capacity building initiatives of the Puntland Media Fraternity.

At state level, MAP collaborated with; TAYO Centre of Media Excellence (TCME), Puntland Non-State Actors Association (PUNSAA), Puntland Development research Centre (PDRC), Puntland Human Rights Defenders (OPHRD), Puntland State University (PSU). Nationally, we collaborated with Somali Media Association (SOMA), Somali Human Right Defenders (SHRD), Somali Independent Media House Association (SIMHA), National Union of Somalia Journalist (NUSOJ) under the leadership of Mr. Mahir Jama President and Secretary general Mohamed Ibrahim Moalimuu.

Local Partners



TAYO centre for Media excellence is a prime centre for geospatial analysis and platform for debate on issues of Public agony. TAYO is not-for-profit organisation that facilitates relationships between research, policy and practice. TAYO's main goal is to make the Somali media a more operative podium for the delivery of information on public affairs, a device for monitoring official power, and a forum for vivacious public debate.



The National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ) was set up in August 2002 as an association Network (SOJON) to promote and protect freedom of the press and the interests of journalists after the former Transitional National Government of Somalia prepared and approved a repressive media law. NUSOJ is lead by Mr. Mahir President and Mr. Mohamed Ibrahim Secretary General.



PDRC is a successor body of former War-torn Societies Project International (WSPI), which operated in Puntland during 1997-99. On October 30, 1999, the center was founded as a Local Non-Governmental Organization (LNGO), governed by a Board of Directors (BoD) of seven members. The Board, also called "Founders", consists of five men and two ladies.



The Puntland Non-State Actors Association (PUNSAA) is a nongovernmental, non-political and non-profit outfit that assembles non-state actors (NSAs) in Puntland into one platform/network. It was established on 14 May 2008 with assistance from the European Union through a joint collaboration with Safer world and Peace Development Research Centre (PDRC) in Garowe to provide a forum through which local NSAs could participate in and influence policy and decision-making processes at local, state, regional and international levels.



The Somali Media Association (SOMA) (EX Network 2013) Was founded in Kampala at 13 February 2013 by 13 Radio Stations across Somalia and Signed the basic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the Network, the Network Members Increased to 38 Radio Stations Across Somalia, the basic conviction of SOMA is that free and independent media plays an indispensable role in strengthening peace and reconciliation and advancing inclusive democratic values in Somalia.



Puntland State Independent Office for Human Rights Defenders (PIOHRD) which is first of its kind in Somalia. PIOHRD is an independent institution entrusted to serve Human Rights Issues in Puntland State of Somalia. The office was established on 27th November 2014, pursuant to the Puntland State Constitution, Human Rights Defender Act of 2011 and the International Human Rights law and Guiding Principles (Paris Principles).



PSU was established in March 1999 as a tertiary college, Garowe School of Management (GSM) On May 1st 2001, GSM was transformed into Community College under the name Puntland Community College (PCC). On 1st July 2004, with the PCC administration got another chance to advance forward and prepared to offer in four year Bachelor degree. From that formulation 2004-2009 With these developments, PCC were renamed Puntland State University (PSU) and continue its rapid growth into MS Degree through networking with African and world Universities. The PSU University is a member of the Association of African Universities (AAU) and the African Universities network under the umbrella of African Virtual University (AVU).



SIMHA, Somalia Independent Media Houses Association was established on 16th December 2013, to help its member media houses drive innovation across their coverage areas. We do that by convening people around new ideas and by building communities that encourage exploration and experimentation. Partnering with professional journalists and media workers, our media houses bring youth perspectives on pressing issues of the day via syndication to major media outlets.

International Partners



Viestintä ja Kehitys -säätiö



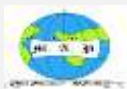
UNSOM



Local voices. Global change.



HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH



Financial Report FY 2016/17

2016 was a year of great financial improvement for MAP. The financial department develops and implements control systems for financial analysis reporting for a transparent and effective management of resources. In the reporting period, MAP financial accounts were audited by Bernard Frank Auditors.

MAP continued to receive donations from funders which enabled it to carry on with its activities throughout the reporting period. In 2016–2017 financial year, MAP received funding from the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), International Media Support and Fojo Media institute in supporting programmes and projects.

Our financial success is a direct result of you, our supporters, sharing in our vision of Press Freedom and Development in Somalia, believing in the work we do, and answering the call of our campaigns and capacity enhancement efforts. The expenditure side of the equation was equally good. Expenses was higher than 2015 by nearly 30 % this was partly due to increase in legal fees and general expansion of our interventions in 2016.

We have much to be thankful for. However, we must also keep our eyes focused on the future.

In 2017, we face a challenge of lobbying for the review of the media law, getting government commitment for the protection of journalists especially with regard to the media role in upcoming Somali election 2016 which in needed to develop code of conduct as well trainings of how to cover election reporting also improving media infrastructure and capacity in the unreached areas of Puntland State, concluding at the end of 2016. As such, ongoing strategies to increase our membership outreach and financial resources remain a priority.

I would like to thank the members of the Finance Committee and staff who concentrate on the financial aspects of MAP. In truth, though, it is everyone's responsibility to help ensure the ongoing viability and growth of MAP. We give thanks for such a positive year.

Institutional Challenges

⇒ Protruding Expectations

As MAP continues to grow, demands from journalists for its services grow along. It was not able to effectively meet all expectations of journalists in the Puntland. MAP is working around the clock to expeditiously deal with emerging issues of journalists as they occur within her means.

⇒ Scarce Funding

MAP still had funding gaps and this presented a big challenge, especially in 2017 as MAP to hold its 3rd General Assembly. The association still survives under project funding which is not sustainable and flexible. However, a robust fundraising plan was initiated to help secure funds needed to effectively achieve its objectives.

⇒ Compromise

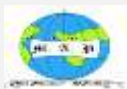
Victim journalists are compromised by their perpetrators to withdraw cases from court which wasted efforts, time and resources of the Media organization given that cases were not pursued to their logical.

⇒ Delay of Justice:

The cases involving journalists and media outlets have continuously been dragging and this has delayed justice for the victims, while some journalists have been troublesome in turn given up on court processes.

⇒ Delayed Membership Subscription:

Most members of MAP have always delayed to renew their annual membership subscription, even after kind reminders of the respective officer in charge of membership.



External Auditor's Financial Accountability Statements

FY 2016/17

Independent Audit Report; Promoting Media Sustainability in Puntland

www.bernardfrank.com

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF MAP's PROMOTING MEDIA SUSTAINABILITY IN PUNTLAND PROJECT

Funded by:

April 2017

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

Implemented by:

The Media Association of Puntland (MAP)

Under the Donor Grant No. 2016-406

FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2016 TO 31 MARCH 2017

The Chairman
Media Association of Puntland
Islan Mohamed Road
Golis Street
Garowe, Puntland
Somalia

17 April 2017

Dear Sir,

Subject: Audit of the Promoting Media Sustainability in Puntland Project – Donor Grant No. 2016-406 for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017

In accordance with the scope of work contained in the contract for professional services dated 15 March 2017 between Media Association of Puntland (MAP) and BernardFrank Certified Public Accountants, we have carried out an audit of the financial statements of the Promoting Media Sustainability in Puntland Project – Donor Grant No. 2016-406, implemented by MAP for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017. We are pleased to present our report which is structured under the following headings:

Section 1: Introduction – presents a background of the implementing organisation, a brief description of the project, as well as the details of the objective, scope, methodology and results of the audit;


Section 2: Financial report – presents a statement of management's responsibilities, independent auditor's report, the fund accountability statement (financial statement) and notes to the fund accountability statement; and

Section 3: Management letter – presents an independent auditor's report on internal control, as well as any identified control weaknesses and our recommendations thereof.

We would like to appreciate the cooperation and courtesy accorded to us by the management and leadership of MAP during the course of the audit. We would be glad to respond to any clarification or additional information that you may require with regard to our report.

We look forward to working with you again.

Yours sincerely,
For and on behalf of BernardFrank Certified Public Accountants, Kenya


Eric Otieno
Director

2. Financial report


2.1. Statement of management's responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the management of MAP to prepare the fund accountability statement for the audit period which presents, in all material respects, the state of affairs of the project as at the end of the audit period and of the fund balance of the project for that period. Management are also required to ensure that the project keeps proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the project. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the project.

The management accept responsibility for the fund accountability statement, which has been prepared using appropriate accounting policies supported by reasonable and prudent judgments and estimates, and in conformity with the accounting policies stated in note 2.4.1 of the fund accountability statement.

The management are of the opinion that the fund accountability statement presents, in all material respects, the state of the financial affairs of the project. The management further accept responsibility for the maintenance of accounting records which may be relied upon in the preparation of fund accountability statement, as well as adequate systems of internal financial controls.


Faisal Khalif Barre
Chairman
Media Association of Puntland (MAP)


Fatuma Mohamed Mohamud
Secretary General
Media Association of Puntland (MAP)

2.2. Independent auditor's report on the Fund Accountability Statement

We have audited the accompanying fund accountability or financial statement of the Promoting Media Sustainability in Puntland Project – Donor Grant No. 2016-406, for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes as set out in section 2.4. We have also obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of our audit.

The fund accountability statement has been prepared by the MAP management in accordance with the basis of accounting set out in note 2.4.1 of this report.

Management's responsibility for the Fund Accountability Statement

The management are responsible for the preparation of the fund accountability statement that presents, in all material respects, the income and expenditure for the project in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 2.4.1 and the requirement of the grant agreement, and for such internal controls as the management determine are necessary to enable the preparation of the fund accountability statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the fund accountability statement based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing and with due regard to the audit protocol outlined in the terms of reference. The standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the fund accountability statement is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the fund accountability statement. The procedures selected depend on our judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the fund accountability statement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we considered the internal controls relevant to the project's preparation of the fund accountability statement in order to design audit procedures that were appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the project's internal controls. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the fund accountability statement.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the fund accountability statement referred to above presents, in all material respects, the income and expenditure for the project for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017, in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 2.4.1 and in conformity with the grant agreement.



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Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution and use

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to note 2.4.1 to the fund accountability statement, which describes the basis of accounting. The fund accountability statement is prepared to assist MAP to comply with the financial reporting provisions of the NED. As a result, the fund accountability statement may not be suitable for another purpose.

This report is intended for the information of MAP and NED. However, upon release by MAP and the NED, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

The partner responsible for the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is CPA Ben Omollo - P/No.7816.


Certified Public Accountants
Nairobi, Kenya



19 April 2017

2.3. Fund Accountability Statement (FAS)

	Notes	1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017
		US\$
Income		
Funds received from NED	2.4.2	42,855
Total income		42,855
Expenditure		
Salaries		15,840
Office Space & Utilities		2,093
Supplies and Equipment		2,120
Communications and Postage		200
Travel and Per Diem		9,825
Contractual Services		2,350
Other Direct Costs		9,943
Total expenditure		42,371
Ending fund balance	2.4.3	484
Represented by:		
Funds due to NED		484

The above Fund Accountability Statement and the accompanying notes in section 2.4 were approved by MAP management on April 18, 2017 and signed on its behalf by:


Faisal Khalif Barre
Chairman
Media Association of Puntland (MAP)


Fatuma Mohamed Mohamud
Secretary General
Media Association of Puntland (MAP)

2.4. Notes to the Fund Accountability Statement**2.4.1. Accounting policies****a) Basis of accounting**

The fund accountability statement is prepared on a cash basis.

b) Income

Income represents amounts received from MAP during the period under review. It is recognized upon receipt.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure represents amounts incurred in relation to the activities of the project. It is recognized when payments are made.

2.4.2. Funds received from NED

During the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017, the Media Association of Puntland received a total of US\$ 42,855 from the National Endowment for Democracy (NED). The funds were received on diverse dates as highlighted below:

Date	Amount
	US\$
3 July 2016	17,856
3 October 2016	14,285
15 February 2017	10,714
Total	42,855

2.4.3. Ending fund balance

The ending fund balance was US\$ 484.

3. Management Letter**3.1. Independent auditor's report on internal control to the management Media Association of Puntland (MAP)**

We have audited the fund accountability statement or financial statement of the Promoting Media Sustainability in Puntland Project - Donor Grant No. 2016-406, for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017, and have issued our report on it dated 19 April 2017.

We have conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. In planning and performing our audit of the Promoting Media Sustainability in Puntland Project for the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017, we obtained an understanding of the internal control. With respect to those internal controls, we obtained an understanding of the design of the relevant policies and procedures and whether they have been placed in operation, and we assessed control risk in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the fund accountability statement and not to provide an opinion on internal control. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency or a combination of deficiencies in internal controls, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the fund accountability statement will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal controls was for the limited purpose described in the second paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal controls that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses.

Our consideration and evaluation of internal controls revealed several weaknesses in the internal control systems of the organization as highlighted in section 3.2 of this report.

This report is intended for the information of the Media Association of Puntland (MAP) and the National Endowment for Democracy (NED). However, upon release by MAP and NED, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

The partner responsible for the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is CPA Ben Omollo - P/No.7816.


Certified Public Accountants
Nairobi, Kenya


19 April 2017



Independent Audit Report; Improving Media Freedom, Safety and Content for Public interest in Somalia Project.

www.bernardfrank.com



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF MAP'S PROJECT ON IMPROVING MEDIA FREEDOM, SAFETY AND CONTENT FOR PUBLIC INTEREST IN SOMALIA

Funded by:

April 2017

IMS-FOJO

Implemented by:

**The Media Association of
Puntland (MAP)**

Under the Donor Grant No. 00369

**FOR THE PERIOD 1 AUGUST 2016
TO 28 FEBRUARY 2017**

The Chairman
Media Association of Puntland
Islan Mohamed Road
Golis Street
Garowe, Puntland
Somalia

17 April 2017

Dear Sir,

Subject: Audit of the MAP's Project on Improving Media Freedom, Safety and Content for public interest in Somalia – Donor Grant No. 00369 for the period 1 August 2016 to 28 February 2017

In accordance with the scope of work contained in the contract for professional services dated 15 March 2017 between Media Association of Puntland (MAP) and BernardFrank Certified Public Accountants, we have carried out an audit of the financial statements of the MAP's Project on Improving Media Freedom, Safety and Content for public interest in Somalia – Donor Grant No. 00369 for the period 1 August 2016 to 28 February 2017. We are pleased to present our report which is structured under the following headings:

Section 1: Introduction – presents a background of the implementing organisation, a brief description of the project, as well as the details of the objective, scope, methodology and results of the audit;

Section 2: Financial report – presents a statement of management's responsibilities, independent auditor's report, the fund accountability statement (financial statement) and notes to the fund accountability statement; and

Section 3: Management letter – presents an independent auditor's report on internal control, as well as any identified control weaknesses and our recommendations thereof.

We would like to appreciate the cooperation and courtesy accorded to us by the management and leadership of MAP during the course of the audit. We would be glad to respond to any clarification or additional information that you may require with regard to our report.

We look forward to working with you again.

Yours sincerely,

For and on behalf of BernardFrank Certified Public Accountants, Kenya

Eric Otieno
Director

2. Financial report

2.1. Statement of management's responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the management of MAP to prepare the fund accountability statement for the audit period which presents, in all material respects, the state of affairs of the project as at the end of the audit period and of the fund balance of the project for that period. Management are also required to ensure that the project keeps proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the project. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the project.

The management accept responsibility for the fund accountability statement, which has been prepared using appropriate accounting policies supported by reasonable and prudent judgments and estimates, and in conformity with the accounting policies stated in note 2.4.1 of the fund accountability statement.

The management are of the opinion that the fund accountability statement presents, in all material respects, the state of the financial affairs of the project. The management further accept responsibility for the maintenance of accounting records which may be relied upon in the preparation of fund accountability statement, as well as adequate systems of internal financial controls.

Faisal Khalif Barre
Chairman
Media Association of Puntland (MAP)

Fatuma Mohamed Mohamud
Secretary General
Media Association of Puntland (MAP)

2.2. Independent auditor's report on the Fund Accountability Statement

We have audited the accompanying fund accountability or financial statement of the MAP's Project on Improving Media Freedom, Safety and Content for public interest in Somalia – Donor Grant No. 00369 for the period 1 August 2016 to 28 February 2017, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes as set out in section 2.4. We have also obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of our audit.

The fund accountability statement has been prepared by the MAP management in accordance with the basis of accounting set out in note 2.4.1 of this report.

Management's responsibility for the Fund Accountability Statement

The management are responsible for the preparation of the fund accountability statement that presents, in all material respects, the income and expenditure for the project in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 2.4.1 and the requirement of the grant agreement, and for such internal controls as the management determine are necessary to enable the preparation of the fund accountability statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the fund accountability statement based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing and with due regard to the audit protocol outlined in the terms of reference. The standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the fund accountability statement is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the fund accountability statement. The procedures selected depend on our judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the fund accountability statement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we considered the internal controls relevant to the project's preparation of the fund accountability statement in order to design audit procedures that were appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the project's internal controls. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the fund accountability statement.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the fund accountability statement referred to above presents, in all material respects, the income and expenditure for the project for the period 1 August 2016 to 28 February 2017, in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 2.4.1 and in conformity with the grant agreement.

**BERNARDFRANK****Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution and use**

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to note 2.4.1 to the fund accountability statement, which describes the basis of accounting. The fund accountability statement is prepared to assist MAP to comply with the financial reporting provisions of the IMS-FOJO. As a result, the fund accountability statement may not be suitable for another purpose.

This report is intended for the information of MAP and IMS-FOJO. However, upon release by MAP and the IMS-FOJO, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.


The partner responsible for the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is CPA Ben Omollo - P/No.7816.



Certified Public Accountants
Nairobi, Kenya

 12 April 2017

	Notes	1 August 2016 to 28 February 2017
		US\$
Income		
Funds received from IMS-FOJO	2.4.2	53,271
Total income		53,271
Expenditure		
Safety and advocacy		24,160
Safety and protection manual		12,270
Administration costs		16,483
Total expenditure		52,913
Ending fund balance	2.4.3	358
Represented by:		
Funds due to IMS-FOJO		358

The above Fund Accountability Statement and the accompanying notes in section 2.4 were approved by MAP management on April 18 2017 and signed on its behalf by:


Faisal Khalif Barre
Chairman
Media Association of Puntland (MAP)


Fatuma Mohamed Mohamud
Secretary General
Media Association of Puntland (MAP)

2.4. Notes to the Fund Accountability Statement**2.4.1. Accounting policies****a) Basis of accounting**

The fund accountability statement is prepared on a cash basis.

b) Income

Income represents amounts received from MAP during the period under review. It is recognized upon receipt.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure represents amounts incurred in relation to the activities of the project. It is recognized when payments are made.

2.4.2. Funds received from IMS-FOJO

During the period 1 August 2016 to 28 February 2017, the Media Association of Puntland received a total of US\$ 53,271 from the IMS-FOJO. The funds were received on diverse dates as highlighted below:

Date	Amount
	US\$
28 September 2016	28,630
8 January 2017	20,041
15 February 2017	4,600
Total	53,271

2.4.3. Ending fund balance

The ending fund balance was US\$ 358.

3. Management Letter**3.1. Independent auditor's report on internal control to the management Media Association of Puntland (MAP)**

We have audited the fund accountability statement or financial statement of the MAP's Project on Improving Media Freedom, Safety and Content for public interest in Somalia - Donor Grant No. 00369 for the period 1 August 2016 to 28 February 2017, and have issued our report on it dated 19 April 2017.

We have conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. In planning and performing our audit of the MAP's Project on Improving Media Freedom, Safety and Content for public interest in Somalia - Donor Grant No. 00369 for the period 1 August 2016 to 28 February 2017, we obtained an understanding of the internal control. With respect to those internal controls, we obtained an understanding of the design of the relevant policies and procedures and whether they have been placed in operation, and we assessed control risk in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the fund accountability statement and not to provide an opinion on internal control. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency or a combination of deficiencies in internal controls, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the fund accountability statement will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal controls was for the limited purpose described in the second paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal controls that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses.

Our consideration and evaluation of internal controls revealed several weaknesses in the internal control systems of the organization as highlighted in section 3.2 of this report.

This report is intended for the information of the Media Association of Puntland (MAP) and the IMS-FOJO. However, upon release by MAP and IMS-FOJO, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

The partner responsible for the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is CPA Ben Omollo - P/No.7816.


Certified Public Accountants
Nairobi, Kenya

 19 April 2017



Independent Audit Report; Assessing Gender Landscape in the Puntland Media

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S
REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF
MAP'S PROJECT ON
ASSESSING GENDER
LANDSCAPE IN THE PUNTLAND
MEDIA**

Funded by:

Free Press Unlimited (FPU)

Implemented by:

**The Media Association of
Puntland (MAP)**

Under the Donor Grant No.: 2SOSP17017/50313/17005

**FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY TO
31 MARCH 2017**

The Chairman
Media Association of Puntland
Isaan Mohamed Road
Golis Street
Garowe, Puntland
Somalia

17 April 2017

Dear Sir,

Subject: Audit of the MAP's Project on Assessing Gender Landscape in the Puntland Media - Donor Grant No. 2SOSP17017/50313/17005 for the period 1 January to 31 March 2017

In accordance with the scope of work contained in the contract for professional services dated 15 March 2017 between Media Association of Puntland (MAP) and BernardFrank Certified Public Accountants, we have carried out an audit of the financial statements of the MAP's Project on Assessing Gender Landscape in the Puntland Media - Donor Grant No. 2SOSP17017/50313/17005 for the period 1 January to 31 March 2017. We are pleased to present our report which is structured under the following headings:

Section 1: Introduction - presents a background of the implementing organisation, a brief description of the project, as well as the details of the objective, scope, methodology and results of the audit;

Section 2: Financial report - presents a statement of management's responsibilities, independent auditor's report, the fund accountability statement (financial statement) and notes to the fund accountability statement; and

Section 3: Management letter - presents an independent auditor's report on internal control, as well as any identified control weaknesses and our recommendations thereof.

We would like to appreciate the cooperation and courtesy accorded to us by the management and leadership of MAP during the course of the audit. We would be glad to respond to any clarification or additional information that you may require with regard to our report.

We look forward to working with you again.

Yours sincerely,
For and on behalf of BernardFrank Certified Public Accountants, Kenya

Eric Otieno
Director

2. Financial report

2.1. Statement of management's responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the management of MAP to prepare the fund accountability statement for the audit period which presents, in all material respects, the state of affairs of the project as at the end of the audit period and of the fund balance of the project for that period. Management are also required to ensure that the project keeps proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the project. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the project.

The management accept responsibility for the fund accountability statement, which has been prepared using appropriate accounting policies supported by reasonable and prudent judgments and estimates, and in conformity with the accounting policies stated in note 2.4.1 of the fund accountability statement.

The management are of the opinion that the fund accountability statement presents, in all material respects, the state of the financial affairs of the project. The management further accept responsibility for the maintenance of accounting records which may be relied upon in the preparation of fund accountability statement, as well as adequate systems of internal financial controls.

Faisal Khalif Barre
Chairman
Media Association of Puntland (MAP)

Fatuma Mohamed Mohamud
Secretary General
Media Association of Puntland (MAP)

2.2. Independent auditor's report on the Fund Accountability Statement

We have audited the accompanying fund accountability or financial statement of the MAP's Project on Assessing Gender Landscape in the Puntland Media - Donor Grant No. 2SOSP17017/50313/17005 for the period 1 January to 31 March 2017, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes as set out in section 2.4. We have also obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of our audit.

The fund accountability statement has been prepared by the MAP management in accordance with the basis of accounting set out in note 2.4.1 of this report.

Management's responsibility for the Fund Accountability Statement

The management are responsible for the preparation of the fund accountability statement that presents, in all material respects, the income and expenditure for the project in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 2.4.1 and the requirement of the grant agreement, and for such internal controls as the management determine are necessary to enable the preparation of the fund accountability statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

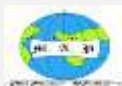
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the fund accountability statement based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing and with due regard to the audit protocol outlined in the terms of reference. The standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the fund accountability statement is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the fund accountability statement. The procedures selected depend on our judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the fund accountability statement, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we considered the internal controls relevant to the project's preparation of the fund accountability statement in order to design audit procedures that were appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the project's internal controls. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the fund accountability statement.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the fund accountability statement referred to above presents, in all material respects, the income and expenditure for the project for the period 1 January to 31 March 2017, in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 2.4.1 and in conformity with the grant agreement.

**Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution and use**

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to note 2.4.1 to the fund accountability statement, which describes the basis of accounting. The fund accountability statement is prepared to assist MAP to comply with the financial reporting provisions of the FPU. As a result, the fund accountability statement may not be suitable for another purpose.

This report is intended for the information of MAP and FPU. However, upon release by MAP and the FPU, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

The partner responsible for the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is CPA Ben Omollo - P/No.7816.


Certified Public Accountants
Nairobi, Kenya

 19 April 2017

2.3. Fund Accountability Statement (FAS)

	Notes	1 January to 31 March 2017
		US\$
Income		
Funds received from FPU	2.4.2	11,742
Total income		11,742
Expenditure		
Human resources		2,000
Travel and accommodation		-
Communications		400
Research team meetings		2,380
Focus group discussions		1,125
Workshops		-
Total expenditure		5,905
Ending fund balance	2.4.3	5,837
Represented by:		
Funds due to FPU		5,837

The above Fund Accountability Statement and the accompanying notes in section 2.4 were approved by MAP management on April 18 2017 and signed on its behalf by:





2.4. Notes to the Fund Accountability Statement**2.4.1. Accounting policies****a) Basis of accounting**

The fund accountability statement is prepared on a cash basis.

b) Income

Income represents amounts received from MAP during the period under review. It is recognized upon receipt.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure represents amounts incurred in relation to the activities of the project. It is recognized when payments are made.

2.4.2. Funds received from FPU

During the period 1 January to 31 March 2017, the Media Association of Puntland received a total of US\$ 11,742 (or EUR 11,500) from the FPU. The funds were received on diverse dates as highlighted below:

Date	Amount
	US\$
4 March 2017	11,742
Total	11,742

2.4.3. Ending fund balance

The ending fund balance was US\$ 5,837.

3. Management Letter**3.1. Independent auditor's report on internal control to the management Media Association of Puntland (MAP)**

We have audited the fund accountability statement or financial statement of the MAP's Project on Assessing Gender Landscape in the Puntland Media - Donor Grant No. 2SOSP17017/50313/17005 for the period 1 January to 31 March 2017, and have issued our report on it dated 19 April 2017.

We have conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. In planning and performing our audit of the MAP's Project on Assessing Gender Landscape in the Puntland Media - Donor Grant No. 2SOSP17017/50313/17005 for the period 1 January to 31 March 2017, we obtained an understanding of the internal control. With respect to those internal controls, we obtained an understanding of the design of the relevant policies and procedures and whether they have been placed in operation, and we assessed control risk in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the fund accountability statement and not to provide an opinion on internal control. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency or a combination of deficiencies in internal controls, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the fund accountability statement will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal controls was for the limited purpose described in the second paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal controls that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses.

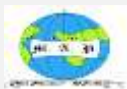
Our consideration and evaluation of internal controls revealed several weaknesses in the internal control systems of the organization as highlighted in section 3.2 of this report.

This report is intended for the information of the Media Association of Puntland (MAP) and the FPU. However, upon release by MAP and FPU, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

The partner responsible for the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is CPA Ben Omollo - P/No.7816.


Certified Public Accountants

 19 April 2017



Thank you

Special thanks to our funders:

National Endowment for Democracy

International Media Support

FOJO Media Institute

Free Press Unlimited

Dear Donors,

Because of your generosity we've been able to build the capacity of our Journalists, reform restrictive laws, advocate for the safety and protection of our journalists as well raising awareness amongst stakeholders in search for an enabling environment for Journalism practice and freedom of expression in Somalia. As well as the search for gender equality the workplace.

Special thanks to TAYO centre for Media Excellence:

We Would like to humbly thank TAYO for their limitless technical support. TAYO has volunteered their valuable time and skills to MAP in developing the Puntland Media as well as the Somali Media. We appreciate TAYO's support.

To UNSOM; The support you have given to the Puntland independent Media sector is much appreciated, we are also grateful for the support during our campaigns. MAP would like to salute Mr. Ahmed Sulieman, UNSOM's Head of the Human Rights dep't in Garowe. Mr. Sulieman your voice in defending the human rights when violated was very important to us. Thanks to you and your organisation for standing up and speaking out when human rights is attacked, MAP appreciates and acknowledges UNSOM's existence in promoting the human rights in

We Need Your Support

Join us in protecting, defending and developing the media in Puntland

MAP Head office:

Media Association of Puntland

Islan Mohamed Road

Golis Street

Garowe, Puntland

Somalia

Website: www.mediapuntland.org

Facebook: [Media Association of Puntland](https://www.facebook.com/MediaAssociationofPuntland)

Twitter: [@MAP_Puntland](https://twitter.com/MAP_Puntland)

To find out about ways to support our work, please communicate with the below contacts .



Name: Faisal Khalif Bare

Title: Chairperson MAP

Tel: 252907793720

Email: chair@mediapuntland.org



Name: Fatima Mohamed Mohamud

Title: Secretary General MAP

Tel: 252907656534

Email:



**MEDIA ASSOCIATION OF
PUNTLAND, (MAP)**

<http://www.mediapuntland.org>

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REPORT

2016-2017