

ANNEX 5: NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

Six-Month and Annual Reporting

version 50622

General information	
Name of the Organisation: Third World Network-Africa	Contract Ref. No.:
Report Prepared by: Wilma Osei Signature:	Report Period: July 2006 – December 2006
Report Approved by: Yao Graham Signature:	Report Date:
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1. What changes did you see in pro-poor government policies (in design, implementation or review)? How did such change come about and what is your interpretation of the changes?

(any work done on policies that could / should have impact on poverty??)

2. Collaboration and networking

2.1 Indicate changes or progress in your working relations with the Parliament, Government Services, MDBS Partners, Donors, NDPC, District level Authorities or Services etc.

Among many others, below are some activities during the reporting period that point to an affirmation and appreciation of TWN-Africa's contributions in official processes, policy formulation and debates;

- a) A roundtable with ministers and negotiators from EU and ACP countries on EPAs where TWN-Af officers were resource persons and joined a debate on the development dimension of EPAs
- b) Participation in encounter on EPAs with EU DG on Trade
- c) Invitation and participation in meetings of Ministerial Monitoring Committee of ECOWAS in Niamey
- d) Discussion with Nigerian Ministry of Commerce and National Planning Commission on Nigeria's position on investment and competition issues in the EPAs

2.2 How has collaboration been strengthened (i.e. joint campaigns, collaboration, networking) with other RAOs / CSOs / CBOs?

Among others;

- Economic Justice Network members were engaged in national level advocacy on the EPAs; and in policy dialogue with members of government and parliament
- Gender Unit and Netright held joint public forum on trade liberalisation and its implications for women traders in the retail sectors
- Relations with participating organisations in NCOM and groups affected by mining activities continue to be tightened around the Campaign to Stop Violence in Mining Areas.

2.3 How has the credibility and legitimacy of RAOs changed in the eyes of GoG and the Ghana public? How did such change come about and what is your interpretation of the changes?

<p>4. Organisation: evidence of <u>significant</u> progress / change / results in the following areas please refer to the self-assessment formats for more detail</p>
<p>4.1 Strategy, planning, decision making, knowledge management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * A unit leaders' meeting introduced earlier in the year continues as a central point for program monitoring and coordination. * Mid year/ term review was carried out organisation-wide to discuss 2006 progress on work and overall 2005-2009 program situation over 2 days. This comprised an evaluative report compiled by management on program, financial and human resources and organisational issues which set the tone for unit specific assessments of program implementation. The review pointed out gaps in program design and acknowledged the need to define medium term objectives which could be shared among all program areas. The exercise further raised important organisational issues that require some strategic attention. Outcome of the 2-day process fed into the year's retreat. * 2006 retreat held from December 17 to 22 addressed deepened the ongoing process to arrive at a shared M&E framework and concepts and understanding of program logic * Resource centre of books and magazines is now on-line and can be accessed electronically from staff work stations *
<p>4.2 Funding base development and financial management</p>
<p>4.3 Recruitment, development and retention of staff; HR planning; incentives</p> <p>As planned, a journalist was recruited in August to join the Communications team. There are plans to recruit some program staff for the political economy unit which needs added support especially for coordinating its EPA campaign. Some persons have been identified and an evaluative process started to determine whether and how they could support the unit.</p> <p>One of 2 officers on the gender program is away on an 18-month study program at ISS leaving only one officer at post. She left early September 2006.</p> <p>The Gender unit is still without a substantive program manager. The contract arrangement that was being discussed with an external gender expert fell through. Post program review discussions on the gender program will determine what the next steps will be in relation to staffing issues in the gender unit in particular and in relation to other policy units.</p> <p>Opportunities for exposure, short courses and internal seminars remain in use. In the 2nd half year there were internal seminars around EPAs and Services Liberalisation as economic policy issues in focus and the logic of objectives within our program as part of the process to enhance understanding and adoption of an M&E framework.</p> <p>Approaches to staff development appropriate to the work of TWN-Africa were discussed at the year's retreat and will be picked up in the context of empowerment, motivation and knowledge management in the coming months.</p> <p>The training policy has been revised once again after staff reactions and suggestions. It will hopefully be adopted in 2007.</p>
<p>4.3 Organisational structure, board, management team</p> <p>Internal structure of organisation has remained the same. The Executive Board has been re-constituted with 3 members.</p>
<p>4.4 Marketing, public relations, communication</p> <p>*</p>

5. Grant and report related issues
5.1 Details of any notable challenges or unexpected developments encountered during the reporting period. Indicate the reason for such change and what impact this could have on the execution of your original Annual Workplan as attached to the Grant contract.
5.2 Please indicate any issues you wish to raise relating to the Grant or to G-RAP management, monitoring or financial procedures.
5.3 Please indicate any aspects of this report which are confidential and should not be communicated beyond G-RAP without prior consent.
[consent for sharing given on 5/12/07 by Dr Graham]