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## BRIEFING NOTE

August 2008

### Uganda Emergency Demobilization and Reintegration Project

At the request of the Government of Uganda (GoU), the World Bank in January 2008 established a special **Multi-Donor Trust Fund** (MDTF) in support of a project for the demobilization and reintegration of rebel combatants and their collaborators (known as ‘reporters’, under the Uganda Amnesty Act of 2000). The projected budget of the MDTF is **US\$ 8.2 million**, to which the following donors have already made contributions: Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development (DfID). The MDTF will make project financing available through 2010.

On August 15, 2008, the Government of Uganda and the World Bank signed the first grant agreement under the MDTF, which made **US\$ 2.85 million available to the Amnesty Commission**.

The Multi-Donor Trust Fund provides both financial and technical resources to assist the Government in supporting the reintegration of those that have reported for Amnesty in the past as well as in designing, planning and implementing the demobilization and repatriation of the remaining caseloads of the Lord’s Resistance Army (**LRA**) and the Allied Democratic Forces (**ADF**). It directly supports the work of the Amnesty Commission (AC) of the GoU, and is also foreseen to support other implementing agencies, such as UN agencies and/or NGOs, that would carry out components of the demobilization and repatriation of the LRA and ADF:

- a) **The Amnesty Commission (AC)** will be supported in its mandated activities such as the registration, verification, reinsertion and reintegration of reporters, as well as wider community sensitization and reconciliation activities. A major component of the work of the AC will be the reintegration support through counseling, referral and follow-up services to ensure that both the new caseload of ‘reporters’ and those previously assisted have equal access to education, livelihoods and specialized services (for vulnerable groups) as other community members. The support to the AC builds on previous support by the Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program (MDRP).
- b) **Implementation of demobilization and repatriation.** A proportion of MDTF resources have been planned to support other partners who will be selected to implement activities associated with the post-disarmament assembly, registration, shelter, feeding, medical care, information and sensitization, and repatriation to Uganda. These activities would mostly take place in Southern Sudan, and through

direct contracts with the World Bank. The MDTF will also finance demobilization and reintegration planning and technical preparation activities.

The MDTF serves as the main funding source for Priority Program 4.4.2 of the Government's **Peace, Recovery and Development Program (PRDP)** for Northern Uganda, namely the Amnesty, Demobilization and Reintegration of Ex-combatants. The reintegration support to reporters through this Priority Program will be implemented mainly through an Information and Referral System managed by the Amnesty Commission. As per Government policy, 'reporters' do not have an entitlement for specific (levels of) reintegration assistance, beyond an initial reinsertion package. The bulk of the reintegration support to 'reporters' would thus be provided through other components of the PRDP in support of all war-affected populations and general recovery and development.

**Target beneficiaries.** The project will assist an estimated 28,800 'reporters', of which:

- up to 5,000 are expected to demobilize from the LRA and ADF
- 1,800 have already reported, but are still awaiting their reinsertion support
- 22,000 have already received assistance from the AC, but will receive additional reintegration services

Secondary benefits are expected to accrue to the families of reporters and their communities of return.

**Partnerships.** The MDTF-supported demobilization and reintegration activities will be implemented in close collaboration with several implementing partners and networks, including the organizations that manage reception centers for ex LRA members in Northern Uganda, facilitating their re-entry into civilian life through providing family tracing, counseling, reintegration support, etc. The Amnesty Commission's Information and Referral System and linkages within the PRDP will help to strengthen the cohesion of the reintegration support to 'reporters' and other war-affected groups by a variety of government and non-governmental institutions. USAID and UNDP are currently providing initial support to the work of the Amnesty Commission, through the technical services of the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

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