2015 | Annual Report

GCERF
Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund
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Foreword

It has been particularly exciting to oversee the establishment of a new global fund; and I am delighted with the progress made during GCERF’s first full year in 2015, and subsequently in 2016. I believe that the international community can overcome the global threat posed by violent extremism. But to do so will require supporting people most at risk, working together, and always maintaining a principled approach that respects rights and dignity.

By listening to and supporting local communities, convening a wide array of stakeholders at the national and international levels, and maintaining a disciplined focus on filling a funding gap, GCERF has quickly become an essential component of the international effort to prevent violent extremism.

I am immensely grateful to our host state Switzerland, to the entire Governing Board for its support, and to the Secretariat for its dedication and hard work. Tolerance will prevail over intolerance; peace over conflict.

Carol Bellamy
Chair, GCERF Governing Board

In its first full year GCERF has achieved a considerable amount, from establishing its legal status and governance structure, through laying the foundations of a funding model, to raising significant start up funds from 12 donors.

Now is the time to build on momentum and realise our full potential. Preventing violent extremism is an urgent priority. I am proud that GCERF is already rising to the challenge.

Khalid Koser
Executive Director, GCERF
**Background**

The Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) is a multilateral funding mechanism. It is the first global effort to support local, community-level initiatives aimed at strengthening resilience against violent extremist agendas.

GCERF was established to contribute to the prevention of violent extremism in countries where support is most needed, and specifically to fill a funding gap in global responses to the challenge of violent extremism.

The establishment of GCERF was announced by United States Secretary of State John Kerry and Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu at the Fourth Ministerial Plenary Meeting of Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) in New York, USA, on 27 September 2013. GCERF was incorporated as an independent Swiss foundation on 9 September 2014, with a Secretariat based in Geneva.

A Headquarters Agreement conferring to GCERF the status of an international organisation in Switzerland was signed on 26 May 2015.

As a public-private partnership operating at the nexus of security and development, GCERF works with governments, civil society, the private sector, and the international community in beneficiary countries to support national strategies to address the local drivers of violent extremism.

**GCERF is the first global effort to support local, community-level initiatives aimed at strengthening resilience against violent extremist agendas.**
GCERF was established to attract, manage, and disburse resources to support local and community-based non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and sub-national government bodies to prevent violent extremism in all its forms. As a multi-stakeholder initiative, GCERF contributes to the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

GCERF’s mandate is to provide grants to community-level initiatives that address local drivers of violent extremism, and to strengthen the resilience of communities to violent extremist agendas. Because the drivers of violent extremism are context-specific and diverse, GCERF is committed to listening to local communities to ensure that funding to address radicalisation to violent extremism goes to locations and initiatives where support is most needed.

GCERF’s apolitical, independent, and neutral funding enables access to communities that are beyond easy reach of bilateral efforts – for instance, because local community initiatives often lack capacity to receive and account for funding; or in some cases a trust deficit.

Programmes funded by GCERF are subject to rigorous independent assessment, and monitoring and evaluation.

GCERF has a unique role in the network of countries and organisations that are cooperating to prevent violent extremism. GCERF funds projects that take a comprehensive, holistic, whole-of-society approach to this challenge. In 2015, GCERF worked with organisations in Bangladesh, Mali, and Nigeria to develop projects that promote community resilience to recruitment and radicalisation to violent extremism; these will be funded and implemented starting in 2016.

**Mandate**

GCERF’s mandate is to provide grants to community-level initiatives that address local drivers of violent extremism, to strengthen the resilience of communities to violent extremist agendas.
Why local communities?

GCERF’s approach places emphasis on the potential of local communities to respond to violent extremism.

Local communities are critical for preventing violent extremism as affirmed by the United Nations Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism. GCERF aims to fill the recognised funding gap in a sound and sustainable manner, including investing in building the capacity of local initiatives to better serve their communities, to improve their potential to access donor funds in the future, and to secure innovative partnerships that reinforce their stability.

1. Local actors understand what drives recruitment and radicalisation to violent extremism in their communities.

2. Local communities have innovative ideas about how to prevent radicalisation to violent extremist among their members.

3. While these communities may have inspiration and know-how, they often lack the funding to launch their initiatives or the capacity to sustain them.

4. Engaging communities and building their resilience is an important aspect of wider national and international efforts to prevent violent extremism.
Snapshot of GCERF

**Milestones and Events in 2015**

- **JAN**
  - GCERF holds high-level meeting on private sector engagement
    *Davos, Switzerland*
  - IRP holds its first meeting
    *Washington, D.C., USA*

- **FEB**
  - Pre-allocation of USD 14.54 million to fund projects in Bangladesh, Mali, and Nigeria
  - Approval of demographic, geographic, and thematic foci for funding in each country

- **APR**
  - Core Funding Mechanism launches in Bangladesh, Mali, and Nigeria
  - GCERF holds 2nd Board Meeting
    *Marrakech, Morocco*

- **JUL**
  - Pre-allocation of USD 14.54 million to fund projects in Bangladesh, Mali, and Nigeria

- **AUG**
  - GCERF launches open call for expressions of interest to become Principal Recipients of GCERF funding in Bangladesh, Mali, and Nigeria

- **SEP**
  - IRP assesses National Applications submitted by CSMs against the established criteria and considers the overall performance potential of each application
  - CSMs submit National Applications

- **OCT**
  - Kenya, Kosovo, and Myanmar become GCERF’s new beneficiary countries
  - IRP assesses National Applications submitted by CSMs against the established criteria and considers the overall performance potential of each application
  - GCERF holds 3rd Board Meeting
    *Geneva, Switzerland*

- **NOV**
  - High-level event at the United Nations highlighting the role of GCERF in preventing violent extremism
    *New York, USA*
GCERF’s supreme governing body is a multi-stakeholder Governing Board.

It is based on a constituency model comprised of up to 15 members with voting rights. These include representatives of countries in which GCERF funds programmes, donor countries, international organisations, civil society, the private sector, foundations, and a Swiss national as representative of the host state (Figure 1).

The Board is responsible for developing strategies and initiatives, promoting GCERF’s mission, principles and activities, mobilising resources and support, overseeing GCERF’s activities, approving the budget, performance monitoring, as well as appointing Board members, the auditor, the Executive Director, and the Chair.

The Chair of the GCERF Governing Board is Carol Bellamy, former Executive Director of the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF).

“Robust governance is the sine qua non of any successful organization. From the outset the GCERF Governing Board has held itself and the institution as a whole to the highest standards, helping build confidence among donors, in partner countries, and most importantly of all among the communities we are determined to support.”

- Carol Bellamy
In 2015, the GCERF Governing Board met four times, including two face-to-face meetings (20-21 April in Marrakech, Morocco, and 1-2 December in Geneva, Switzerland), as well as two meetings via teleconference (26 February and 28 July). In addition, several decisions were taken by “No Objection” procedure. The Governing Board took 31 decisions in 2015 and adopted several core policies – including those related to human resources, financial management, procurement, beneficiary country eligibility, and ethics.

The Secretariat

GCERF’s small and diverse Secretariat manages the day-to-day functions of the Fund and carries out specific duties and responsibilities assigned to it by the Governing Board.

Secretariat members have varied experience and expertise, including in local community engagement relating to the prevention of violent extremism, grant-making and management, performance monitoring, evaluation, and programme management.

At the end of 2015, the Secretariat had 12 employees, representing seven nationalities, including permanent and temporary staff, one secondee, and interns. The Secretariat’s work in 2015 was organised into three main administrative units.
Board Members*

Australia and New Zealand

Ambassador Miles Armitage
Ambassador for Counter-Terrorism and Assistant Secretary, Counter-Terrorism Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia
Board Member

Bangladesh

H.E. Md. Shahidul Haque
Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh
Board Member

Ambassador M. Shameem Ahsan
Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh in Geneva
Alternate Board Member

Canada and United Kingdom

Ms Sue Breeze
Stable World Team (Freedom of Religion/Post-Holocaust), Human Rights & Democracy Department, Multilateral Policy Directorate, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom
Board Member

Ms Nell Stewart
Director, Capacity Building Program Division, Non-Proliferation and Security Threat Reduction Bureau, Global Affairs Canada
Alternate Board Member

Civil Society

Mr Fulco van Deventer
Vice-Director, Human Security Collective
Board Member

Dr Edit Schlaffer
Founder and Executive Director, Women Without Borders/Sisters Against Violent Extremism
Alternate Board Member

European Union

Mr Adriaan van der Meer
Head of Unit, Stability, Security, Development and Nuclear Safety, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO), European Commission
Board Member

Mr Harald Freyer
Policy Adviser and Judicial Expert, European External Action Service
Alternate Board Member

Foundations

Ms Angela Salt
Chief Executive, Tony Blair Faith Foundation
Board Member

Mr Alistair Millar
Executive Director, Global Center on Cooperative Security
Alternate Board Member

Mali

Ambassador Aya Thiam-Diallo
Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mali in Geneva
Board Member

Mr Amadou Opa Thiam
Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mali in Geneva
Alternate Board Member

Nigeria

Ambassador Nonye Udo
Director, Second United Nations Division, International Organizations Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
Board Member

Policy, Think and Do Tanks

Mr Maqsoud Kruse
Executive Director, Hedayah
Board Member

Mr Mark Singleton
Director, International Centre for Counter-terrorism - The Hague
Alternate Board Member

Private Sector

Dr Timothy Docking
Leader, Global Post and Emerging Markets Funding (EMF) Group, IBM
Board Member

Ms Charlotte Keenan
Executive Director, Office of Corporate Engagement for Europe, Middle East and Asia, Goldman Sachs International
Alternate Board Member

Qatar

Ambassador Dr Mutlaq Al-Qahtani
Director of International Organizations Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar
Board Member

Switzerland

Ambassador Stephan Husy
Coordinator for International Counter-Terrorism, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland
Board Member

Dr Daniel Frank
Deputy Coordinator for International Counter-Terrorism, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland
Alternate Board Member

United States of America

Ambassador Tina Kaidanow
Coordinator for Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of State
Board Member

Dr Raffi Gregorian
Director, Multilateral Affairs, Bureau of Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of State
Alternate Board Member

* As of 31 December 2015
GCERF currently has two streams of funding:

The **Core Funding Mechanism (CFM)** was launched at the first meeting of the Governing Board on 17-18 November 2014. The CFM is GCERF’s primary mechanism for providing grants to Board-approved beneficiary countries.

The **Accelerated Funding Mechanism (AFM)** has been designed as a rapid response mechanism. The launching of the AFM is conditioned by a minimum level of contributions received and earmarked to specific violent extremism challenges.

**CFM in 2015**

In 2015, the Secretariat worked closely with three pilot beneficiary countries (Bangladesh, Mali, and Nigeria) toward the launch of funding in each.

In January and February 2015, the Secretariat visited the three countries to support the establishment of each Country Support Mechanism. These visits entailed significant political, technical, and logistical investments and were generously supported by the governments of the beneficiary countries.

As of the end of 2015, the GCERF Governing Board had approved funding priorities, and selected its Principal Recipients of funding in each country.

In addition, further to requests from the governments of Kenya, Kosovo, and Myanmar, all three were approved as new beneficiary countries for 2016.

Throughout the year, expressions of interests in becoming GCERF beneficiary countries were received from countries in both Africa and Asia.
How the Core Funding Mechanism operates

Responding to National Needs
Implementing countries establish a national, multi-stakeholder platform for identifying national priorities in addressing their unique challenge of violent extremism. This national consultation process is informed by an independent consultative needs assessment and provides the basis for GCERF funding priorities.

Independent Expert Review
Funding decisions are based on expert technical analysis and rigorous due diligence by the GCERF Secretariat. Independent technical experts make funding recommendations to the GCERF Governing Board.

Leveraging Donor Funding
GCERF’s Governing Board allocates pooled funds to address national priorities for the prevention of violent extremism, and to fill identified funding gaps.

Empowering Local Communities
GCERF funding supports consortia of national and community-based organisations in implementing a comprehensive and sustainable set of initiatives to prevent violent extremism.

Enhancing Performance
GCERF supports and promotes the development of grantee capacity and learning, and applies a robust and pragmatic performance monitoring and evaluation framework to ensure accountability and transparency.

Promoting International Good Practices
GCERF works with the international community to identify and widely disseminate good practices on the prevention of violent extremism at community level.
Country Support Mechanisms (CSMs)

GCERF supports the development and implementation of inclusive national strategies and programmes to prevent violent extremism, placing the emphasis on the role of local communities. One way in which GCERF does this is by facilitating the establishment of national Country Support Mechanisms (CSMs) – multi-stakeholder platforms for collaboration and coordination in preventing violent extremism.

In 2015, the GCERF Secretariat provided guidance and support for the creation and ongoing work of CSMs in Bangladesh, Mali, and Nigeria, enabling them to function as catalysts for collaboration between local, national and international stakeholders in support of GCERF-funded projects.

CSMs bring together a range of relevant national government agencies, together with representatives of civil society and the private sector, as well as bilateral, international and multilateral institutions and the international donor community active in preventing violent extremism (PVE) in the country.

- ensuring national support and respect for country-led responses to the threat of radicalisation to violent extremism
- focusing on the creation, development, and expansion of partnerships among all relevant actors within a country, and across all sectors of society
- building on, complementing, and coordinating with existing national counterterrorism, development, and PVE strategies and goals
- undertaking a national consultation on PVE priorities
- issuing the Call for Proposals; receiving and reviewing applications from potential Principal Recipients; and submitting National Application to GCERF
- encouraging transparency and accountability
- strengthening the participation of communities at risk of radicalisation to violence, and of people living with insecurity as a result of violent extremism

“GCERF’s commitment to addressing radicalisation to violent extremism in countries where support is most needed is apt to Nigeria’s need to urgently check the drivers of extremism, especially in the face of lessons learned from the Boko Haram insurgency.”

— Chairperson of CSM, Nigeria
In 2015, GCERF began working in Bangladesh, Mali and Nigeria.

Following the establishment of the CSMs in each country, a consultative national needs assessment was conducted by the CSM to inform the funding priorities approved by GCERF’s Governing Board. This was followed by a national call for expressions of interest and the selection of potential Principal Recipients of GCERF funding.

Once selected, potential Principal Recipients were invited to form a Consortium and develop a funding proposal. A Principal Recipient may be any local or national non-governmental or non-profit organisation including: independent political foundations; community-based organisations; and private sector non-profit organisations.

In December, the CSMs in Bangladesh, Mali, and Nigeria submitted their first National Applications, bringing together these proposals, from which 12 Principal Recipients were eventually selected for GCERF funding.

Together, these 12 Principal Recipients acts as conduits for providing small grants to 69 Sub-Recipients. Sub-Recipients are community-based institutions, organisations, or networks at the local or national level, closely linked to its local community and credible with its intended audience, beneficiaries, and participants. These Sub-Recipients will ensure grassroots impact to over one million beneficiaries.

Interventions identified in the three national applications broadly fit into three categories: raising awareness of violent extremism; mobilising against violent extremism; and providing alternatives to violent extremism.

Activities proposed include: women's empowerment, education, creation of economic opportunities (especially for young people and women), promotion of interreligious and intercommunity dialogue, value reorientation, training, and countering narratives through use of local media and opinion leaders.

Each National Application also specified how the proposed activities will contribute to national strategies for preventing and countering violent extremism.
BANGLADESH
GCERF Funding: Key Facts

Geographical Focus

Preventing Violent Extremism
Mobilising cultural activists, journalists, religious leaders, teachers and student leaders as agents of change

Raising Awareness of Violent Extremism

Raising PVE Awareness in Communities: Sensitisation sessions and trainings, quizzes, debates and competitions, community theatre, arts and music, and engaging with imams.

Raising PVE Awareness in Society: Television programmes, monitoring of social and print media, monitoring of popular folk culture, and developing counter-narratives.

Mobilising Against Violent Extremism

Community Dialogue on PVE: Community discussions, inter-generational dialogue, youth forums, and PVE-focused listeners clubs.

Community Action to PVE: Information and communication technology (ICT) leadership training, debating festivals, community cultural events, celebration of mother tongue day, celebration of international days, community sports events and activities and peace rallies.

Providing Alternatives to Violent Extremism

Economic Empowerment: Vocational training, income-generating activities, job fairs, entrepreneurship training and leadership training.

Services for Vulnerable Groups: Life skills training.

4 Principal Recipients
33 Sub-Recipients
374,000 Beneficiaries
Mali
GCERF Funding: Key Facts

Preventing Violent Extremism
Mobilising leaders of women and youth associations, radio presenters, Quranic teachers and parents of students, religious and traditional leaders, and mayors as agents of change

### Raising Awareness of Violent Extremism

Raising PVE Awareness in Communities: Sensitisation workshops and trainings, community radio programming, and conflict management training.

Raising PVE Awareness in Society: Literature on peace, tolerance and dialogue.

### Mobilising Against Violent Extremism

Community Dialogue on PVE: Community discussion forums, intra and interfaith dialogue, and conferences on peace, unity and Islam.

Community Action to PVE: Promoting civic engagement, conflict resolution mechanisms for youth, and community vigilance committees.

### Providing Alternatives to Violent Extremism

Economic Empowerment: Vocational training, income-generating activities, supporting women’s business associations, linking population groups to markets, and literacy training.

Services for Vulnerable Groups: Integration of children into the school system, and family reunification.

Geographical Focus

3 Principal Recipients
19 Sub-Recipients
42,000 Beneficiaries

- Youth 59%
- Women 29%
- Vulnerable Communities 15%

KAYES   SEGOU
MOPTI
TIMBUKTU

working with
reaching

Vulnerable Communities 15%
**NIGERIA**

**GCERF Funding: Key Facts**

### Geographical Focus

- **Focus Communities**: 2%
- **Women**: 35%
- **Youth**: 67%

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### Preventing Violent Extremism

*Mobilising community, religious and traditional leaders, government and security agencies, parents, private sector, and teachers as agents of change*

#### Raising Awareness of Violent Extremism

- **Raising PVE Awareness in Communities**: Arts, culture and community theatre, trainings, and research and analysis.
- **Raising PVE Awareness in Society**: Radio programming, training for journalists, and research and analysis.

#### Mobilising Against Violent Extremism

- **Community Dialogue on PVE**: Community discussions, and interfaith dialogue.
- **Community Action to PVE**: Youth action teams, peace rallies, community response teams, sports events, and counter-narrative campaigns.

#### Providing Alternatives to Violent Extremism

- **Economic Empowerment**: Vocational training, income-generating activities, links to financial institutions, entrepreneurship training, and small business seed funding.
- **Services for Vulnerable Groups**: Integration of children into the school system, and family reunification.
The international Independent Review Panel (IRP) is an independent, impartial group of experts appointed by the GCERF Governing Board to provide a rigorous technical assessment of requests for funding received by GCERF.

In 2015, the IRP comprised 10 of the world’s leading experts on preventing violent extremism and on community engagement and resilience.

The IRP members are institutionally independent of the GCERF Secretariat, Governing Board, and other governance structures of the Board. IRP members serve in their personal capacities and do not represent their employer or any government or other entity.
PARTNERSHIPS

Key Partners

Operating at the nexus of security and development, GCERF is committed to working at the national level in partnership and consultation with governments, civil society, and the private sector to support national strategies to address the local drivers of violent extremism. At the international level, GCERF enjoys ongoing cooperation with governments, multilateral organisations, research institutions, centres of excellence, foundations, and the private sector worldwide.

International Geneva

Located in Geneva, the international centre for multilateral diplomacy, development, and humanitarian affairs, GCERF is hosted and generously supported by the Swiss Government.

GCERF is privileged to be a part of the international Geneva community, with more than 30 international organisations, including the European headquarters for the United Nations, 250 international NGOs, and permanent missions of 170 countries. GCERF has formed partnerships with other organisations that deal with preventing violent extremism, peace and security, benefiting from the wealth of expertise and experience as a result of cooperation.

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Since its establishment, the GCERF Secretariat has been using a number of platforms to introduce GCERF to the general public and cultivate a community of potential donors, partners, and supporters.

**Website:** Given the changing landscape of journalism, maintaining a compelling online profile is crucial. The Secretariat maintains and regularly updates the GCERF website (www.gcerf.org). The portal serves as a transparent, comprehensive repository of, among other resources, GCERF legal and governance documents, information for current and potential beneficiary countries and donors, reports, and photographs from events supported and attended by GCERF.

**Social media:** Presence on social media platforms allows the Secretariat to promote GCERF and be responsive. GCERF’s Facebook and Twitter accounts are intended to serve as secondary outlets for the website, to allow the general public to track GCERF activities in real time.

GCERF maintains its Facebook account under the name Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund; on Twitter GCERF tweets under the handle @theGCERF. The Secretariat continues to make all efforts to avoid following social media accounts held by those who promote violent extremism.

**Traditional media:** In addition to web-based platforms, the Secretariat engages with traditional media outlets (i.e. print, radio, television).

When invited and where appropriate, the Secretariat publishes in journals, newspapers, and blogs maintained by external parties. It also participates in radio, print, and television interviews to increase understanding of GCERF and its visibility among potential donors, recipients, and partners. The Secretariat has undertaken efforts to build relationships with credible journalists in order to cultivate a consistent and accurate portrayal of GCERF in global media.
**External Communications**

External communications are key to supporting GCERF’s goals and promoting the fund’s mission and mandate, resource mobilisation, constituency-building and grant-making activities.

Responding to new opportunities to demonstrate its relevance – such as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 10 and 16, GCERF strives to raise its profile and standing as a permanent and unique part of the rapidly-evolving international architecture on preventing violent extremism.

**Outreach at public events:** The Secretariat engages in outreach efforts to promote GCERF, including at various public events (e.g. roundtables, lectures, workshops). Presence at GCERF-sponsored or externally organised events is intended to introduce GCERF to new stakeholders and the general public. When possible and appropriate, the Secretariat leverages the convening power of partners to host or participate in public events relevant to GCERF’s mission.

In 2015, GCERF organised a number of events, especially on the margins of major high-level summits and meetings, to capitalise on international momentum and attention focused on preventing violent extremism.

**Connect with us!**
GCERF’s Resource Mobilisation Strategy for 2016-2018 was developed and presented to the Governing Board on 1-2 December 2015.

The guiding principles of the Resource Mobilisation Strategy are:

- political support
- diversification of funding
- accountability, transparency, and flexibility.

The Resource Mobilisation Strategy focuses on engagement and relies on significant commitments from both existing donors (represented on the Board) and new donors from the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) as a priority.

The strategy has three high-level strategic objectives, namely:

1. Strengthening partnership with existing donors;
2. Increasing and diversifying the donor base across both governmental and nongovernmental funding sources;
3. Developing Secretariat capacity to mobilise resources and manage donor relations.

The goal for 2016 is to raise USD 35 million to allow re-investment in Bangladesh, Mali, and Nigeria, as well as a first round of investments in Kenya, Kosovo, and Myanmar, and to cover governance and Secretariat expenses.
Engaging the Private Sector

The private sector has a critical role to play in addressing the local drivers of violent extremism. As a public-private partnership, GCERF engages with the private sector at all levels of governance with the goal of building long-term and innovative partnerships.

A strategy for engaging the private sector in preventing violent extremism will be developed in 2016. Specific initiatives will also be undertaken in beneficiary countries to strengthen the involvement of the private sector locally.

Resource mobilisation achievements

As of December 2015, total financial pledges and contributions amounted to approximately USD 23 million in addition to in-kind support from Switzerland and the United States of America. At the end of 2015, confirmed contributions had reached USD 18.4 million.

GCERF is grateful for the contributions received in 2015 from:

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The initial financial statements of GCERF were prepared for the period ending 31 December 2015, in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-Sized Entities. They were audited in accordance with International Auditing Standards and received an unmodified opinion.

From its inception until 31 December 2015, GCERF formally received cash and in-kind contributions amounting to USD 18.465 million. The Board committed USD 13.416 million toward the first round of grants under the Core Funding Mechanism in Bangladesh, Mali, and Nigeria. A small amount was also reserved for the Accelerated Funding Mechanism. GCERF receives both restricted and unrestricted contributions. Its operating income as defined by accounting rules amounted to USD 5.070 million and expenses to USD 3.368 million for the period.

GCERF wishes to thank donors that provided funds in advance, thereby providing GCERF with a favorable cash position. GCERF is grateful for the financial and administration support it received from the Geneva Centre for Security Policy until June 2015.

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