Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular session 2022

Contents

First regular session 2022
(31 January to 4 February 2022)

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The Executive Board

1. **Welcomes** the unqualified audit opinions on UNDP, UNCDF, UNFPA and UNOPS issued by the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2020;

2. **Recalls** its decision 2021/1 and calls upon UNDP, UNCDF, UNFPA and UNOPS to harmonize further their reporting formats on the implementation of the Board of Auditors recommendations, as appropriate, including, where possible, the time frames for their detailed reporting and the thematic categorization of recommendations into those that are priority, and any other priorities, and requests to work with UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP in that regard, as appropriate;

3. **Acknowledges** the progress made by UNDP, UNCDF, UNFPA and UNOPS in implementing the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, and supports the ongoing efforts of UNDP, UNCDF, UNFPA and UNOPS management to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

4. **Notes** paragraphs 33-59 and Note 11 in the Board of Auditors report for 2020 (A/76/5/Add.11) relating to the UNOPS sustainable investments in infrastructure and innovation (“S3i”) initiative, and encourages UNOPS to continue to strengthen its risk assessments and risk management.

*4 February 2022*

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**2022/2**

**Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment**

The Executive Board

1. **Welcomes** the updates by UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on actions to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment;

2. **Notes** the progress made and the need for continued effort to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, including ensuring that the required actions implemented at country, regional and global levels are properly resourced and deliver impact;

3. **Requests** UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue to take action to ensure a victim/survivor-centred, system-wide and coherent approach at the country, regional and global levels to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, while leveraging their respective mandates, including addressing, as needed, the increased risk of sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment during the COVID-19 response and recovery;
4. **Further requests** UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue to undertake timely and thorough victim/survivor-centred investigations, and to ensure prompt reporting on allegations to Members States through existing mechanisms/channels, as well as dedicated resources to investigations of sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, and requests an update on how each organization is improving its organizational culture to address all forms of sexual harassment, and its actions to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment in its policies, procedures, operations, and through improvement of organizational culture at headquarters, regional and country levels, at the annual session, starting in 2022, and asks that this includes analysis of their implementation of system-wide initiatives, including the Implementing Partners Protocol, the Implementing Partner Capacity Assessment and ClearCheck;

5. **Requests** UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue taking a long-term approach to preventing and responding to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, in line with their respective strategic plans;

6. **Requests** UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to ensure that leadership at all levels continue to be aware of their responsibilities in protecting against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, and that staff with specific protection of sexual exploitation and abuse duties participate in inter-agency coordination mechanisms, as appropriate, and that all relevant staff are provided with appropriate role-specific training to support culture change;

7. **Commends** UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS for the development of their respective strategies and annual submission to the United Nations Secretary-General of action plans on preventing and responding to sexual exploitation and abuse that are implemented at headquarters, regional and country levels, and requests UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to share headquarters-level action plans with the Executive Board annually;

8. **Requests** an update from UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, at the first regular session of the Executive Board 2023, on metrics used to measure progress on tackling sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment and how integrated results and resources framework indicators on sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment have aligned with relevant quadrennial comprehensive policy review indicators and those of other United Nations development system agencies and ensure that data obtained, including on allegations, using these metrics and indicators and subsequent analysis, systematically inform strategies, policies and procedures.

4 February 2022

2022/3

**UNDP evaluation**

*The Executive Board*

*With regard to the Independent Evaluation Office multi-year programme of work, 2022-2025 (DP/2022/6):*

1. **Takes note** of the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office multi-year programme of work 2022-2025 (DP/2022/6);

2. **Reaffirms** the importance of evaluation as an essential tool for learning and accountability, and urges UNDP to ensure that adequate resources are provided for evaluation, in compliance with the evaluation policy as endorsed in decision 2019/19 approving the UNDP evaluation policy (DP/2019/29), and in keeping with expectations
set out in the UNDP integrated resources plan and integrated budget estimates, 2022-2025 (DP/2021/29);

3. Acknowledges the corporate/thematic evaluations and other activities that the Independent Evaluation Office has proposed to carry out during this four-year period, and views them to be relevant to UNDP objectives and programming under the Strategic Plan, 2022-2025;

4. Requests UNDP to extend the importance attributed to inter-agency collaboration in the implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2022-2025 (DP/2021/28) to all evaluations of programmes and projects that include partnerships with other United Nations entities;

5. Welcomes the Independent Evaluation Office’s plans to take a systems approach to strengthen both the quality and impartiality of decentralized evaluations and requests the Independent Evaluation Office and UNDP management to formulate a plan to improve the independence, reliability and quality of decentralized evaluations and to present it to the Executive Board at its annual session 2022;

6. Decides to approve the multi-year programme of work of the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office for 2022-2025;

   With regard to the evaluation of UNDP support to youth economic empowerment (DP/2022/7) and the management response thereto (DP/2022/8):

7. Takes note of the evaluation of UNDP support to youth economic empowerment and the management response thereto;

8. Takes note with appreciation of the evaluation’s findings, conclusions and recommendations, encourages UNDP to address interconnections and synergies between employability, job creation and enabling environment in support to youth economic empowerment, and requests UNDP to seek sustainable results and impact in addressing structural barriers for youth employment, through, inter alia, meaningful engagements and partnerships with youth in early stages of project design and strategic partnerships with other United Nations organizations and stakeholders;

   With regard to the evaluation of UNDP support to energy access and transition (DP/2022/9) and the management response thereto (DP/2022/10):

9. Takes note of the evaluation of UNDP support to energy access and transition and the management response thereto, noting the multifaceted energy support by UNDP;

10. Takes note of the evaluation’s findings, conclusions and recommendations and requests UNDP to ensure long-term sustainable results and impact and project and programme sustainability through, inter alia, early engagement of relevant national actors and partners in project and programme formulation, implementation, financing and funding processes, as appropriate, and to ensure the independence and improve the quality of energy project evaluations;

11. Notes the commitment of UNDP to further develop its energy offer, in line with its ambitions in the Strategic Plan, 2022-2025.

   4 February 2022
2022/4
UNFPA evaluation

The Executive Board

1. Welcomes the relevance and utility of the quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan for 2022-2025;

2. Reaffirms the importance of evaluation as an essential tool for learning and accountability, and requests UNFPA to continue to ensure that adequate resources are provided for evaluation, in compliance with the evaluation policy, as endorsed in decision 2019/1 approving the UNFPA evaluation policy (DP/FPA/2019/1), and in keeping with expectations set out in the UNFPA integrated budget, 2022-2025 (DP/FPA/2021/9);

3. Acknowledges the transparent and participatory process undertaken in developing the quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan for 2022-2025;

4. Requests UNFPA to continue to extend the importance attributed to inter-agency collaboration in the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2022-2025 (DP/FPA/2021/8) to all evaluations of programmes and projects that include partnerships with other United Nations entities;

5. Approves the quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan for 2022-2025.

4 February 2022

2022/4
United Nations Office for Project Services sustainable investments in infrastructure and innovation (‘S3i’) reserve

The Executive Board

1. Takes note of the report on the UNOPS sustainable investments in infrastructure and innovation (‘S3i’) reserve (DP/OPS/2022/2);

2. Recalls the UNOPS budget estimates 2022-2023 (DP/OPS/2021/6) and annexes that first requested the establishment of the designated sustainable investments in infrastructure and innovation (‘S3i’) reserve, as well as the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (DP/OPS/2021/7);

3. Takes note of the additional assessment and rationale provided by UNOPS, pursuant to paragraph 7 of decision 2021/21, for the proposal to create a separate sustainable investments in infrastructure and innovation (‘S3i’) reserve at a level of $105 million;

4. Approves the establishment and initial level of the sustainable investments in infrastructure and innovation (‘S3i’) reserve to be set at $105 million with future changes subject to Executive Board approval;

5. Reaffirms the request that UNOPS commission an independent comprehensive evaluation of the sustainable investments in infrastructure and innovation (‘S3i’) initiative after the end of the pilot phase in December 2023, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in line with paragraph 7 of decision 2021/21, and present the findings, including an itemization of all investments to include detailed project description, investment amount, project status and project end date, to the Executive Board at the annual session 2024;

6. Urges UNOPS to undertake all possible measures to recover the overdue repayments from disinvestments in sustainable investments in infrastructure and innovation (‘S3i’) initiative projects and further requests UNOPS to provide the Executive Board with an
update in particular on further risk diversification measures regarding future investments at the annual session 2022.

4 February 2022

2022/5
Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular session 2022

The Executive Board
Recalls that during its first regular session 2022, it:

Item 1
Organizational matters
Elected on 6 December 2021 the following members of the Bureau for 2022:

President: H.E. Ms. Yoka Brandt (The Netherlands)
Vice-President: H.E. Mr. Martin Kimani (Kenya)
Vice-President: H.E. Ms. Alya Al-Thani (Qatar)
Vice-President: H.E. Mr. José Manuel Rodriguez Cuadros (Peru)
Vice-President: H.E. Mr. Sergiy Kyslytsya (Ukraine)*

Adopted the agenda (DP/2022/L.1) and approved the workplan for its first regular session 2022;
Approved the report of the second regular session 2021 (DP/2022/1);
Adopted the annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2022 (DP/2022/CRP.1);
Approved the tentative workplan for the annual session 2022;
Agreed to the following schedule for the remaining sessions of the Executive Board in 2022:

Annual session: 6 to 10 June 2022
Second regular session: 29 August to 2 September 2022.

Joint segment

Item 2
Recommendations of the Board of Auditors
Adopted decision 2022/1 on the recommendations of the Board of Auditors reports of UNDP (DP/2022/3), UNCDF (DP/2022/4), UNFPA (DP/FPA/2021/1) and UNOPS (DP/OPS/2021/1) on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2020;

* Elected 31 January 2022.
Item 3
Follow-up to the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board meeting

Took note of the joint UNDP/UNFPA report on the implementation of decisions and recommendations of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (DP-FPA/2022/1);

Item 4
Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment

Adopted decision 2022/2 on protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment;

UNDP segment

Item 5
Human Development Report

Took note of an update by the secretariat on consultations on the Human Development Report;

Item 6
UNDP country programmes and related matters

Approved the following UNDP country programmes in accordance with decision 2014/7:

Africa: Guinea-Bissau (DP/DCP/GNB/3); Mozambique (DP/DCP/ MOZ/4);

Asia-Pacific: Malaysia (DP/DCP/MYS/4); Maldives (DP/DCP/MDV/4); Thailand (DP/DCP/THA/4); Viet Nam (DP/DCP/VNM/3);

Latin America and the Caribbean: country programmes for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean (DP/DSP/CAR/4); Belize (DP/DCP/BLZ/4); El Salvador (DP/DCP/SLV/4); Guyana (DP/DCP/GUY/4); Honduras (DP/DCP/HND/4); Jamaica (DP/DCP/JAM/4); Peru (DP/DCP/PER/4); Suriname (DP/DCP/SUR/4); Trinidad and Tobago (DP/DCP/TTO/4);

Took note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Brazil, Haiti and Saudi Arabia and the first six-month extension of the country programme for Papua New Guinea (DP/2022/5);

Approved the second one-year extensions of the country programmes for Algeria and Bahrain from 1 January to 31 December 2022; the third one-year extensions of the country programmes for Afghanistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) from 1 January to 31 December 2022; the sixth extension of the country programme for Yemen from 1 January to 31 December 2022 (DP/2022/5); and the sixth six-month extension of the country programme for the Syrian Arab Republic from 1 January to 30 June 2022 (DP/2022/5/Add.1);

Approved the regional programmes for Africa (DP/RPD/RBA/4); Asia and the Pacific (DP/RPD/RAP/4); the Arab States (DP/RPD/RAS/5); Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (DP/RPD/REC/5); and Latin America and the Caribbean (DP/RPD/RLA/4);

Item 7
UNDP evaluation

Adopted decision 2022/3 on the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office multi-year programme of work 2022-2025 (DP/2022/6); the evaluation of UNDP support to youth economic empowerment (DP/2022/7) and the management response thereto
and the evaluation of UNDP support to energy access and transition (DP/2022/9) and the management response thereto (DP/2022/10);

**Item 8**  
**United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme**  
Took note of the UNV strategic framework, 2022-2025 (DP/2022/11);

**Item 9**  
**United Nations Capital Development Fund**  
Took note of the UNCDF strategic framework, 2022-2025 (DP/2022/12);

**Item 12**  
**United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation**  
Took note of the UNOSSC’s strategic framework, 2022-2025 (DP/CF/SSC/7);

**UNFPA segment**  
**Item 10**  
**Country programmes and related matters**  
Approved the following UNFPA country programmes in accordance with decision 2014/7:

- Argentina (DP/FPA/CPD/ARG/1), Cameroon (DP/FPA/CPD/CMR/8), the Caribbean subregional programme (DP/FPA/CPD/CAR/7), El Salvador (DP/FPA/CPD/SLV/9), Eritrea (DP/FPA/CPD/ERI/6), Guinea-Bissau (DP/FPA/CPD/GNB/7), Honduras (DP/FPA/CPD/HND/9), Malaysia (DP/FPA/CPD/MYS/1), Maldives (DP/FPA/CPD/MDV/7), Mozambique (DP/FPA/CPD/MOZ/10), Peru (DP/FPA/CPD/PER/10), Thailand (DP/FPA/CPD/THA/12) and Viet Nam (DP/FPA/CPD/VNM/10).

Took note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Brazil and Haiti (DP/FPA/2022/3);

Approved the second one-year extensions for Afghanistan and Algeria; the third one-year extension for Venezuela; the sixth one-year extension for Yemen; and the sixth, six-month extension for the Syrian Arab Republic (from 1 January to 30 June 2022) (DP/FPA/2022/3).

**Item 11**  
**UNFPA evaluation**  
Adopted decision 2022/4 approving the quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan for 2022-2025;

**UNOPS segment**  
**Item 13**  
**United Nations Office for Project Services**  
Adopted decision 2022/5 on the UNOPS sustainable investments in infrastructure and innovation (‘S3i’) reserve;
Item 14
Other matters

Heard an address by the Chairperson of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS/UN-Women Staff Council.

4 February 2022
## TENTATIVE WORKPLAN

**EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS**

**ANNUAL SESSION 2022**

(6 - 10 June 2022, New York)

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