First regular session 2016
25-29 January 2016, New York
Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Organizational matters

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board in 2015

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(26 to 30 January 2015, New York)

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2015/1
Report on direct budget support, 2008-2014

The Executive Board

1. Takes note of document DP/2015/3;

2. Recognizes that the primary contribution of UNDP lies in supporting national capacity and policy development;

3. Requests that UNDP present an evaluation of the pilot activities carried out under this policy, including detailed information on experience gained during the pilot on UNDP engagement in sector budget support and the impact of these activities, particularly on the UNDP contribution to national capacity and policy development, before the first regular session of the Board in 2017;

4. Agrees that UNDP continue the pilot period of implementation of the policy on UNDP engagement in a direct budget support and pooled fund environment, at the sector level, with the flexibility to use the four engagement modalities as described in the related guidelines, until 1 January 2017, with the understanding that no new engagement be initiated beyond 1 January 2017 until a decision is made on the future of the policy;

5. Recognizes that all activities already approved under this policy will continue to be implemented until their scheduled completion dates;

6. Resolves to decide at the first regular session in 2017, based on the evaluation and management response, whether to continue this policy;

7. Requests that the Guidelines and Procedures for Country Offices and Headquarters Units on UNDP engagement in sector budget support and pooled funding arrangements are reviewed for consistency with recognised international practice and UNDP’s use of such modalities, and shared with the Executive Board during the second regular session 2015. This should be accompanied by an information note summarising UNDP experiences of the use of this type of assistance, outlining the approach to national capacity and policy development, and providing descriptive details about the nature of the actual risks assessed;

8. Encourages UNDP to continue to ensure that the specific fiduciary risks associated with these modalities are assessed, appropriate safeguards are put in place and monitoring and audit processes are undertaken on a timely basis.

30 January 2015

2015/2
Revised UNFPA oversight policy

The Executive Board

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the revised UNFPA oversight policy (DP/FPA/2015/1), which reflects the organization’s commitment to accountable, appropriate and diligent oversight;

2. Notes with appreciation the consultative process undertaken by UNFPA in developing the revised oversight policy;
3. **Approves** the revised UNFPA oversight policy as contained in document DP/FPA/2015/1;

4. **Requests** UNFPA to continue to monitor the implementation of the policy and to conduct periodic reviews of the relevance and applicability of the policy with respect to the safeguarding and strengthening of UNFPA management oversight functions, including that of programme, and to report to the Executive Board at its annual session in 2017 with proposals to make further improvements to the policy, as necessary.

*30 January 2015*

### 2015/3

**Scaling up UNFPA humanitarian response funding**

*The Executive Board*

1. **Takes note** of the report (DP/FPA/2015/2);

2. **Recognizes** the increasing demand for UNFPA humanitarian response and the resulting need for additional emergency funding resources;

3. **Approves** an annual allocation of $10 million of regular resources for the emergency fund, reflecting an increase of $5 million from the previously approved level;

4. **Authorizes** the UNFPA Executive Director to increase the emergency fund by up to $2 million in a given year, if the number and extent of the emergencies so warrant;

5. **Approves** a one-time allocation of $10 million of regular resources for the establishment of the humanitarian response reserve;

6. **Requests** UNFPA to report on the status of the reserve and on the use of the emergency fund in its annual financial statements;

7. **Further requests** UNFPA to report at the first regular session 2017 on its humanitarian response funding, so as to allow the Executive Board to review this arrangement, including the criteria for disbursement of resources.

*30 January 2015*

### 2015/4

**Strengthening of the UNOPS Audit Advisory Committee**

*The Executive Board*

1. **Takes note** of the Executive Director’s initiative to align further the UNOPS governance and accountability arrangements with those of sister agencies governed by the Executive Board;

2. **Approves** the establishment of an Audit Advisory Committee to assume the roles and functions, including reporting to the Executive Board, designated to the Strategy and Audit Advisory Committee through its decisions 2008/37, 2009/4 and 2012/5;

3. **Takes note** of the purpose and terms of reference for the UNOPS Audit Advisory Committee, noting that the advisory nature of the committee does not conflict with the functions of the Executive Board as laid out in General Assembly resolution 48/162;
4. **Emphasizes** that the role of the Audit Advisory Committee is to provide independent views and findings regarding assurances to management and the Board on the audit and oversight functions of the organization;

5. **Acknowledges** the UNOPS commitment to continue seeking external and independent advice on strategy and industry best practices and standards through the establishment of a Strategic Advisory Group of Experts;

6. **Decides** that members of the Executive Board will consider the selection process of the Audit Advisory Committee at the annual session 2015;

7. **Further decides** that pending the outcome of the process, the current members of the UNOPS Audit Subcommittee of the Strategy and Advisory Committee will continue their duties;

8. **Encourages** the frequency, duration and location of all Committee meetings to be determined by the quantum of work, bearing in mind the need to maintain cost efficiencies.

*30 January 2015*

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**2015/5**

**Recommendations of the Board of Auditors**

**UNDP: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2013**

**UNFPA report on the follow-up to the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2013: Status of implementation of recommendations**

**UNOPS: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2013**

*The Executive Board*

1. **Welcomes** the unqualified audit opinions issued by the United Nations Board of Auditors for all three organizations for 2013;

   **With regard to UNDP:**

2. **Notes** the progress made by UNDP in addressing the top nine audit-related priorities in 2012-2013;

3. **Supports** ongoing UNDP management efforts in addressing the revised top eight audit-related management priorities for the 2014-2015 biennium and in implementing the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2013;

4. **Requests** UNDP to reassess and strengthen implementation of its risk management activities, and to prioritize the implementation of the revised framework for the harmonized approach to cash transfers, along with measures to ensure its appropriate application in country offices;

5. **Urge**s UNDP to enhance its oversight and management of implementing partners with regard to monitoring, reporting, compliance with controls and assurance activities, including addressing the recurring qualified audits of implementing partners and follow-up on implementation of audit recommendations;
6. **Encourages** continued efforts to uncover and prevent procurement irregularities and other fraudulent practices and improve actions for recovery of funds, and to address vulnerabilities in the Atlas system as identified by the Board of Auditors;

7. **Urges** UNDP to expedite its efforts to respond to the critical findings related to programme/project management, quality assurance, design, monitoring and evaluation.

With regard to UNFPA:

8. **Takes note** of the report ([DP/FPA/2015/3](#)) on the actions taken by UNFPA and the further actions planned by the organization to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the financial period that ended on 31 December 2013;

9. **Welcomes** the progress made by UNFPA in addressing procurement-related recommendations, and **urges** continued monitoring and evaluation of suppliers with regard to quality and timeliness of goods and services provided;

10. **Requests** UNFPA to inform the Executive Board of the organization’s plans to improve its internal audit coverage, with a view to decide on possible financial implications at its second regular session in 2016;

11. **Encourages** UNFPA to continue to strengthen the capacity of its offices at country, subregional and regional levels, particularly with regard to operational improvement, internal controls, oversight and risk management, and to update the Executive Board on the progress made at its second regular session in 2015;

With regard to UNOPS:

12. **Welcomes** the progress made by UNOPS in addressing the audit-related priorities highlighted by the Board of Auditors;

13. **Supports** ongoing UNOPS management efforts to ensure that the remaining recommendations are implemented;

14. **Acknowledges** that because the recommendations were issued to UNOPS in July 2014 and many of them require long-term attention, UNOPS will need to work beyond the financial year 2014 to implement them successfully;

15. **Welcomes** the commitment of UNOPS to continually strengthen local capacity building;

16. **Requests** UNOPS to continue to assess and strengthen implementation of its internal control and risk management policies;

17. **Encourages** UNOPS to closely monitor oversight of procurement activities, particularly with regard to fraud, and to seek opportunities to collaborate with other United Nations organizations in identifying reliable and efficient vendors.

30 January 2015

2015/6

Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular session 2015

The Executive Board

Recalls that during its first regular session 2015, it:
Item 1
Organizational matters

Elected the following members of the Bureau for 2015:

President: H.E. Mr. Luis Fernando Carrera Castro (Guatemala)
Vice-President: H.E. Mr. Hiroshi Minami (Japan)
Vice-President: H.E. Mr. Kelebone Maope (Lesotho)
Vice-President: H.E. Mr. Durga Prasad Bhattarai (Nepal)
Vice-President: Mr. Sahak Sargsyan (Armenia)

Adopted the agenda and approved the workplan for its first regular session 2015 (DP/2015/L.1);
Approved the report of the second regular session 2014 (DP/2015/1);
Adopted the annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2015 (DP/2015/CRP.1);
Approved the tentative workplan for the annual session 2014.

Agreed to the following schedule for the remaining sessions of the Executive Board in 2015:

Annual session 2015: 1 to 12 June 2015 (New York)
Second regular session 2015: 1 to 4 September 2015.

UNDP segment

Item 2
Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

Adopted decision 2015/1 on the report on direct budget support, 2008-2014.

Item 3
UNDP country programmes and related matters

Approved, in accordance with decision 2014/7, the following country programmes:
Chile; Guatemala; Madagascar, Mali;
Approved the nine-month extension of the country programme for Colombia;
Approved the two-year extensions of the country programmes for Myanmar and Papua New Guinea.

Item 4
Evaluation

Took note of the review of the UNDP evaluation policy and the accompanying management responses (DP/2015/5, DP/2015/6, DP/2015/7).

UNFPA segment

Item 5
Oversight

Adopted decision 2015/2 on the revised UNFPA oversight policy (DP/FPA/2015/1).
Item 6
Financial, budgetary and administrative matters
Adopted decision 2015/3 on scaling up UNFPA humanitarian response funding (DP/FPA/2015/2).

Item 7
UNFPA country programmes and related matters
Approved the country programme documents for Madagascar (DP/FPA/CPD/MDG/7) and Mali (DP/FPA/CPD/MLI/7).
Approved the two-year extension of the country programme for Myanmar and the nine-month extension of the country programme for Colombia (DP/FPA/2015/4).
Took note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Iraq and the Lao People’s Democratic Republic (DP/FPA/2015/4).

UNOPS segment

Item 8
Strengthening of the UNOPS Audit Advisory Committee
Adopted decision 2015/4 on the Strengthening of the UNOPS Audit Advisory Committee.

Joint segment

Item 9
Financial, budgetary and administrative matters
Adopted decision 2015/5 on the UNDP report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2013 (DP/2015/8); UNFPA report on the follow-up to the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2013: Status of implementation of recommendations (DP/FPA2015/3); and UNOPS report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2013 (DP/OPS/2015/1).

Joint meeting
Held a joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP on 2 February 2015, which addressed the following topics: (a) in partnership with others: lessons learned on scaling up innovation to reach people in need; and (b) innovative approaches to program design and implementation to support the operationalization of the post-2015 development agenda.

Also held the following briefings and informal consultations:

UNDP
UNDP event on Ebola recovery;
Informal report on UNDP resource mobilization strategy and next steps on structured dialogue;
Informal consultation on streamlined integrated results and resources framework of the UNDP strategic plan, 2014-2017 (decision 2014/11);
Preliminary 2014 results and perspectives on UNCDF positioning in a changing development finance landscape.

UNFPA
Orientation to UNFPA for new members of the Executive Board.

UNOPS
Orientation to UNOPS for new members of the Executive Board.

30 January 2015

2015/7
Annual report of the Administrator of UNDP

The Executive Board
1. Takes note of the annual report of the Administrator on the first year of implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2014-2017 (document DP/2015/11);

2. Welcomes the improved quality of the annual report of the Administrator and the overall progress made towards achieving strategic plan results in 2014;

3. Takes note with appreciation of the systematic reporting against the results framework of the Strategic Plan, 2014-2017, including the new approach of linking results to resources and the introduction of the Development Report Card; and at the same time, encourages UNDP to further refine the Integrated Results and Resources Framework methodology and data analysis suggested in the following paragraph;

4. Encourages UNDP to continue in future reports to assess progress against the seven outcomes as well as challenges and lessons learned that may influence future programming;

5. Encourages UNDP to further analyse the data behind the results using information provided by relevant analytical tools of the organization, including, inter alia, evaluations and audits, to understand what drives or hinders performance and progress, and adjust programmes accordingly;

6. Suggests including Report Card tables also for tier three: Organizational Effectiveness and Efficiency and in this regard urges UNDP to ensure good progress against organizational effectiveness indicators in 2015;

7. Requests UNDP to conduct a review of the monitoring, aggregation and reporting systems related to the Integrated Results and Resources Framework as a part of the midterm review of the Strategic Plan in order to increase its credibility and accountability;


9. Commits to continued engagement on ways to finance strategic plan implementation.

9 June 2015
2015/8
Evaluation (UNDP)

The Executive Board

With regard to the annual report on evaluation, 2014 (DP/2015/16) and the management commentaries thereto:

1. Takes note of the annual report on evaluation and urges UNDP to address in a timely manner the findings and recommendations, with a view towards improving programme results and impacts;

2. Approves the revised programme of work for 2015 of the Independent Evaluation Office of UNDP, recognizing there have been revisions to the plan as a result of changes in the budget;

3. Requests the Independent Evaluation Office to present a briefing on lessons learned on evaluation as well as an indicative costed programme of work for 2015 and 2016 at an informal meeting prior to the second regular session of 2015;

4. Requests the Independent Evaluation Office and UNDP management to provide to the Board at its second regular session of 2015 a strategy document on how it intends to revise its plans and procedures to improve the quality of decentralized evaluations;

5. Requests that in future annual reports, the Independent Evaluation Office presents a costed programme of work with more comprehensive information about the planned evaluations and other activities;

6. Emphasizes the importance of comprehensive evaluations of the work of UNDP at the country level, and requests that the Independent Evaluation Office develop a practical strategy for improved evaluation coverage of country programmes at their conclusion to inform the preparation of subsequent country programmes, to be included in the annual costed programme of work for the consideration of the members of the Executive Board;

7. Urges the Independent Evaluation Office to ensure that its evaluations offer practical, cost-effective and impact-oriented recommendations that can be used to enhance the work of UNDP globally;

8. Recognizes the continuing efforts of UNDP in implementing evaluation management response actions and encourages UNDP to make strong progress on its implementation of follow-up actions of the management responses to thematic evaluations during 2015, taking fully into account the recommendations of the Independent Evaluation Office;

9. Emphasizes the importance of maintaining an adequate funding level for this Office as a way of safeguarding its effectiveness and independence; and expects UNDP to ensure sufficient funding for the Independent Evaluation Office to fulfil its mandates;

With regard to the evaluation of the contribution of global and regional Human Development Reports to the public policy process (DP/2015/17) and the management response thereto (DP/2015/18):

10. Takes note of the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation of the contribution of global and regional Human Development Reports to the public policy process, and requests UNDP to take them fully into account in future global and regional human development reporting;

11. Requests UNDP to use the recommendations of the evaluation report both for the global and regional Human Development Reports and to report to the Executive Board, at its annual of 2016, on steps taken in this regard;
12. Acknowledges that the evaluation has affirmed that for a quarter century, the global Human Development Reports have made major contributions to the global development debate, and especially the important contribution of global Human Development Reports in mainstreaming of the concept of human development as an input to development policymaking;

13. Encourages UNDP to carry out a thorough review of the Human Development Index to reflect the changes in the global development landscape and the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development in its method and structure, mindful of the importance of using where possible the most recent available national statistics in the computation of indices, as well as alignment with the goals, targets and indicators of the sustainable development goals;

   With regard to the evaluation of the role of UNDP in supporting national achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (DP/2015/19) and the management response thereto (DP/2015/20):

14. Takes note of the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation of the role of UNDP in supporting national achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and requests UNDP to take them fully into account in its current work in support of countries on their fulfilment of the Goals, in preparation for supporting countries as the sustainable development goals are established and efforts are made to achieve them, and for the midterm review of the Strategic Plan in 2016;

15. Acknowledges that the evaluation concludes that UNDP has designed and rolled out a high-quality and well-timed set of diverse and complementary tools in support of Millennium Development Goal-related planning, monitoring and implementation;

16. Acknowledges the views expressed in the evaluation that UNDP is well positioned to approach the post-2015 era and help countries to achieve the sustainable development goals, while also recognizing that the emerging post-2015 development agenda is significantly more comprehensive and complex than the Millennium Development Goals and will require a longer-term repositioning of the United Nations development system, including UNDP.

9 June 2015

2015/9

Report on results achieved by the United Nations Capital Development Fund in 2014

The Executive Board

1. Takes note of the report on results achieved by UNCDF in 2014 (DP/2015/21) and the continued strong performance of UNCDF against set targets;

2. Recognizes the strategic positioning of the flexible capital mandate of UNCDF in developing innovative partnerships with public and private sector development partners, particularly linked to domestic resource mobilization, and notes the relevance of UNCDF expertise for the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda;

3. Takes note of the continuous steady growth in UNCDF non-core resources and partnerships, which contribute to the achievement of results by UNCDF primarily with the least developed countries (LDCs);

4. Expresses concern that regular resources, decreasing slightly in 2014, remain far short of the $25 million threshold required to sustain UNCDF programming in 40 LDCs; and notes with concern that as a result, the number of LDCs supported by UNCDF dropped from 33 in 2013 to 31 in 2014;
5. **Recognizes** that a critical mass of core resources is required, in accordance with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, to ensure that UNCDF maintains its innovation space; so the Fund secures a solid and predictable base from which to leverage additional resources and drive follow on investment including through domestic resource mobilization for local development; and mindful of the importance of guaranteeing presence in up to 40 LDCs according to the 2014-2017 Strategic Framework; and against this background calls on Member States in a position to do so to contribute to UNCDF regular resources to ensure that it can reach the target of $25 million per year in annual regular resources.

9 June 2015

**2015/10**

**Annual report of the Executive Director of UNFPA**

*The Executive Board*

1. **Takes note** of the documents that make up the report of the Executive Director for 2015: DP/FPA/2015/5 (Part I, Part I/Add.1 and Part II);
2. **Takes note with appreciation** of the systematic reporting against the results framework of the strategic plan, 2014-2017, and the progress achieved;
3. **Acknowledges** and **welcomes** the efforts undertaken by UNFPA to implement the revised strategic direction, including the enhanced engagement in humanitarian settings, and the new differentiated business model;
4. **Requests** the Executive Director to make further improvements in the next annual report by referring to the theories of change document accompanying the strategic plan, making use of evaluation findings and including more details on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of United Nations operational activities for development, lessons learned and actions taken in response;
5. **Recognizes** the need for increased support for effective positioning of UNFPA to augment further efforts to complete the unfinished Millennium Development Goal 5 targets A and B, and to accelerate investments in young people, including in adolescent girls and boys, in order to enable countries to realize the demographic dividend, in line with their national priorities, and **requests** the Executive Director to make a presentation on UNFPA work on the demographic dividend in the context of the midterm review of the Strategic Plan, 2014-2017.

24 June 2015

**2015/11**

**Annual report on evaluation (UNFPA)**

*The Executive Board*

1. **Takes note** of the annual report of the Evaluation Office (DP/FPA/2015/6) and the evaluation workplan for 2015, including amendments to the transitional biennial budgeted evaluation plan, 2014-2015, as well as the management response;
2. **Reaffirms** the central role played by the evaluation function in UNFPA, the relevance of the principles set out in the revised evaluation policy (DP/FPA/2013/5) and the importance of their implementation within the organization;
3. **Encourages** UNFPA to take action to further strengthen the evaluation function at UNFPA by implementing the recommendations presented in table 3 of the evaluation report;

4. **Takes note** of the challenges in the field of decentralized evaluations, and **stresses** the need to continue to strengthen capacity for decentralized monitoring and evaluation;

5. **Reiterates** the importance of adequate resource allocation, including from other resources for non-core funded programmes, to support a strong, independent evaluation function, and **encourages** UNFPA to ensure that the level of human and financial resources is commensurate with the appropriate level of evaluation coverage and with the necessary alignment with the UNFPA strategic plan, 2014-2017, and its business model;

6. **Welcomes** the initiatives of the Evaluation Office to disseminate evaluation findings for institutional and programmatic strengthening;

7. **Requests** the Director of the Evaluation Office to report in 2016 on progress in addressing key issues and challenges in evaluation in the Director’s annual report to the Executive Board.

9 June 2015

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**2015/12**

**Annual report of the Executive Director of UNOPS**

**The Executive Board**

1. **Takes note** of the significant contributions made by UNOPS to the operational results of the United Nations and its partners in 2014;

2. **Takes note** of the efforts made to enhance and report on UNOPS contributions to partners’ sustainable results, including the pursuit of best practices and recognized standards;

3. **Further takes note** of the overall progress made in implementing the UNOPS Strategic Plan, 2014-2017, which has established a strong foundations for UNOPS to support Member States in implementing the sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda;

4. **Encourages** the Executive Director to proceed with the Audit Advisory Committee in accordance with established best practices of UNDP and UNFPA, as well as previous decisions by the Executive Board on this matter;

5. **Recalls** Executive Board decisions 2008/35 and 2009/4 and, in order to promote greater efficiency in UNOPS operations, **requests** the Executive Director to consult with the Secretary-General on the future role of the Policy Advisory Committee vis-à-vis that of the Executive Board regarding oversight and policy guidance to UNOPS, recognizing considerable changes since 2009 to the governance structure of UNOPS and the evolution of its role and mandate;

6. **Encourages** UNOPS to further explore the potential of facilitating partnerships with like-minded actors including from the private sector, placing firm emphasis on social impact investments in the UNOPS mandated areas such as infrastructure development and project management, and with full respect of national ownership.

9 June 2015
2015/13
Internal audit and oversight

The Executive Board

1. Welcomes the progress of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS in addressing audit-related management issues in 2014;

2. Notes with appreciation efforts to implement outstanding audit recommendations from previous reports;

3. Notes with concern the number of recurring recommendations and requests to the respective secretariats of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to step up their efforts to achieve the timely, full, complete and sustained implementation of all outstanding and new audit recommendations;

4. Requests the internal audit and investigation offices of the three organizations to provide timely information to the Executive Board when they face challenges in discharging their oversight responsibilities or fulfilling their workplans;

5. Further requests the internal audit and investigation offices to include in future annual reports:

   (a) an opinion, based on the scope of work undertaken, on the adequacy and effectiveness of the organizations’ framework of governance, risk management and control;

   (b) a concise summary of work and the criteria that support the opinion;

   (c) a statement of conformance with the internal audit standards being adhered to;

   (d) a view on whether the resourcing of their function is appropriate, sufficient and effectively deployed to achieve the desired internal audit coverage;

6. Welcomes the inclusion of information regarding losses recovered following substantiated investigations, and encourages the UNDP and UNFPA secretariats to continue to strengthen their efforts to ensure that such funds are recovered to the organizations and that finalized cases are promptly followed up;

7. Encourages the organizations jointly to review their recruitment procedures for posts in the internal audit and investigation offices and to report to the Executive Board on measures taken to reduce the long vacancies;

   With regard to UNDP:

8. Takes note of the report on internal audit and investigations (DP/2015/22), its annexes and the management response;

9. Expresses its continuing support for strengthening the internal audit and investigation functions of UNDP;

10. Requests that UNDP provide information on follow-up to investigations finalized in previous reporting years and as to losses recovered for such years, as well as continue to provide details of follow-up to, and losses recovered for, investigations concluded in the specific reporting year covered by the report;

11. Also requests that the Office of Audit and Investigations provide a thorough presentation of their organizational risk assessment in future annual reports to the Executive Board.

12. Takes note of the annual report of the Audit Advisory Committee and the management response thereto.
With regard to UNFPA:

13. Takes note of the present report (DP/FPA/2015/7);

14. Expresses its continuing support for the strengthening of the audit and investigation functions at UNFPA, and for the provision of sufficient resources to discharge their mandate;

15. Acknowledges and supports the engagement of the Office of Audit and Investigation Services in joint oversight activities;

16. Recalls decision 2015/5 of the Executive Board, where UNFPA was requested to inform the Executive Board of the organization’s plans to improve internal audit coverage, and requests UNFPA to consider these plans, including with regard to strengthening investigation capacity, in the revised integrated budget to be presented to the Executive Board in 2016;

17. Takes note of the annual report of the Audit Advisory Committee (DP/FPA/2015/7/Add.1) and the management response thereto and to the present report.

With regard to UNOPS:

18. Takes note of the annual report of the Internal Audit and Investigations Group for 2014 (DP/OPS/2015/3) and the management response thereto;

19. Take note of the progress made in implementation of audit recommendations, including those that are more than 18 months old;

20. Take note of the annual report of the Strategy and Audit Advisory Committee for 2014 (in line with Executive Board decision 2008/37).

9 June 2015

2015/14
Reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS

The Executive Board

1. Welcomes the reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS (DP/2015/23, DP/FPA/2015/8 and DP/OPS/2015/4);

2. Notes with appreciation the vital role played by the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to foster a culture of ethics, integrity and accountability in their respective organizations, and urges the offices to continue enhancing that culture.

3. Commends the respective managements of the UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS for their leadership and continued support and commitment to the work of the ethics offices, and urges management to continue its efforts to allocate sufficient resources to the ethics function;

4. Recalls decision 2011/24, and commends the ethics offices for their recommendations to management to strengthen the organizational culture of integrity; encourages the offices to continue to provide management with advice and recommendations in this regard, which may include recommendations for improving internal legal and accountability frameworks to address misconduct and protection of whistle-blowers; and urges the respective managements of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue to work together with the ethics offices in this regard and to implement their recommendations, as appropriate.

9 June 2015
Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its annual session 2015

The Executive Board

Recalls that during its annual session 2015, it:

Item 1
Organizational matters
Adopted the agenda and workplan for its annual session 2015 (DP/2015/L.2);
Adopted the report of the first regular session 2015 (DP/2015/9);
Approved the tentative workplan for the second regular session 2015;
Agreed to the following schedule for the remaining session of the Executive Board in 2015:
  Second regular session 2015: 1 August to 4 September 2015.
Took no decision on the venue of the annual sessions of the Executive Board.

UNDP segment

Item 2
Annual report of the Administrator
Adopted decision 2015/7 on the annual report of the Administrator: performance and results for 2014 (DP/2015/11);
Took note of the report of UNDP on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2014 (DP/2015/11/Add.1);
Took note of the statistical annex (DP/2015/11/Add.2).

Item 3
Gender in UNDP
Took no decision on the annual report on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy, 2014-2017 (DP/2015/12).

Item 4
Human Development Report
Took note of the oral report on consultations regarding the 2016 Human Development Report in accordance with General Assembly resolution 57/264.

Item 5
UNDP country programmes and related matters
Withdrew the country programme document for Uganda (DP/DCP/UGA/3).
Took note of: the first six-month extension of the country programme for Ethiopia, from 1 January to 30 June 2016; the first one-year extension of the country programme for the United Republic of Tanzania, from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016; the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Mozambique and Yemen, from 1 January to 31 December 2016; the first one-year extension of the country programme for Kyrgyzstan, from 1 January to 31 December 2017 (DP/2015/13).
Reviewed and approved, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for Armenia (DP/DCP/ARM/3) and Turkmenistan (DP/DCP/TKM/2).

**Item 6**  
**Evaluation (UNDP)**

The draft decision on the revised UNDP evaluation policy was withdrawn.

Adopted decision 2015/8 on the 2014 annual report on evaluation (DP/2015/16), the report on the evaluation of the contribution of global and regional Human Development Reports to the public policy process (DP/2015/17) and the management response (DP/2015/18), and the report on the evaluation of the role of UNDP in supporting national achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (DP/2015/19) and the management response (DP/2015/20).

**Item 7**  
**United Nations Capital Development Fund**


**UNFPA segment**

**Item 8**  
**Annual report of the Executive Director**

Decided to adopt the decision on the annual report of the Executive Director at a special session, held on Wednesday, 24 June 2015, from 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm.

Adopted decision 2015/10 on the Report of the Executive Director: Progress in implementation of the UNFPA strategic plan, 2014-2017 (DP/FPA/2015/5 Part I);

Took note of the Statistical and financial review, 2014 (DP/FPA/2015/5 Part I/Add.1);

Took note of the UNFPA report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2014 (DP/FPA/2015/5 Part II).

**Item 9**  
**Evaluation (UNFPA)**

Adopted decision 2015/11 on the annual report on evaluation (DP/FPA/2015/6).

**Item 10**  
**UNFPA country programmes and related matters**

Took note of the one-year extensions of the country programmes for Somalia (2016), United Republic of Tanzania (1 July 2015-30 June 2016) and Yemen (2016) (DP/FPA/2015/9);

Approved the second one-year extension of the country programme for Lebanon (2016), the fourth one-year extension of the country programme for the Syrian Arab Republic (2015) and the two-year extension of the country programme for Papua New Guinea (2016-2017) (DP/FPA/2015/9);

Reviewed and approved, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for Armenia (DP/FPA/CPD/ARM/3); Turkmenistan (DP/FPA/CPD/TKM/4) and Uganda (DP/FPA/CPD/UGA/8).
UNOPS segment

Item 11
Annual report of the Executive Director

Adopted decision 2015/12 on the annual report of the Executive Director (DP/OPS/2015/2).

Joint segment

Item 12
Internal audit and oversight

Adopted decision 2015/13 on the: (a) UNDP report on internal audit and investigations (DP/2015/22); (b) report of the Director, Division for Oversight Services on UNFPA internal audit and oversight activities in 2014 (DP/FPA/2015/7); and (c) activity report for 2014 of the Internal Audit and Investigations Group of UNOPS (DP/OPS/2015/3).

Item 13
Reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS

Adopted decision 2015/14 on the reports of the ethics offices of UNDP (DP/2015/23), UNFPA (DP/FPA/2015/8) and UNOPS (DP/OPS/2015/4)

Item 14
Other matters

Held the following briefings and consultations:

UNDP

Side event “Restore or reform? Strategic support to core government functions in the aftermath of crisis”

UNV side event - State of the World's Volunteerism Report

Joint UNDP and Mission of Finland side event “UNDP support to dialogue and internal mediation processes in the Middle East and North Africa region”

Side event on the UNDP Gender Equality Seal

UNOPS

Informal consultation

UNFPA

Briefing on the demographic dividend

Briefing on the UNFPA humanitarian preparedness and response in Northeast Nigeria: supporting women and girls rescued from Boko Haram

Informal consultation on the new UNFPA resource mobilization strategy

9 June 2015
2015/16
UNDP funding issues

The Executive Board

1. Takes note of:

(a) the annual review of the financial situation, 2014 (DP/2015/26 and Add. 1) and the status of regular resources funding commitments to UNDP and its funds and programmes for 2015 and onwards (DP/2015/27);

(b) the proposed funding mechanisms and incentives for attracting and optimizing flexible and predictable financing;

(c) the efforts of UNDP to further diversify its donor base and to mobilize additional resources and other forms of support from diversified sources, including the ‘100 Partners for Development’ campaign;


3. Notes with serious concern the decline in contributions to regular resources in 2014 and the increasing imbalance between regular and other resources, at a nearly 1:5 ratio;

4. Reiterates the need to avoid the use of regular resources to subsidize activities financed by other resources, and reaffirms that the guiding principle governing the financing of all non-programme costs should be based on Executive Board decision 2013/9;

5. Emphasizes that regular resources are the bedrock of UNDP and essential to maintaining the multilateral, neutral and universal nature of its mandate and to carry out its work, and, in this regard, encourages UNDP to further mobilize these resources while continuing to mobilize other resources to respond to the needs of all programme countries, particularly the poorest and most vulnerable;

6. Highlights the importance of stable and predictable contributions to regular resources, and notes the important need to enhance the quality, predictability and alignment of contributions to other resources to the Strategic Plan, 2014-2017, which comprise an important complement to the regular resource base;

7. Reiterates its concern about the restrictive nature of earmarked resources, which could limit the organization’s capacity to fulfil the Strategic Plan, 2014-2017, and requests UNDP to continue the funding dialogue to address this issue;

8. Notes that currency fluctuations can affect the resource levels of UNDP and requests UNDP to continue to report to the Executive Board on its work to address the impact of currency fluctuations and to continue to monitor the work of other international organizations in this regard to ensure that its currency management remains optimal;

9. Urges donor countries and other countries in a position to do so that have not yet provided their contributions to regular resources for 2015 to do so as early as possible,
and encourages those countries in a position to do so to consider making multi-year pledges for future years;

10. *Welcomes* Member States’ continued dialogue with UNDP on funding issues, including how to facilitate a shift from highly earmarked resources to regular resources, or less restricted/earmarked resources, and urges Member States to prioritize the provision of regular resources and other resources that are flexible, predictable, less earmarked and aligned to the outcomes of the Strategic Plan, 2014-2017;

11. *Requests* UNDP, in the context of the structured dialogue on financing, to:

(a) Engage in informal dialogues with Member States throughout the year, including ensuring the arrangement of special interactive discussions among Member States on the margins of the annual session each year, to ensure an ongoing discussion, exchange of information and analysis of funding issues and options, taking into consideration the midterm review of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2014-2017, the Economic and Social Council dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations Development System, and the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including the funding analysis. This includes exploring incentives, mechanisms and funding windows to broaden the donor base and to encourage donors to increase and prioritize regular resources contributions as well as to shift to less restricted other resources, aligned to the Strategic Plan;

(b) Submit, within the context of the annual reporting on funding and resource mobilization, an analysis of the predictability, flexibility and alignment of resources provided for the implementation of the Strategic Plan, including funding gaps and their implications for the Integrated Results and Resources Framework;

(c) Continue to respond to the evolving development opportunities to widen its partnerships with the private sector, in line with the UNDP policy on private sector engagement, as well as with civil society organizations, philanthropic organizations, the general public, multilateral organizations, international financial institutions and global public-private alliances in a transparent and coordinated manner;

12. *Recognizes* that government cost-sharing constitutes an earmarked funding mechanism that strengthens national ownership as well as contributes to the achievement of country programmes and, in that regard, underlines the need to take the special characteristics of government cost-sharing into account when considering mechanisms to incentivize less restricted/earmarked other resources funding, while ensuring the alignment of such resources to the Strategic Plan.

*4 September 2015*

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**2015/17**

**Evaluation of the UNDP contribution to gender equality and women’s empowerment and management response**

*The Executive Board*

*With regard to the evaluation of UNDP contribution to gender equality and women’s empowerment (DP/2015/29) and the management response thereto (DP/2015/30):*
1. Acknowledges that the evaluation has found far reaching change and a marked improvement in UNDP’s approach and implementation of policies to address gender mainstreaming since the last independent evaluation in 2006;

2. Notes the evaluation report conclusions and recommendations, and management response;

3. Requests that UNDP report on progress in responding to the evaluation recommendations as contained in the management response in its annual report on gender in UNDP;

4. Notes that the report on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy in 2014 (DP/2015/12) documents that UNDP has already responded to several of the challenges identified in the evaluation report, and requests that UNDP in its report to the Executive Board on the implementation, performance and results of the gender equality strategy at its annual session of 2016, address areas of work requiring special attention and follow-up that have been identified in the evaluation.

3 September 2015

2015/18
Funding commitments to UNFPA

The Executive Board

1. Takes note of the report on contributions by Member States and others to UNFPA and revenue projections for 2015 and future years (DP/FPA/2015/8) and the updated integrated resource plan, 2014-2017 (DP/FPA/2015/CRP.4);

2. Welcomes the UNFPA resource mobilization strategy and its objectives, as outlined in document DP/FPA/2015/11;

3. Takes note of the proposed funding mechanisms and incentives for attracting and optimizing flexible and predictable financing and the efforts made by UNFPA to broaden the funding base and to mobilize additional resources and other forms of support from diversified sources;

4. Highlights the importance of stable and predictable contributions to regular resources, and notes the important need to enhance the quality, predictability and alignment to the Strategic Plan, 2014-2017 of contributions to other resources, which comprise an important complement to the regular resource base;

5. Recalls Executive Board decision 2014/25 on funding commitments to UNFPA and implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

6. Emphasizes that regular resources are the bedrock of UNFPA and essential to maintaining the multilateral, neutral and universal nature of its mandate and to carry out its work, and, in this regard, encourages UNFPA to further mobilize these resources while continuing to mobilize supplementary resources for its thematic funds and programmes, to respond to the needs of all programme countries, particularly the poorest and most vulnerable;

7. Acknowledges the need for continued strong political and increased financial support as well as predictable regular resources funding in order to assist countries to achieve the internationally agreed development goals as well as to support countries
through the implementation of the country programmes in advancing their national goals relating to the Framework of Action for follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 and the post-2015 sustainable development framework;

8. **Encourages** all Member States to increase their contributions to regular resources, including by making contributions during the first quarter of the year and to make multi-year pledges in order to ensure effective programming;

9. **Requests** UNFPA, in the context of the structured dialogue on financing, to:

(a) Engage in informal dialogues with Member States throughout the year, including in specially arranged interactive sessions prior to the Executive Board sessions, to ensure an ongoing discussion, exchange of information and analysis of funding issues and options, taking into consideration the midterm review of the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2014-2017; the ECOSOC Dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations Development System; and the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including the funding analysis. This includes exploring incentives, mechanisms and funding windows, along with their impact to broaden the donor base and to encourage donors to increase and prioritize regular resources contributions, as well as to shift to less restricted other resources funding, aligned to the Strategic Plan;

(b) Submit, within the context of the annual reporting on funding commitments to UNFPA, an analysis of the predictability, flexibility and alignment of resources provided for the implementation of the Strategic Plan, including funding gaps and their implications for the Integrated Results Framework. The report will be the culmination of the informal dialogues referred to in paragraph 9 (a);

10. **Encourages** UNFPA to continue to adapt to the evolving development partnership opportunities to widen its partnerships with the private sector, civil society organizations, philanthropic organizations, the general public, multilateral organizations, international financial institutions and global public-private alliances in a transparent and coordinated manner, in line with institutional engagement parameters and principles.

*4 September 2015*

**2015/19**
**Quadrennial evaluation workplan and budget (UNFPA)**

*The Executive Board*

1. **Welcomes** the proposal to move from a biennial to a quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan for 2016-2019;

2. **Acknowledges** the transparent and participatory process undertaken by UNFPA in developing the quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan for 2016-2019 (DP/FPA/2015/12);

3. **Acknowledges** the key principles that have guided the evaluation plan, in particular the alignment with the strategic plan and business model;
4. Notes the need to maintain a balance between accountability and learning, with a clear focus on utility;

5. Welcomes the diversification of the range of evaluations, including the piloting of a cluster evaluation, and the approach to impact evaluation related to adolescents and youth;

6. Encourages the Evaluation Office to further engage in joint or system-wide evaluation initiatives;

7. Supports efforts to coordinate joint approaches for national evaluation capacity development through the United Nations Evaluation Group;

8. Notes the increased allocation of resources, as set out in the quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan, and encourages UNFPA to continue to work towards the target of three per cent of programme expenditure set out in the revised evaluation policy (DP/FPA/2013/5);

9. Notes with interest the key principles mentioned in paragraph 49 of the evaluation plan to guide the resourcing of the evaluation function;

10. Approves the quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan for 2016-2019.

3 September 2015

2015/20
UNOPS budget estimates for the biennium 2016-2017

The Executive Board

1. Approves the net revenue target;

2. Endorses the two-year aspiration of UNOPS with respect to its management results and the targeting of resources to pursue operational excellence.

4 September 2015

2015/21
Annual statistical report on the procurement activities of the United Nations system, 2014

The Executive Board

1. Takes note of the annual statistical report on the procurement activities of the United Nations system, 2014 (DP/OPS/2015/6);

2. Appreciates the contributions of the United Nations entities which have provided the information necessary to compile the annual statistical report and encourages all entities of the United Nations to participate in contributing to this important procurement report;

3. Appreciates the transparency under which the report is made available to the public by UNOPS through the International Aid Transparency Initiative on data transparency.

4 September 2015
2015/22
Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its second regular session 2015

The Executive Board

Recalls that during its second regular session 2015, it:

Item 1
Organizational matters

Adopted the agenda and workplan for its second regular session 2015 (DP/2015/L.3);

Adopted the report of the annual session 2015 (DP/2015/24);

Agreed to the following schedule of future sessions of the Executive Board in 2016:

- First regular session: 25-29 January 2016
- Annual session: 20-24 June 2016 (Geneva) or 6-10 June (New York)
- Second regular session: 6-9 and 12 September 2016

Approved the draft annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2016 (DP/2015/CRP.2) and adopted the tentative workplan for the first regular session of 2016.
UNDP segment

Items 2, 3 and 4
Structured funding dialogue; Financial, budgetary and administrative matters; and Funding commitments to UNDP

Adopted decision 2015/16 on UNDP funding issues.

Item 5
Country programmes and related matters

Withdrew the country programme document for Azerbaijan (DP/DCP/AZE/3);
Took note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Burkina Faso, Chad and Somalia (DP/2015/28);
Approved the exceptional one-year extension of the country programme for Côte d’Ivoire and the second one-year extensions of the country programmes for Lebanon and Libya (DP/2015/28);
Reviewed and approved, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for:

- Algeria (DP/DCP/DZA/3);
- Belarus (DP/DCP/BLR/3);
- Cambodia (DP/DCP/KHM/3);
- China (DP/DCP/CHN/3);
- Colombia (DP/DCP/COL/2);
- El Salvador (DP/DCP/SLV/3);
- Georgia (DP/DCP/GEO/3);
- Guinea-Bissau (DP/DCP/GNB/2);
- Indonesia (DP/DCP/IDN/3);
- Kazakhstan (DP/DCP/KAZ/3);
- Malaysia (DP/DCP/MYS/3);
- Maldives (DP/DCP/MDV/3);
- Panama (DP/DCP/PAN/3);
- Serbia (DP/DCP/SRB/2), including the results and resources framework for Kosovo* (DP/DCP/SRB/2/Add.1);
- Swaziland (DP/DCP/SWZ/3);
- Tajikistan (DP/DCP/TAJ/2);
- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (DP/DCP/MKD/3);
- Turkey (DP/DCP/TUR/3);
- Uganda (DP/DCP/UGA/4);
- Uzbekistan (DP/DCP/UZB/3);
- Zambia (DP/DCP/ZMB/3);
- Zimbabwe (DP/DCP/ZWE/3).

Item 6
Evaluation

Adopted decision 2015/17 on the evaluation of the UNDP contribution to gender equality and women’s empowerment and management response.

* References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).
UNFPA segment

Items 7, 8 and 9
Structured funding dialogue; Funding commitments to UNFPA; and Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

Adopted decision 2015/18 on funding commitments to UNFPA.

Item 10
Evaluation

Adopted decision 2015/19 on the UNFPA quadrennial evaluation workplan budget.

Item 11
Country programmes and related matters

Reviewed and approved, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for:

- Azerbaijan (DP/FPA/CPD/AZE/4);
- Belarus (DP/FPA/CPD/BLR/2);
- Cambodia (DP/FPA/CPD/KHM/5);
- China (DP/FPA/CPD/CHN/8);
- Colombia (DP/FPA/COL/6);
- El Salvador (DP/FPA/CPD/SLV/8);
- Georgia (DP/FPA/CPD/GEO/3);
- Guinea-Bissau (DP/FPA/CPD/GNB/6);
- Indonesia (DP/FPA/CPD/IDN/9);
- Kazakhstan (DP/FPA/CPD/KAZ/4);
- Maldives (DP/FPA/CPD/MDV/6);
- Panama (DP/FPA/CPD/PAN/3);
- Serbia (DP/FPA/CPD/SRB/1), including the results and resources framework for Kosovo* (DP/FPA/CPD/SRB/1/Add.1);
- Swaziland (DP/FPA/CPD/SWZ/6);
- Tajikistan (DP/FPA/CPD/TJK/4);
- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (DP/FPA/CPD/MKD/1);
- Turkey (DP/FPA/CPD/TUR/6);
- Uzbekistan (DP/FPA/CPD/UZB/4);
- Zambia (DP/FPA/CPD/ZMB/8);
- Zimbabwe (DP/FPA/CPD/ZWE/7);

Approved the second, one-year extension of the country programme for Côte d’Ivoire (DP/FPA/2015/14);

Took note of the six-month extension of the country programme for Ethiopia and the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Brazil, Burkina Faso, the Democratic Peoples’ Republic of Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Mozambique and Ukraine (DP/FPA/2015/14).

* References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).
UNOPS segment

Item 12
United Nations Office for Project Services


Joint segment

Item 13
Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

Took note of the report of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on joint procurement activities (document DP-FPA-OPS/2015/1);


Item 14
Follow-up to UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board meeting


Item 15
Field visits

Took note of the report of the joint field visit of the Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP to Jordan (DP/FPA/OPS-ICEF-UNW-WFP/2015/CRP.1);

Took note of the guidelines for the field visits of the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS and for the joint field visits with UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP Executive Boards (DP/2015/CRP.3).

Item 16
Other matters

Took note of the statement by the Chairperson of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS/UN-Women Staff Council;

Held the following briefings and consultations:

UNDP

Informal briefing, ‘Leaving No One Behind: the United Nations Capital Development Fund supporting least developed countries to achieve the sustainable development goals’;

Informal briefing, ‘UNDP electoral assistance in transitional and post-conflict contexts: a presentation of the achievements of UNDP and discussion on the way forward’;

UNFPA

Informal briefing on programming for human capital development in post-conflict Democratic Republic of the Congo;

Informal briefing on the humanitarian response of UNFPA;

Informal briefing on the Global Programme to Enhance the Reproductive Health Commodity Security of UNFPA.
# TENTATIVE WORKPLAN
## EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS
### FIRST REGULAR SESSION 2016
(25-29 January 2016, New York)

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