





EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION TRACKING TABLE FOR 2020



The following matrix keeps track of the implementation of specific and time-bound requests to UNFPA contained in Executive Board decisions. The decision-tracking matrix is revised on a regular basis to keep the information relevant and up-to-date.





The full text of the Decisions per Executive Board sessions is available by clicking on the decision. The full compendium of Decisions adopted by the Executive Board in 2020 can be found on the [UNFPA Executive Board Website](#).



The status of a decision is indicated as follows: **(1) GREEN** ● signifies (a) 'completed' (action has been completed or decision is no longer relevant) or (b) 'ongoing' (action in progress, if a recurring item); **(2) YELLOW** ● signifies an action is 'partially completed' (action in progress, with a due date, if relevant).



Decision	Category	Responsible division(s)	Request	Deadline	Progress and follow-up action	Status
First Regular Session 2020 (3-6 February 2020)						
2020/1 Reports of UNDP, UNCDF, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2018	Recommendations of the Board of Auditors		Para 1. <i>Welcomes</i> the unqualified audit opinions that UNDP, UNFPA, UNCDF and UNOPS received for 2018, while also noting that there is still room for improvement;			No actions required
	Recommendations of the Board of Auditors	Office of the Executive Director, Ethics Office	Para 2. Calls for a strong focus on measures targeted towards preventative actions and quality assurance, as well as ethics awareness-raising, and protection of whistle-blowers, in line with existing non-retaliatory policies of the entities;	Ongoing	The Ethics Office has adopted a triaged approach to livetraining, whereby rules-based information is transmitted online and through targeted communications. Face to face/webinar training will be reserved for nuanced and complex ethics material. The goal is to prioritize foresight and skills training for ethical decision making and behaviour. Ethics Office	In Progress ●
	Recommendations of the Board of Auditors	Office of the Executive Director	Para 3. Urges UNDP, UNFPA, UNCDF and UNOPS to continue implementing and closing the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2018, and the remaining recommendations from prior years;	Ongoing	UNFPA has made substantive progress in implementing 27 outstanding recommendations. 13 recommendations are already reviewed and closed by BoA. The supporting documentation with respect to 12 more recommendations is currently being reviewed by BoA. Deadline for implementation of two remaining recommendations is in Q3-20 and Q3-21 respectively.	In Progress ●



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	Recommendations of the Board of Auditors	Division for Management Services, Office of the Executive Director	Para 4. Calls for UNDP, UNFPA, UNCDF and UNOPS management to systematically continue to improve the maturity of risk management at all levels, particularly strengthening accountability and the implementation of the internal control frameworks;	Ongoing	UNFPA is on course to issue its risk management policy in 2020. This is an integral part of its maturing risk management model, which encompasses a risk appetite statement and an increasing differentiated approach. The policy will draw from recent work of the JIU and HLCM on Enterprise Risk Management.	In Progress 
	Recommendations of the Board of Auditors		Para 5. <i>Notes</i> the progress made by UNDP in addressing the refined top seven audit-related priorities in 2018-2019;			No actions required
Para 6. <i>Recalls</i> decision 2019/2 and notes that important findings and recommendations of the Board of Auditors in 2018 remain applicable to the country level, and encourages UNDP to present its action plan of the 2019 internal study on root causes underlying recurring audit observations and present concrete plans to address these oversight and accountability issues across the UNDP country, regional and global management practices and portfolios:					No actions required	
Para 7. <i>Notes</i> that the Board of Auditors observed different levels of maturity and awareness among the bureaux and country offices in their compliance to internal control frameworks, and encourages UNDP to take appropriate action to ensure that all staff at country level are sufficiently trained and have adequate competence for continuous stringent compliance with its accountability and internal control frameworks;					No actions required	
Para 8. <i>Also notes</i> the observations by the Board of Auditors relating to human resources, and encourages UNDP to further ensure compliance with policies on workforce and personnel management across the organization;					No actions required	
Para 9. <i>Looks forward</i> to the review of the UNDP enterprise risk management policy in the 2020 report of the Board of Auditors;					No actions required	
Para 10. <i>Takes note</i> of the report (DP/FPA/2020/1) on the actions taken by UNFPA and the further measures planned by the organization to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the financial period that ended on 31 December 2018;					No actions required	
	Recommendations of the Board of Auditors	Office of the Executive Director/ Division for Management Services; ITSO	Para 11. <i>Looks forward</i> to the UNFPA enterprise risk management policy in 2020 and the enterprise resource planning system in 2021 to support the implementation and closing of outstanding recommendations;	Ongoing	UNFPA is in the process of developing its risk management policy due for completion in 2020. The new ERP system has a “go live” date of 2022. The design of the ERP will encompass solutions to address the outstanding recommendations and embed support to effective risk management,	In Progress 
	Recommendations of the Board of Auditors		Para 12. <i>Notes</i> that the Board of Auditors recommended that UNOPS needed to formulate a strategy for the effective utilization of its increasing surpluses under its operational reserve and,			No actions required




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			recalling decisions 2012/5 and 2019/20 in this regard, calls on UNOPS to utilize its operational reserve in strict accordance with the existing financial rules and regulations			
2020/2 Working methods of the Executive Board	Working Methods		Para 1. <i>Recalls</i> decision 2019/16 of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS on working methods of the Executive Board and reiterates its requests therein;			Noted
			Para 2. <i>Takes note</i> of the joint paper on working methods of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP;			No actions required
			Para 3. <i>Takes note with appreciation</i> of the revised guidelines for the field visits of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women, and for the joint field visits of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP;			No actions required
	Working Methods	Executive Board Branch/Office of Executive Director	Para 4. <i>Requests</i> the secretariat of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UN-Women, to submit to Member States, ahead of the annual session 2020, with a view to conclude discussions on the working methods no later than the second regular session, a concrete proposal for a rearranged annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2021, which includes daily schedules of the three sessions and informal consultations, supported by a detailed comparative analysis of potential implications on items for decisions, overall costs, efficiency and oversight, with a view to reducing the workload of the second regular session by shifting agenda items among formal sessions, as appropriate;	2020 Annual Session	Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UN-Women has prepared and submitted to Member States, ahead of the annual session 2020 a concrete proposal for a rearranged annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2021, which includes daily schedules of the three sessions and informal consultations, supported by a detailed comparative analysis of potential implications on items for decisions, overall costs, efficiency and oversight, with a view to reducing the workload of the second regular session by shifting agenda items among formal sessions. Furthermore, a joint briefing on working methods of the Executive Boards was conducted for the Executive Board members and observers on 28 May 2020.	Completed and ongoing 
	Working Methods	Executive Board Branch/Office of Executive Director	Para 5. <i>Further recalls</i> decision 2018/22 and stresses the need to continue to harmonize the consideration of common agenda items across the respective Executive Board agendas and requests the secretariat of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and	Ongoing	The harmonization of common agenda items across the respective Executive Board agendas is ongoing. The secretariat of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UN-Women, has reflected this issue in the proposal of a rearranged workplan for 2021.	Completed and ongoing 



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			UN-Women, to reflect it in the proposal of a rearranged workplan for 2021;			
	Working Methods	Executive Board Branch/Office of Executive Director	Para 6. <i>Recalls</i> decision 2018/22 and requests UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS management to circulate timely written response to the unanswered questions raised at formal sessions of the Executive Board;	Ongoing	UNFPA is committed to provide timely written response to all unanswered questions raised at formal session of the executive Board.	Completed and ongoing 
	Working Methods	Executive Board Branch/Office of Executive Director	Para 7. <i>Takes note with appreciation</i> of the current tracking system of the decisions of the Executive Board and requests the secretariat to put the full text of decisions into the system so that Member States have full oversight on follow-up and fulfilment of decisions, starting in 2019.	2020 Annual Session and Ongoing	UNFPA has updated current tracking systems for 2019 and 2020 with the full text of decisions so that Member States have full oversight on follow-up and fulfilment of decisions, starting in 2019.	Completed and ongoing 
Annual Session 2020 (3-5 June 2020)						
2020/6 Integrated midterm review and progress report on implementation of the UNFPA strategic plan, 2018-2021: Report of the Executive Director	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 1. <i>Notes with appreciation</i> the progress made by UNFPA in achieving the cumulative results of its strategic plan, 2018-2021, and encourages UNFPA to further integrate the United Nations development system reform mandates in the remaining implementation of this strategic plan;	End 2021	UNFPA implements its country programmes and develops new country programmes that are fully aligned with CCA/UNSDCFs, and works to advance the integration of the UNDS reform mandates across the work of the organization. UNFPA is also actively leading and/or participating in UNCT situation analysis, policy advocacy, planning, and monitoring processes.	In Progress 
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan		Para 2. <i>Welcomes</i> the UNFPA progress towards achieving the strategic plan outputs;			No actions required
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 3. <i>Urges</i> UNFPA to improve progress towards achieving partially achieved strategic plan outputs and ensure that the fund reflects new methods of achieving these outputs in the next strategic plan;	End 2021	The partially achieved targets are largely related to leaving no one behind, particularly at the policy level. Through the MTR process, UNFPA identified challenges to advancing leaving no one behind, including social and cultural	In Progress 


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					<p>barriers, lack of disaggregated data, and geographic barriers to reach those furthest behind.</p> <p>To improve the progress and overcome the challenges, UNFPA is in the process of developing specific strategies and guidance, including prioritizing the furthest behind populations, enhancing partnerships and resource mobilization efforts, and strengthening adaptive management across all levels.</p> <p>As part of the SP 2022-2025 development process, the Business Model, including the resource allocation review, will take full consideration of the funding approach in supporting the achievement of these outputs in the next Strategic Plan.</p>	
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 4. <i>Calls for</i> UNFPA to adopt more ambitious milestones for the outputs of the strategic plan, 2018-2021, which have consistently been overachieved, in order to ensure the targets set remain both realistic and ambitious;	End 2021	<p>During the midterm review of the Strategic Plan, UNFPA identified 10+ indicators with targets that were updated to reflect a higher level of ambition.</p> <p>UNFPA will closely follow up and analyze all IRRF indicators, to ensure they are both realistic and ambitious.</p> <p>The elaboration of the next SP will also take this into account</p>	In Progress 
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division, Division for Management Services	Para 5. <i>Notes</i> the commitment of UNFPA to strengthening its thematic focus on climate change, and requests UNFPA to report to the Executive Board, in the annual report of the Executive Director, on its programming and operational targets, corresponding efforts and results, and	Annual Session 2021	Operational targets are already reported through the Strategic Plan and in the Executive Director's annual report. This areas of work is under review and will be enhanced accordingly.	In Progress 

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			through applicable environmental and social standards, to make its programmes and operations consistent with its thematic focus on climate change, as outlined in the midterm review of the strategic plan, 2018-2021;			
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 6. <i>Requests</i> that UNFPA accelerate its efforts to implement the common chapter, together with UNDP, UNICEF and UN-Women, including by developing the necessary tracking framework within the respective integrated results and resources frameworks of their current strategic plans, following the recommendations of the joint report on the evaluability assessment of the common chapter dated 30 March 2020 and in the context of the repositioning of the United Nations development system, and to present a joint update on the progress to the Executive Board at the second regular session 2020;	Second Regular session 2020	<p>In responding to this request, UNFPA has been working closely with UNDP, UNICEF and UN Women in developing the common chapter tracking framework within the respective IRRFs.</p> <p>UNFPA continues to accelerate its efforts to implement the common chapter in the context of ongoing UN reforms, both in collaboration with the Common Chapter agencies and beyond those agencies.</p> <p>A planned joint informal by the 4 agencies will present a joint update on the progress in late August 2020.</p>	In Progress 
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 7. <i>Welcomes</i> the strong UNFPA commitment to United Nations development system reform, and encourages UNFPA to continue to work closely with United Nations organizations, under the leadership of resident coordinators and in collaboration with the United Nations country team, stakeholders and other development partners, to support country efforts towards the Sustainable Development Goals through the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework;	Ongoing	<p>UNFPA remains fully committed to a repositioned United Nations development system including: (a) aligning country programmes, global and regional interventions, and related policies and procedures with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks; (b) continues to support the Resident coordinator system; and (c) build global technical expertise hubs.</p> <p>An information note on the status of implementation of the GA resolution 72/279 on UNDS repositioning was provided for all Executive Board sessions, starting from the Annual session on 2019, together with the dedicated annex on</p>	In Progress 

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					QCPR implementation as part of the UNFPA annual/SP MTR report.	
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships, Policy and Strategy Division	Para 8. <i>Welcomes</i> ongoing UNFPA implementation of its Funding Compact commitments, many of which are set for 2021, and encourages UNFPA to retain the high level of ambition of its Funding Compact commitments, and requests that UNFPA continue the practice of providing a written update and informal briefing in the context of the structured funding dialogue, prior to the second regular session 2020, on how the outcomes of the midterm review relate to the effective implementation of the Funding Compact in the remaining period of the strategic plan, 2018-2021;	Second Regular session 2020	UNFPA's annual report on SFD 2019-2020 covers this topic. It will be further underlined and illustrated during the informal session on SFD leading to the formal session on SFD at SRS 2020.	In Progress 
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Office of Executive Director	Para 9. <i>Takes note</i> of the report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2019 (DP/FPA/2020/4, Part II) and a slowdown in terms of addressing them, and calls on UNFPA to accelerate efforts towards their implementation, where applicable;	Ongoing	UNFPA remains fully committed to implement JIU recommendations and continue to improve its systems and ability to do so. The current level of implementation results from a combination of multiple factors, some internal, some external: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Some recommendations require action through inter-agency mechanisms – e.g. at the CEB level in particular – which require a longer timeframe for discussions and decisions regarding their implications. ● Some recommendations require thorough inter-divisional/inter-office decision-making and action in order to make the changes lasting and sustainable; this takes time to implement fully. ● Some recommendations have budgetary and operational implications; these are also carefully considered before any commitment is made. 	In Progress 

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other recommendations require decisions by legislative organs, including Governing Bodies, to be made. • It is expected that the user-friendliness of the JIU tracking system will be soon improved. • For some JIU recommendations, UNFPA has gone different routes to achieve ultimately the same aims - e.g. on UN Reform, UNFPA has aligned with the UN system and pursued the Business Innovation Group route. This differed slightly from the approach in JIU but had the same objective. 	
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 10. <i>Approves</i> the proposed adjustments to the UNFPA strategic plan, 2018-2021, based on the findings of the midterm review, which shall be implemented in accordance with Executive Board decision 2017/23;	End 2021	The adjustments to the SP have been made following the mid-term review in accordance with EB decision 2017/23 and are now being implemented.	In Progress 
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division, Humanitarian Office	Para 11. Notes with appreciation the UNFPA response to COVID-19, in line with United Nations system efforts, and requests UNFPA to provide an update on the impact of the pandemic on operations beginning at the second regular session in September 2020;	Second regular session 2020	An update in the form of an Information Note on the impact of COVID-19 on UNFPA will be shared with the Executive Board in advance of the Second Regular Session. Reference will also be made in the statement of the Executive Director to the Executive Board.	In Progress 
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division, Humanitarian Office	Para 12. <i>Calls for</i> UNFPA to ensure delivery of the objectives of the strategic plan, 2018-2021, in the context of the COVID-19 crisis, and to continue to work as part of a coordinated international response, with a focus on supporting programme countries to build back better, leaving no one behind.	End 2021	UNFPA continues to coordinate with the rest of the UN on the humanitarian, health and socio-economic responses at global, regional and national levels. In addition, UNFPA is monitoring the situation very closely with respect to the Strategic Plan both in the context of implementation and to achieve results in line with UNFPA's COVID-19 Global Response Plan. Technical Guidance and Briefs have been provided to the country offices. A global	In Progress 

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					COVID-19 Crisis Response Team is in place representing all levels of the organization to ensure strong collaboration and synergies across the organization.	
2020/7 Midterm review of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021	Budget		Para 1. <i>Welcomes</i> the midterm review of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021 (DP/FPA/2020/5), aligned with the midterm review of the UNFPA strategic plan, 2018-2021 (DP/FPA/2020/4 (Part 1));			No actions required
	Budget		Para 2. <i>Takes note</i> of the results framework and resource requirements reflected in the revised estimates for the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021, including linkages of results and resources, as contained in document DP/FPA/2020/5;			No actions required
	Budget	Division for Management Services	Para 3. <i>Welcomes</i> the Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) on the midterm review of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021, and requests UNFPA to implement and report on all ACABQ recommendations, in line with existing reporting mechanisms;	Second regular session	As per existing process, UNFPA will report on the implementation of the ACABQ recommendations as part of the next integrated budget, 2022-2025 proposal, to be presented at the second regular session 2021.	In Progress 
	Budget	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 4. <i>Calls on</i> UNFPA to continue and accelerate efforts to realize efficiency gains arising from United Nations development system reform initiatives in the remainder of the strategic plan, 2018-2021 period, in line with the General Assembly resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system, and to redeploy these efficiency gains for development activities, including coordination;	End 2021	UNFPA remains fully committed to a repositioned United Nations development system (UNDS), optimally equipped to support countries achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. UNFPA is unwavering in working together with other UN entities to drive UNDS reforms forward, under the primary objective of delivering more, effectively, efficiently and improved collective development results for the people we serve. UNFPA continues to advance efforts to improve organizational effectiveness and efficiency through strengthening its	In Progress 

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					<p>leading roles in areas of comparative advantage, supporting common back offices and common services, engaging in joint programs and supporting the collective actions of UNCTs under the overall leadership of the RC.</p> <p>Efforts of UNFPA to calculate efficiency gains in the operations area are in line with DCO and a detailed methodology will be developed through an interagency working group, in which UNFPA is actively participating. This methodology will build on the earlier work of the UNSDG Business Innovations Group.</p>	
	Budget	Policy and Strategy Division, Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships	Para 5. <i>Encourages</i> UNFPA to continue to intensify its dialogue with all Member States to broaden the contributor base and encourage support to regular resources, in line with the Funding Compact of the Secretary-General;	Ongoing	UNFPA is continuing with such efforts, as noted in the most recent SFD report. In addition, UNFPA has updated its data portal, to make country level results data available for all key stakeholders.	In Progress 
	Budget		Para 6. <i>Approves</i> the presentation of activities and associated costs reflected in document DP/FPA/2020/5;			Noted
Para 7. Approves revised gross estimates for the institutional budget, 2018-2021, in the amount of \$738.6 million, noting that these estimates include \$169.2 million for indirect cost recovery from other resources;					Noted	
Para 8. <i>Approves</i> a revised ceiling for global and regional interventions 2018-2021, in the amount of \$162.7 million of the projected regular resources, noting that this amount cannot be exceeded without approval of the Executive Board;					Noted	
Para 9. <i>Recalls</i> Executive Board decision 2015/3, approves a revised amount of \$29.5 million of regular resources for the UNFPA emergency fund, and reaffirms the existing authorization for the UNFPA Executive Director to increase the emergency fund by up to \$2 million beyond the ceiling in a given year if the number and extent of the emergencies so warrant.					Noted	