Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services

First regular session 2023
30 January to 3 February 2023, New York
Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Organizational matters

Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan

Note by the Executive Board secretariat

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Annotations and list of documents

Item 1
Organizational matters
In accordance with Executive Board decision 2006/14 and rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, the Board will elect a new Bureau consisting of a President and four Vice-Presidents. The election will take place on 10 January 2023. According to the established pattern of rotation of posts among the various regional groups, the President of the Executive Board for 2023 should be elected from the Board members of the African group.

Under this item, the Executive Board will adopt the agenda and agree on the workplan for the session as presented by the Secretary of the Board. The Board will also approve the report of its second regular and special sessions 2022. Draft reports were distributed to Board members for their comments; the final reports contain comments received by or before the deadline.

In accordance with decision 96/25, a workplan for 2023 was prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the Bureau of the Executive Board and is submitted to the Board for adoption.

Documentation:
Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan (DP/2023/L.1)
Report of the second regular session 2022 (DP/2023/1)
Report of the special session 2022 (DP/2023/2)
Decisions adopted at the second regular session 2022 (DP/2023/3)
Decisions adopted by the Executive Board during 2022 (DP/2023/4)
Annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2023 (DP/2023/CRP.1)

Joint segment

Item 2
Update on UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS engagement with the international financial institutions
In line with Executive Board decision 2022/14, UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS will provide updates to the Board on their engagements with the international financial institutions. The updates will highlight the central and complementary role that international financial institutions play as partners of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, and provide a summary of recent collaboration with examples, key lessons learned and strategic opportunities to deepen partnerships.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the updates of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS engagement with the international financial institutions.

Item 3
Recommendations of the Board of Auditors
In response to Executive Board decision 2022/1, which recalled decision 2021/1, UNDP, UNCDF, UNFPA and UNOPS will present their reports in a harmonized report template. The UNDP report on the implementation of the recommendations of the
United Nations Board of Auditors for 2021 reports progress on the implementation status of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2021 and prior years. The United Nations Board of Auditors has issued an unqualified (clean) audit opinion on the UNDP financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021, which marks 17 consecutive years of unqualified audit opinions for UNDP. Pursuant to Executive Board decision 2010/9, details of the implementation status of the individual audit recommendations and the full audit report of the United Nations Board of Auditors (A/77/5/Add.1) are available on the UNDP Executive Board website.

The UNCDF report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2021 reports on the implementation status of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the year ended December 2021 and prior years. Pursuant to Executive Board decision 2010/9, details of the implementation status of the audit recommendations and the full audit report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for UNCDF (A/77/5/Add.2) is available on the Executive Board website.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 97/2, the UNFPA report covers the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the financial period ended on 31 December 2021 (A/77/5/Add.8). As in the past 12 consecutive years, UNFPA has received an unqualified audit opinion on the organization’s financial statements from the Board of Auditors.

The Executive Board may wish to acknowledge the high implementation rate of recommendations by UNFPA in the last three consecutive years and take note of the actions taken and the further measures planned to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors.

The full audit report of the United Nations Board of Auditors (A/77/5/Add.8) and a separate table, which provides an updated status of the implementation of the audit recommendations, are available on the UNFPA Executive Board website.

UNOPS is pleased to respond to the recommendations made in the report of the Board of Auditors (A/77/5/Add.11) and to provide an update on the current status of implementation. The report of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2021 was unqualified. UNOPS management continues to emphasize the importance of addressing audit concerns and according to UNOPS assessment, progress has been achieved in the implementation of recommendations made for the year ended 31 December 2021. UNOPS continues to address the remaining recommendations.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on the reports of UNDP, UNCDF, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2021.

Documentation:

UNDP: Report on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2021 (DP/2023/5)

UNCDF: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors, 2021 (DP/2023/6)

UNFPA: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors, 2021 (DP/FPA/2023/1)

UNOPS: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors, 2021 (DP/OPS/2023/1)
Item 4
Follow-up to UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board meeting

The joint UNDP and UNFPA report addresses the implementation of decisions and recommendations of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. The report focuses on the implementation of decisions from the forty-ninth and fiftieth Programme Coordinating Board meetings. It also highlights the contributions of UNDP and UNFPA to the HIV response and contains analysis of some of the main issues facing the Joint Programme.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the joint report.

Documentation:
Joint UNDP and UNFPA on the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (DP-FPA/2023/1)

Item 5
Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment

Under this item, UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, in line with decision 2022/2, will provide an update “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”.

The Executive Board may wish to take note on the update on protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment.

UNDP segment

Item 6
Human Development Report

The Human Development Report Office (HDRO) will present an oral report on consultations that informed the Human Development Report 2021/22, launched in September 2022, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 57/264. The HDRO Director will describe the preparation process (consultations, commissioned contributions and the review process; the sourcing of data; briefings with Member States). He will report back on the report’s launch and coverage and discuss how the concept of human development can support progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. The Director will remind the Board how data for the human development indices relies upon publicly available figures produced by the various United Nation system entities that have the mandate to compile data from each country, verifying and standardizing them according to agreed norms, to ensure the international comparability, transparency, and integrity of the global statistical system. He will also outline plans for future work of HDRO.

The Board may wish to take note of the update on Human Development Report consultations.
Item 7
Country programmes and related matters

Under this item, the Executive Board will be asked to: (a) review and approve, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/7, the common country programme document for Cabo Verde and the country programme documents for the Central African Republic, Gabon, Nigeria, São Tomé and Príncipe; Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nepal, the multi-country programme document for the Pacific Islands countries; Algeria, Morocco, Lebanon; Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of); (b) take note of the first one-year extension of the country programme for Mauritania; and (c) approve the one-year extensions of the country programmes for Afghanistan, Bahrain, Brazil and Gambia, and the second six-months extension of the country programme for Papua New Guinea.

Documentation:

Extensions of country programmes (DP/2023/7)

Africa

Common country programme document for Cabo Verde (DP/FPA-ICEF/CCPD/2023/CPV/1)
Country programme document for the Central African Republic (DP/DCP/CAF/5)
Country programme document for Gabon (DP/DCP/GAB/4)
Country programme document for Nigeria (DP/DCP/NGA/4)
Country programme document for São Tomé and Príncipe (DP/DCP/STP/4)

Asia-Pacific

Country programme document for the Islamic Republic of Iran (DP/DCP/IRN/4)
Country programme document for Nepal (DP/DCP/NPL/4)
Multi-country programme document for the Pacific Islands countries (DP/DSP/PIC/3)

Arab States

Country programme document for Algeria (DP/DCP/DZA/4)
Country programme document for Lebanon (DP/DCP/LBN/3)
Country programme document for Morocco (DP/DCP/MAR/4)

Latin America and the Caribbean

Country programme document for the Plurinational State of Bolivia (DP/DCP/BOL/4)
Country programme document for Chile (DP/DCP/CHL/5)
Country programme document for Costa Rica (DP/DCP/CRI/4)
Country programme document for the Dominican Republic (DP/DCP/DOM/4)
Country programme document for Ecuador (DP/DCP/ECU/4)
Country programme document for Haiti (DP/DCP/HTI/4)
Country programme document for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (DP/DCP/VEN/3)
Item 8
Evaluation

The Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) of UNDP will present the results of a formative evaluation of the integration by UNDP of the principles of leaving no one behind, in line with the IEO multiyear programme of work, 2022-2025 (DP/2022/6) approved by the Executive Board during its first regular session 2022. The formative evaluation assesses UNDP strategies and performance in integrating “leaving no one behind” and “reaching the furthest behind first” principles into its programmes and operations. The report analyses programme performance and institutional effectiveness at global, regional and country levels, covering the period 2018 to mid-2022. The evaluation is the first comprehensive attempt to gather and assess evidence on how focus on equality, equity and non-discrimination has been applied across UNDP. The evaluation finds several areas of success, especially in long-standing areas of UNDP engagement, and important contributions to conceptual clarity on leaving no one behind. While UNDP meets key pre-conditions for the comprehensive integration of leaving no one behind, its focus on non-discrimination and reaching the furthest behind first remains limited to date.

The evaluation will be accompanied by management responses.

The Board may wish to adopt a decision on this item.

Documentation:
Formative evaluation of the integration by UNDP of the principles of leaving no one behind (DP/2023/8)
Management response to the formative evaluation of the integration by UNDP of the principles of leaving no one behind (DP/2023/9)

UNFPA segment

Item 9
Evaluation

The Board will consider the formative evaluation of UNFPA engagement in the reform of the United Nations development system, and the management response to it.

The Evaluation Office conducted this formative evaluation as part of the UNFPA quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan, 2022-2025. Covering the period from January 2017 to May 2022, the evaluation assessed the contribution of UNFPA to the reform of the United Nations development system as well as the effects of the reform on UNFPA at global, regional and country levels.

The first of its kind in the United Nations development system, the formative evaluation generated important findings, conclusions and recommendations. It is intended to support accountability for past and present performance and inform the further engagement of UNFPA in the reform.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the formative evaluation of UNFPA engagement in the reform of the United Nations development system, and management response to the evaluation.

Documentation:
Formative evaluation of the UNFPA engagement in the reform of the United Nations development system (DP/FPA/2023/CPR.1)
Item 10
Country programmes and related matters

The Executive Board will be asked to:

(a) approve, in accordance with decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for: Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Gabon, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lebanon, Nepal, Nigeria, State of Palestine, São Tomé and Príncipe and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), as well as the Pacific Islands multi-country programme and the Cabo Verde common country programme;

(b) take note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Mauritania and Rwanda; and

(c) approve the second one-year extensions for Brazil and the Gambia, the third one-year extension for Afghanistan, the second, six-month extension for Papua New Guinea (through 31 December 2023), and the third, six-month extension for Libya (through 30 June 2023)

Documentation:

Extensions of country programmes (DP/FPA/2023/2)

Country programme documents for:

Arab States
Algeria (DP/FPA/CPD/DZA.7)
Egypt (DP/FPA/CPD/EGY.11)
Lebanon (DP/FPA/CPD/LBN.5)
State of Palestine (DP/FPA/CPD/PSE.7)

Asia-Pacific
Iran (DP/FPA/CPD/IRN.7)
Nepal (DP/FPA/CPD/NPL.9)
Pacific Islands (DP/FPA/CPD/PIC.7)

Latin America and the Caribbean
Bolivia (DP/FPA/CPD/BOL.7)
Costa Rica (DP/FPA/CPD/CRI.6)
Dominican Republic (DP/FPA/CPD/DOM.7)
Ecuador (DP/FPA/CPD/ECU.8)
Haiti (DP/FPA/CPD/HTI.7)
Venezuela (DP/FPA/CPD/VEN.4)

West and Central Africa
Cabo Verde (DP/FPA-ICEF/CCPD/2023/CPV.1)
Central African Republic (DP/FPA/CPD/CAF.9)
Gabon (DP/FPA/CPD/GAB.8)
Nigeria (DP/FPA/CPD/NGA.9)
São Tomé and Príncipe (DP/FPA/CPD/STP.8)

UNOPS segment

Item 11
United Nations Office for Project Services

Under this item, the Executive Board will have before it the report of the working group to the Board, in line with decision 2022/13, which “create[d] a working group
in accordance with rule 9 of its rules of procedure consisting of 10 members and observers of the Executive Board to assess the root causes and institutional vulnerabilities within UNOPS that led to the failures associated with S3i, with a view to making recommendations to the Executive Board to facilitate additional necessary actions to consider at the second regular session 2022 and the first regular session 2023”.

The report of the working group, in line with additional mandates established in decision 2022/13, will also include: “(a) options for the appropriate use of UNOPS reserves; (b) options to increase transparency around UNOPS management fees and costing structure, with a view to limiting the accumulation of UNOPS reserves; and (c) any other matters deemed appropriate by the Bureau for the working group to discuss”.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on the recommendations put forth in the report of the working group.

Documentation:
Report of the working group on UNOPS (DP/OPS/2023/2)

**Item 12**
**Other matters**
# TENTATIVE WORKPLAN

**EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION 2023**  
*(30 January – 3 February 2023, New York)*

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