





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. Welcomes 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 face to face training, 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. | 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. | 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 Q3 of 2020. Such policies are being considered for the implementation of the new enterprise resource management system (ERP). The design of the ERP is also including solutions to address the outstanding recommendation and embed the support to risk management within one single system, | In Progress  |

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| | 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, 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 | | | No actions required |
| 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/ 2020 Second Regular Session | Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UN-Women has prepared, 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 is to be conducted for the Executive Board members and observers on 28 May 2020. | In Progress  |
| 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 | 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 | In Progress  | |

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| | | | UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UN-Women, to reflect it in the proposal of a rearranged workplan for 2021; | | reflected this issue 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  |