



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

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Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Organizational matters

**Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its annual session
2020**

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**Annual session 2020
(3 to 5 June 2020)**

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2020/4

Midterm review of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, including the annual report of the Administrator for 2019

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the evidence and data-informed midterm review of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, including the annual report of the Administrator 2019 (DP/2020/8) and its annexes;
2. *Takes note* of the results achieved at mid-point, and *requests* that UNDP accelerate efforts, while recognizing that the impact of COVID-19 on the implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, during its second half is unknown;
3. *Requests* that UNDP take into account the lessons learned from the first two years of implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, as well as from its previous strategic plans;
4. *Welcomes* progress made towards the outcome areas of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 and, in this regard, *encourages* UNDP to further its efforts to advance poverty eradication in all its forms and dimensions, accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development, and strengthen resilience to shocks and crises;
5. *Welcomes* the strong UNDP commitment to United Nations development system reform and *encourages* UNDP to continue to work closely with United Nations organizations, under the leadership of resident coordinators and in collaboration with United Nations country teams, stakeholders and other development partners, to support country efforts towards the Sustainable Development Goals through the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework;
6. *Notes with appreciation* the annual report of the Administrator on the implementation of the gender equality strategy 2019 (DP/2020/11), the contribution of UNDP towards the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, and the strong UNDP progress against the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP) 2.0 and the United Nations country team SWAP Gender Equality Scorecard, and *encourages* UNDP to continue to implement its gender equality strategy, 2018-2021, support gender mainstreaming efforts, and shift towards more transformative interventions;
7. *Notes* UNDP work on climate change, and *requests* that UNDP report to the Executive Board, in the annual report of the Administrator, on its operational and programming targets, corresponding efforts, and results related to low emissions and climate-resilient development, as outlined in the integrated results and resources framework of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, including by reducing its own carbon footprint and through its social and environmental standards, as well as on the monitoring, evaluation and management oversight of climate-related projects, including those funded by vertical funds;
8. *Notes* that UNDP needs to scale up implementation of its Funding Compact commitments, many of which are set for 2021, and *requests* that UNDP continue the practice of providing a written update and informal briefing in the context of the structured funding dialogues, prior to the second regular session 2020, on how the outcomes of the midterm review of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 relate to the effective implementation of the Funding Compact in the remaining period of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021;
9. *Welcomes* UNDP progress towards achieving the outputs of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, and *encourages* UNDP to further accelerate progress on the agreed commitments and

mandates under United Nations development system reform, including the Funding Compact and General Assembly resolutions on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in the remaining period of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021;

10. *Requests* that UNDP accelerate its efforts to implement the common chapter, together with UNFPA, 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, as laid out in General Assembly resolution 72/279, and *also requests* that UNDP present a joint update on progress to the Executive Board at the second regular session 2020;

11. *Urges* UNDP to improve progress towards achieving the partially met outputs of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, and *ensure* that the organization reflects new methods of achieving these outputs in the next strategic plan, 2022-2025;

12. *Calls for* UNDP to adopt more ambitious milestones for the outputs of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, that have consistently been over-achieved in order to ensure the targets set remain both realistic and more ambitious;

13. *Welcomes* the UNDP commitment to help programme countries respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, and *also welcomes* the UNDP technical lead on the socioeconomic response and recovery efforts under the United Nations framework for the immediate socioeconomic response to COVID-19, under the leadership of the resident coordinators and working in collaboration with stakeholders and other development partners;

14. *Notes* the UNDP response to COVID-19 in line with United Nations system-wide efforts and *requests* that UNDP provide an update on its work and on the impact of the pandemic on operations and programmatic activities, beginning from the second regular session 2020;

15. *Calls for* UNDP 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;

16. *Requests* that UNDP continue to sharpen its programme focus in its mandated core competency areas in the implementation of the remainder of the current Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, and in the preparation for the next strategic plan, 2022-2025;

17. *Approves* the course of action and the lessons learned proposed in the midterm review of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, and *requests* that UNDP start preparations early for the next strategic plan, 2022-2025, in full consultation with the Executive Board, taking into account the lessons learned from the midterm review, the joint report on the evaluability assessment of the common chapter dated 30 March 2020, and the outcome of the 2020 quadrennial comprehensive policy review for development of the United Nations system, and *also requests* that UNDP present a roadmap at the second regular session 2020 for consultations planned in the preparation of the next strategic plan, 2022-2025.

5 June 2020

2020/5**Midterm review of the UNDP integrated resources plan and integrated budget, 2018-2021***The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note* of the midterm review of the UNDP integrated resources plan and integrated budget, 2018-2021 (DP/2020/9);
2. *Welcomes* the report dated 29 May 2020 of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) on the midterm review of the UNDP integrated resources plan and integrated budget, 2018-2021, and *requests* that UNDP implement and report on all ACABQ recommendations, in line with existing reporting mechanisms;
3. *Welcomes* the strong UNDP performance in mobilizing resources, balancing the institutional budget and achieving efficiency, against the backdrop of the substantial challenges and changes the organization faced during 2018-2019, while *encouraging* UNDP to continue to intensify its dialogue with all Member States to broaden the contributor base and increase regular resources, in line with the Funding Compact of the Secretary-General, including by overcoming remaining legal and other obstacles for improving its cooperation with the private sector, while taking into account lessons learned from existing partnerships, including with the international financial institutions and other United Nations organizations, to ensure complementarity and to avoid duplication;
4. *Notes* the imbalances across programmatic areas in terms of available resources and expenditure in relation to targets, including underperforming targets, and *requests* that UNDP strive for adequate and equitable division of resources for all outcomes areas and signature solutions of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, while noting the importance of sufficient, predictable and flexible regular resources, which is critical for UNDP;
5. *Requests* that UNDP include information on imbalances across programmatic and outcome areas and signature solutions as part of existing reporting ahead of the structured funding dialogues at the second regular session 2020 of the Executive Board;
6. *Recognizes* continued UNDP efforts to garner management efficiencies, while further optimizing programme effectiveness both in terms of substance and form;
7. *Welcomes* that, for every United States dollar of expenditure during 2018-2019, 91 cents were spent on development programmes and services, up from 88 cents in 2014-2017, and *notes* that, in aggregate, this represented approximately \$240 million in additional resources available for development in 2018-2019;
8. *Acknowledges* the reduction in the regular resources institutional budget expenditure, which allowed the proportion of regular resources allocated to development programmes to increase by \$19.5 million;
9. *Endorses* the current UNDP course to complete the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 period and lay the groundwork for the next strategic plan period, 2022-2025;
10. *Encourages* UNDP to accelerate progress on the agreed commitments and mandates under United Nations development system reform, including the Funding Compact of the Secretary-General and the resolutions of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system in the remaining period of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021.

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

The Executive Board

1. *Notes with appreciation* 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;
2. *Welcomes* the UNFPA progress towards achieving the strategic plan outputs;
3. *Urges* 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;
4. *Calls for* 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;
5. *Notes* 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 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;
6. *Requests* 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;
7. *Welcomes* 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;
8. *Welcomes* 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;
9. *Takes note* 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;
10. *Approves* 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;

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;

12. *Calls for* 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.

5 June 2020

2020/7

Midterm review of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021

The Executive Board

1. *Welcomes* 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));

2. *Takes note* 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;

3. *Welcomes* 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;

4. *Calls on* 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;

5. *Encourages* 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;

6. *Approves* the presentation of activities and associated costs reflected in document DP/FPA/2020/5;

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;

8. *Approves* 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;

9. *Recalls* 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.

5 June 2020

2020/8
Annual report of the UNOPS Executive Director

The Executive Board

With regard to the annual report of the Executive Director (DP/OPS/2020/4):

1. *Recognizes* the contributions of UNOPS in 2019 to the operational results of governments, the United Nations and other partners through efficient management support services and effective specialized technical expertise, expanding the implementation capacity for sustainable development;
2. *Welcomes* the progress made in implementing the UNOPS strategic plan, 2018-2021;
3. *Takes note* of the annual report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit and the progress made in implementing recommendations relevant to UNOPS;
4. *Welcomes* the significant progress achieved with sustainable infrastructure impact investment activities in UNOPS mandated areas, including the establishment of the Sustainable Infrastructure Impact Investments Office;
5. *Recalls* decision 2019/15, paragraph 8, on the implementation of the 1 per cent levy and decides to stay seized of the matter;

With regard to the conference room paper on the UNOPS net assets (DP/OPS/2020/CRP.1)

6. *Takes note* of the conference room paper on UNOPS net assets (DP/OPS/2020/CRP.1);
7. Recalling decisions 2012/5, 2019/20 and 2020/1, *invites* UNOPS to continue to manage its net assets in a flexible manner, maintaining robust risk management and transparent reporting, in accordance with the existing financial rules and regulations;
8. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Growth and Innovation Reserve, and calls on UNOPS to continue providing annual updates to the Board on its utilization;
9. *Requests* that UNOPS conduct a detailed study of its operational reserve and the formula for calculating the mandatory minimum reserve level;
10. *Requests* that UNOPS, pursuant to review by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, provide an oral update at the annual session 2021 and submit the outcome for consideration by the Executive Board at the earliest opportunity and no later than the first regular session 2022, with the ambition to present it at the second regular session 2021.

5 June 2020

2020/9

Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its annual session 2020

The Executive Board

Recalls that during its annual session 2020, it:

Item 1

Organizational matters

Adopted the agenda and approved the workplan for the annual session 2020 (DP/2020/L.2, as orally amended);

Approved the report of the first regular session 2020 (DP/2020/6);

Joint segment

Item 2

Joint update on the UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS response to COVID-19 crisis in the context of the update on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system

Took note of the joint update on the UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS response to COVID-19 crisis in the context of the update on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system;

UNDP segment

Item 5

Midterm review of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, including the annual report of the Administrator for 2019

Adopted decision 2020/4 on the midterm review of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, including the annual report of the Administrator for 2019;

Item 6

Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

Adopted decision 2020/5 on the midterm review of the UNDP integrated resources plan and integrated budget, 2018-2021;

Item 7

Gender equality at UNDP

Took note of the annual report on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy, 2018-2021 ([DP/2020/11](#));

Item 8

Human Development Report

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

Item 9

UNDP country programmes and related matters

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

Africa: Ethiopia ([DP/DCP/ETH/4](#)); South Africa ([DP/DCP/ZAF/3](#));

Took note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Algeria, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, as approved by the Administrator, and presented in document [DP/2020/12](#);

UNFPA segment

Item 13

Annual report of the Executive Director

Adopted decision 2020/6 on the integrated midterm review and progress report on implementation of the UNFPA strategic plan, 2018-2021: Report of the Executive Director;

Item 14

Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

Adopted decision 2020/7 on the midterm review of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021;

Item 16

Country programmes and related matters

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

East and Southern Africa: Ethiopia ([DP/FPA/CPD/ETH/9](#)); and South Africa ([DP/FPA/CPD/ZAF/5](#));

UNOPS segment

Item 17

United Nations Office for Project Services

Adopted decision 2020/8 on the annual report of the UNOPS Executive Director.

5 June 2020

**TENTATIVE WORKPLAN
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS
SECOND REGULAR SESSION 2020
(31 August – 4 September 2020, New York)**

<i>Day/date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Subject</i>
Monday, 31 August	10 a.m.-1 p.m.	1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the agenda and workplan for the session • Adoption of the report of the annual session 2020 <p style="text-align: center;">Joint segment</p>
		2	INTERNAL AUDIT AND INVESTIGATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and investigation activities in 2019, and management responses
		3	ETHICS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports of the Ethics Offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on activities for 2019, and management responses
		4	PROTECTION AGAINST SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT
	3 – 5:30 p.m.	5	FINANCIAL, BUDGETARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint comprehensive proposal on the cost-recovery policy
		6	WORKING METHODS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
		7	FOLLOW-UP TO UNAIDS PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD MEETING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint UNDP/UNFPA report on follow-up to recommendations of the Programme Coordinating Board of UNAIDS
Tuesday, 1 September	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		UNOPS segment
		16	STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midterm review of the UNOPS strategic plan, 2018-2021 • Annual statistical report on the procurement activities of United Nations system organizations, 2019
	3 – 5:30 p.m.	8	Joint segment (cont'd) UNDP STRUCTURED FUNDING DIALOGUE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP annual review of the financial situation, 2019 • Structured dialogue on financing the results of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021
13		UNFPA STRUCTURED FUNDING DIALOGUE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the UNFPA structured funding dialogue 2019-2020 	

Wednesday, 2 September	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		UNFPA segment STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
	3 – 5:30 p.m.	14	EVALUATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual report of the UNFPA Evaluation Office 2019, and management commentaries Evaluation of UNFPA capacity to respond to humanitarian crisis, and management response
		15	UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation and approval of country programme documents Extensions of country programmes
Thursday, 3 September	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		UNDP segment INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE UNDP ADMINISTRATOR
	3 – 5:30 p.m.	9	UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation and approval of country programme documents Extensions of country programmes
		10	EVALUATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual report on evaluation 2019, and management commentaries Joint UNDP/UNFPA update on first deliverable of the Common Chapter joint evaluation: Baseline on partnerships and evaluability Evaluation of UNDP support to middle income countries, and management response
Friday, 4 September	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	11	UNDP segment (cont'd) UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> United Nations Volunteers: annual report of the Administrator
		12	UNITED NATIONS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Midterm review of the United Nations Capital Development Fund strategic framework, 2018-2021, including the annual report on results achieved by UNCDF in 2019 Annual review of the UNCDF financial situation, 2019 Structured dialogue on financing the results of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021
	3 – 5:30 p.m.	17	OTHER MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address by the Chairperson of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS/UN-Women Staff Council Adoption of decisions
		1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2021 Adoption of the tentative workplan for the first regular session 2021 Closing of the session