



**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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Organizational matters

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board in 2019

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(21 to 25 January 2019)**

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2019/1
Revised UNFPA evaluation policy

The Executive Board

1. *Welcomes* the revised evaluation policy ([DP/FPA/2019/1](#));
2. *Endorses* the 2019 evaluation policy;
3. *Reaffirms* the role played by the evaluation function at UNFPA and underscores the importance of high-quality independent evaluation evidence in supporting the UNFPA strategic plan, 2018-2021 in accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
4. *Requests* that UNFPA and the Evaluation Office always seek out opportunities with other United Nations agencies for joint evaluations of joint programming as well as the common chapter of the strategic plan;
5. *Encourages* UNFPA management to work with the Evaluation Office to continue its efforts to increase the implementation rate of decentralized evaluations and to ensure that management at all levels use evaluation findings as a key source of evidence to make decisions about enhancing programmes, as well as to duly communicate and disseminate such evaluation findings and implementations;
6. *Requests* UNFPA to report to the Executive Board, as part of the annual report on the evaluation function, starting in 2019, on all actions taken at all levels to increase spending on evaluations to a minimum 1.4 per cent and to a maximum 3 per cent, including detail of how funds for evaluation have been ringfenced as foreseen by the policy;
7. *Encourages* UNFPA to report to the Executive Board, as part of the annual report on the evaluation function, in 2020 on how evaluations are generating the specific knowledge and evidence UNFPA needs to deliver on the 2030 Agenda as well as on how such knowledge and evidence are duly communicated and disseminated;
8. *Requests* UNFPA to report, as part of the annual report on the evaluation function, on progress made on implementing management responses of evaluations and resulting changes on policies, programmes and practices.

25 January 2019

2019/2
Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2017

The Executive Board

With regard to UNDP and UNCDF:

1. *Takes note* of the report ([DP/2019/7](#)) on the actions taken by UNDP and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and the further actions planned to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the financial period that ended on 31 December 2017;
2. *Notes* the unqualified audit opinions issued by the Board of Auditors for 2017;
3. *Notes* progress made by UNDP and UNCDF in addressing the top seven audit-related priorities in 2016-2017;

4. *Endorses* the suggested, refined top seven audit-related management priorities of UNDP for the biennium 2018-2019;
5. *Recalls* decisions 2018/3 and 2018/13, and underscores the need for UNDP to address issues relating to procurement oversight and fraud mitigation strategies, financial management and sustainability of country offices, programme/project management and evaluation, and partnerships and resource mobilization;
6. *Acknowledges* the findings of the Board of Auditors on the monitoring of risk in country offices, requests UNDP to ensure the capacity is in place to do this effectively, and requests UNDP to report to the Board on the implementation of the updated enterprise risk management policy at its annual session of 2019, as appropriate, and as part of its report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;
7. *Notes* that many of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors are at country level, and requests UNDP to consider more systemic action within their ongoing reviews of businesses process and structure;
8. *Acknowledges* the efforts made by UNDP, and encourages UNDP to continue to improve actions for recovery of funds lost, including those due to fraud;
9. *Supports* the ongoing efforts of UNDP management to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2017 as well as the remaining recommendations from prior years;

With regard to UNFPA:

10. *Takes note* of the report (DP/FPA/2019/2) 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 2017;
11. *Notes* the audit opinion by the Board of Auditors that UNFPA financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of UNFPA as at 31 December 2017 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS);
12. *Also notes* the progress made by UNFPA in addressing prior-year recommendations and support ongoing management efforts in implementing the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2017;
13. *Encourages* UNFPA efforts to continue to improve the maturity of risk management at all levels of the organization (including strengthened approaches to fraud risk, inventory audit and supply chain management), encourages UNFPA to continue to adopt a risk-based approach to audit coverage of implementing partners to mitigate the risk of overcontrol, and requests UNFPA to report to the Board on the implementation, enforcement and resourcing of the updated enterprise risk management policy and the policy and procedures on management of programme supplies at its annual session of 2019, as appropriate, and as part of its report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;
14. *Also encourages* UNFPA to ensure that its investment in a new enterprise resource planning system produces actionable information for managers to drive improvements in the identification, prioritization and management of strategic delivery risks, including relating to commodity inventory losses and the performance of its implementing partners, and to work with other funds and programmes to ensure compatibility of enterprise resource planning systems;

With regard to UNOPS:

15. *Takes note* of the report (DP/OPS/2019/1) on the progress in the implementation of the various recommendations made for the year ended 31 December 2017 and the efforts currently in progress to ensure that the remaining recommendations are successfully implemented;

16. *Acknowledges* that due to the fact that recommendations were issued to UNOPS towards the end of July 2018 and that many of them require long-term attention, UNOPS will need to work beyond the financial year 2018 to implement them successfully.

25 January 2019

2019/3

Working methods of the Executive Board

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the rules of procedure of the Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP;

2. *Recalls* decision 2018/22 on working methods of the Executive Board in which the Bureau of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, in collaboration with the Bureaux of UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP, was asked to launch a joint consultative process with the Member States starting at the first regular session 2019;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the formation of the core group of Member States to lead the joint consultative process with Member States, in an open, transparent and inclusive manner, with a view to examining the efficiency and quality of its current sessions, as well as the functions of the joint meeting of the Executive Boards, building on the joint response prepared by the secretariats and in close consultation with all Member States, seeking their inputs to the written account of the core group;

4. *Requests* the Executive Board secretariats to support the core group, upon request, in analysing the effects of its findings and suggestions;

5. *Looks forward* to the written account of the core group, to be presented at the joint meeting of the Executive Boards in May 2019, for subsequent consideration of its findings and recommendations by the members and observers of the respective Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP.

25 January 2019

2019/4

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

1. *Welcomes* the updates provided by UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

2. *Recognizes* the continuing contributions of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS in operationalizing resolution [72/279](#) and requests them, in line with General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, resolution [72/279](#) and the Secretary General's implementation plan, to continue to support and contribute to the full implementation of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system including a matrixed, dual reporting model, with United Nations country team members accountable and reporting to their respective entities on individual mandates, and periodically reporting to the resident coordinator on their individual activities;
3. *Calls on* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to provide written, harmonized agency-specific information to the Executive Board at its annual session 2019 on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [72/279](#), based on the information previously provided during informal consultations;
4. *Recognizes* the importance of improving efficiency and effectiveness in administrative support services through inter alia enhancing inter-agency cooperation, and encourages the executive heads of UNOPS, UNFPA and UNDP to continue to take action as appropriate in these areas;
5. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to operationalize their respective Strategic Plans while implementing General Assembly resolution [72/279](#);
6. *Requests* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue to support the Secretary-General to collaboratively implement a new generation of United Nations country teams, with needs-based tailored country presence, to be built on the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and finalized through open and inclusive dialogue between the host Government and the United Nations development system, facilitated by the resident coordinator, to ensure the best configuration of support on the ground, as well as enhanced coordination, transparency, efficiency and impact of United Nations development activities, in accordance with national development policies, plans, priorities and needs;
7. *Welcomes* the strong commitment of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, as part of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group, to redeploy their efficiency gains from United Nations development system reform for development activities, including coordination, and requests the three agencies to contribute to the Secretary-General's report on the cost-savings and efficiency gains and their redeployments and to update the Executive Board through existing reporting mechanisms;
8. *Welcomes* the steps already taken by UNDP to support the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, including the transfer of its 2019 cost-sharing contribution to the United Nations Development Coordination Office and the 2019 service-level agreement with the United Nations Secretariat.

25 January 2019

2019/5

Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular session 2019

The Executive Board

Recalls that during its first regular session 2019, it:

Item 1

Organizational matters

Elected the following members of the Bureau for 2019:

President: H.E. Mr. Cho Tae-yul (Republic of Korea)
 Vice-President: H.E. Mr. Walton Webson (Antigua and Barbuda)
 Vice-President: H.E. Ms. Besiana Kadare (Albania)
 Vice-President: H.E. Ms. Geraldine Byrne Nason (Ireland)
 Vice-President: H.E. Mr. Collen V. Kelapile (Botswana)

Adopted the agenda and approved the workplan for its first regular session 2019 (DP/2019/L.1);

Approved the report of the second regular session 2018 (DP/2019/1);

Adopted the annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2019 (DP/2019/CRP.1);

Approved the tentative workplan for the annual session 2019;

Agreed to the following schedule for the remaining sessions of the Executive Board in 2019:

Annual session: 3 to 4 and 6 to 7 June 2019

Second regular session: 3 to 6 September 2019.

UNDP segment

Item 2

Evaluation

Took note of the evaluation of UNDP support to poverty reduction in the least developed countries (DP/2019/4) and the accompanying management note, and the report of the Independent Evaluation Office on its support to evaluation capacity development (DP/2019/6);

Item 3

UNDP country programmes and related matters

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

Africa: Burundi (DP/DCP/BDI/4 and Corr.1); Niger (DP/DCP/NER/3); Togo (DP/DCP/TGO/3);

Asia and the Pacific: Cambodia (DP/DCP/KHM/4);

Latin America and the Caribbean: Chile (DP/DCP/CHL/4); Ecuador (DP/DCP/ECU/3);

Took note of the first one-year extension of the country programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1 January to 31 December 2019 (DP/2019/3);

Approved the second one-year extensions of the country programmes for the

Democratic Republic of the Congo from 1 January to 31 December 2019 and for South Africa from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 ([DP/2019/3](#)).

UNFPA segment

Item 4 Evaluation

Adopted decision 2019/1 on the revised UNFPA evaluation policy;

Item 5 Country programmes and related matters

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

Cambodia ([DP/FPA/CPD/KHM/6](#)); Niger ([DP/FPA/CPD/NER/9](#))

Approved the second, one-year extension of the country programme for South Africa from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 ([DP/FPA/2018/11](#));

UNOPS segment

Item 6 United Nations Office for Project Services

Heard the UNOPS Executive Director give a statement;

Joint segment

Item 7 Recommendations of the Board of Auditors

Adopted decision 2019/2 on the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, related to the following reports: UNDP and UNCDF: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2017 ([DP/2019/7](#)); UNFPA: Follow-up to the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2017: Status of implementation of recommendations ([DP/FPA/2019/2](#)); and UNOPS: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2017 ([DP/OPS/2019/1](#));

Item 8 Update on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 on repositioning of the United Nations development system

Adopted decision 2019/3 on implementation of General Assembly resolution [72/279](#) of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Item 9 Working methods of the Executive Board

Adopted decision 2019/4 on the working methods of the Executive Board.

25 January 2019

2019/6 Annual report of the UNDP Administrator

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Administrator on results for 2018 and progress on the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 (DP/2019/10) and its annexes; the report of UNDP on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2018 (DP/2019/10/Add.1) and its annexes; and the statistical annex (DP/2019/10/Add.2);
2. *Takes note* of the 10 observations presented in the report, welcomes the progress made towards achieving Strategic Plan results in 2018 and urges UNDP to incorporate lessons learned in the Plan's implementation going forward;
3. *Recalls* decision 2017/31 on the UNDP integrated resources plan and integrated budget, 2018-2021, and recognizes the importance of regular resources provided by UNDP for ensuring the continued delivery of the strategic frameworks of the United Nations Volunteers and United Nations Capital Development Fund;
4. *Takes note* of the annual report on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy in 2018 (DP/2019/11) and UNDP achievements both in terms of development results under each outcome of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, and in institutional performance;
5. *Takes note* of the achievements on the six signature solutions of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, and requests that information in this regard be included but not be limited to the annual reports of the Administrator;
6. *Recognizes* the inter-agency efforts to make progress against the common chapter of the strategic plans of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women and urges UNDP to continue working in close partnership with these organizations to further enhance effectiveness and delivery of results in line with their commitment to United Nations reform;
7. *Welcomes with appreciation* the engagement with the Executive Board on the implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, and requests UNDP to continue the dialogue with the Executive Board.

7 June 2019

2019/7 UNDP evaluation

The Executive Board

With regard to the review of the UNDP evaluation policy (DP/2019/13) and the management responses thereto (DP/2019/14):

1. *Takes note* of the independent review of the UNDP evaluation policy and the management response thereto;
2. *Takes note* of the review team's conclusion that the 2016 revisions to the UNDP evaluation policy were well crafted, clear and useful, and that the policy provides UNDP with a solid evaluation framework;
3. *Further takes note* of the joint UNDP and Independent Evaluation Office management response to the report, and the planned actions to be taken in response to the issues raised through the review;

4. *Requests* the Independent Evaluation Office, in close consultation with UNDP management, to draft a revised evaluation policy for consideration and approval by the Executive Board at the second regular session 2019;

With regard to the annual report on evaluation, 2018 (DP/2019/16) and the management commentaries thereto:

5. *Takes note* of the annual report on evaluation;

6. *Requests* UNDP to address the issues raised;

With regard to the evaluation of UNDP support to poverty reduction in the least developed countries (DP/2019/4) and the management response thereto (DP/2019/17):

7. *Takes note* of the evaluation of UNDP support to poverty reduction in the least developed countries (LDCs), presented at the first regular session 2019, and the management response thereto; and requests UNDP, in line with the evaluation findings, conclusions and recommendations, to consider a more consistent programmatic engagement for poverty reduction in areas highly relevant for LDCs, and outline LDC-specific approaches and solutions that benefit people living in poverty, particularly in Africa;

8. *Further notes* the evaluation's recommendation regarding resource investment towards gender equality and women's empowerment, including the finding that opportunities for mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment in programme design and implementation have been underutilized in LDCs; urges UNDP to enhance systematic development support including through specifically targeting gender equality and women's empowerment within poverty reduction interventions to promote stronger impact in LDCs through informed programming with the aim of lifting women out of poverty; and requests UNDP to update the Executive Board on steps taken in this regard through its existing reporting;

9. *Also notes* the evaluation's findings regarding youth employment and empowerment and requests UNDP to develop a strategic approach to mainstreaming youth employment issues in its programmatic work on poverty reduction, including through integrated interventions combining policy aspects and downstream demand-supply interventions;

10. *Notes* that UNDP needs well-thought-through programme priorities for inclusive growth and sustainable livelihood engagement, and that multiple and intersecting vulnerabilities must inform UNDP poverty reduction and post-conflict programming;

11. *Welcomes* the reinvigorated global leadership of UNDP in the development and use of multidimensional poverty indices;

12. *Also notes* the evaluation's recommendation regarding the need to enable linkages between UNDP community-level sustainable livelihood programmes and rural poverty alleviation policies in LDCs, and requests UNDP to update the Executive Board on improving measures taken in this regard through its existing reporting;

13. *Further notes* that there is scope to strengthen the UNDP strategic poverty and environment impact, and synergies between country programmes and vertical fund engagements in this regard;

14. *Recognizes* the efforts of UNDP management in holding extensive consultations with the Board, the Independent Evaluation Office and other stakeholders in developing its management response;

15. *Encourages* UNDP to act on its intentions to develop a more ambitious support frame to countries on poverty reduction in response to the concerns raised in the evaluation, and to ensure that poverty reduction remains a central pillar of the UNDP Strategic Plan.

7 June 2019

2019/8

Report on results achieved by the United Nations Capital Development Fund in 2018

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the annual report of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) on results achieved in 2018 ([DP/2019/18](#)) and its annex;
2. *Commends* the efforts of UNCDF to implement its Strategic Framework, 2018-2021;
3. *Welcomes* its commitment to innovate financing solutions and approaches to make finance work for poor people;
4. *Welcomes* the work of UNCDF to demonstrate value of investing in the last mile of least developed countries (LDCs) through its management and deployment of loans and guarantees through its LDC investment platform; welcomes the lessons learned on achieving sustainability and crowding in other actors to make markets more inclusive; and commends UNCDF for making its investment platform instruments and expertise available to other United Nations agencies wishing to access them;
5. *Welcomes* the work of UNCDF in making finance work for the poor, where few others operate, and notes the limits on the number of countries and inter-agency initiatives that can be supported due to the shortfall in resources against the Strategic Framework targets;
6. *Commends* its efforts to track and evaluate its contributions to financial market and local systems change and unlocking finance for the poor, and to share lessons with the wider development community;
7. *Recognizes* the increase in the diversification of the UNCDF funding base, including from least developed and middle-income countries, and recommends to supporting UNCDF, including through fully funding regular resource requirements of \$25 million per year.

7 June 2019

2019/9

United Nations Volunteers: report of the Administrator

The Executive Board

1. *Acknowledges* General Assembly resolution [73/140](#) of 17 December 2018 on volunteering for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which the Assembly welcomed the integration of volunteerism into all relevant issues considered at the United Nations, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and requested actions by the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) to further this agenda;

2. *Takes note* of the results-oriented annual report of the Administrator (DP/2019/19) and its annexes;
3. *Expresses appreciation* to all UN Volunteers for their outstanding contributions to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development during 2018;
4. *Commends* UNV for the results achieved during the first year of its Strategic Framework, 2018-2021 (DP/2018/6);
5. *Welcomes* the publication by UNV of the report entitled *2018 State of the World's Volunteerism Report: The Thread that Binds – Volunteerism and Community Resilience*, which presents new evidence on the roles of volunteerism in strengthening community resilience, voice and inclusion in the 2030 Agenda;
6. *Notes* the importance of regular resources provided by UNDP for ensuring the continued delivery of the UNV Strategic Framework;
7. *Reaffirms* the crucial role of the Special Voluntary Fund to the delivery of the UNV Strategic Framework 2018-2021, and calls upon all development partners in a position to do so to contribute to the Fund;
8. *Requests* that UNV build on the progress made in pursuing innovative volunteer solutions to improve its response to the challenges of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

7 June 2019

2019/10 Annual report of the UNFPA Executive Director

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the documents that make up the annual report of the Executive Director for 2018: DP/FPA/2019/4 (Part I, Part I/Add.1 and Part II);
2. *Welcomes* the promising progress made by UNFPA in implementing the [UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2018-2021](#);
3. *Commends* UNFPA for its success in mobilizing resources, including the increase in regular resources;
4. *Recognizes* the inter-agency efforts to make progress against the common chapter of the strategic plans of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women, and urges UNFPA to continue working in close partnership with these organizations to further enhance effectiveness and delivery of results in line with their commitment to United Nations reform.

7 June 2019

2019/11 UNFPA evaluation

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the present report on the evaluation function of UNFPA, 2018, and of the programme of work and budget of the Evaluation Office in 2019 (DP/FPA/2019/5);
2. *Welcomes* the efforts made by UNFPA and the significant progress achieved in strengthening the evaluation function, in actively contributing to United Nations

system-wide evaluation efforts, and in fostering national evaluation capacity development;

3. *Notes* the current promising trend of evaluation investment but encourages faster progress to reach 1.4 per cent as a minimum of total programme expenditures by 2021, as committed to in the evaluation policy;

4. *Welcomes* the Evaluation Office's commencement of the development of a strategy to strengthen evaluation use through communications and knowledge management, and encourages the Evaluation Office to finalize the evaluation use strategy in 2019, and report against it in the 2019 annual report on evaluation to the Executive Board;

5. *Reaffirms* the role played by the evaluation function at UNFPA and underscores the importance of high-quality independent evaluation evidence in the context of the [UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2018-2021](#), and its contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

7 June 2019

2019/12

Annual report of the UNOPS Executive Director

The Executive Board

1. *Recognizes* the contributions of UNOPS to the operational results of Governments, the United Nations and other partners in 2018 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 ([DP/OPS/2017/5](#));

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. *Takes note* of the progress achieved in initiating social impact investment activities in UNOPS mandated areas;

5. *Takes note* of the decision of the Secretary-General to establish a Client Board to replace the Policy Advisory Committee, pursuant to internal consultation and a review by the Joint Inspection Unit, and notes that Client Board functions are advisory and do not supplant or duplicate any governance functions of the Executive Board.

7 June 2019

2019/13

Reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS

The Executive Board

With regard to the reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS:

1. *Welcomes* the reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS ([DP/2019/20](#), [DP/FPA/2019/7](#) and [DP/OPS/2019/3](#)), and encourages their management to continue to instil and improve a culture of ethics in the three organizations, including robust whistle-blower protection policies;

2. *Encourages* the management of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS in its reporting on sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment to further enhance transparency on how

implemented actions ensure a victim-centred approach and are aligned with United Nations system-wide efforts;

3. *Notes* the progress made by the UNDP Ethics Office in strengthening the ethical culture of UNDP;
4. *Welcomes* the continued progress in the work of the UNFPA Ethics Office and encourages management to consider its request to increase the staff capacity of the Ethics Office;
5. *Welcomes* the continued progress in the work of the UNOPS Ethics Office;

With regard to the independent review of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS policies and procedures to tackle sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment and the joint management response thereto:

6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the independent review of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS policies and procedures to tackle sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (DP/FPA/OPS/2019/1) and welcomes the joint UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS management response (DP/FPA/OPS/2019/2); requests UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS to provide an update on implementation of actions set out in the independent review and management response at the annual session in 2020, within existing reporting;
7. *Supports* the ongoing strong commitment to “zero tolerance” for sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse by the heads of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS;
8. *Welcomes* the progress made so far, and urges the management of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to ensure a continued focus on all matters related to prevention and response, including investigation, to sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse going forward.

7 June 2019

2019/14

Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and investigations and management responses

The Executive Board

1. *Welcomes* the progress of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS in addressing audit-related management issues in 2018;
2. *Notes with appreciation* efforts to implement outstanding audit recommendations from previous reports;
3. *Encourages* the management of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS in its reporting on sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment to further enhance transparency on how implemented actions ensure a victim-centred approach and are aligned with United Nations system-wide efforts;

With regard to UNDP:

4. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Office of Audit and Investigations on internal audit and investigation activities in 2018 (DP/2019/23) and its annexes, and the management response thereto; and takes note of the annual report of the Audit and Evaluation Advisory Committee;
5. *Notes with concern* that the overall audit opinion has changed from “satisfactory” to “partially satisfactory/some improvement required” and appreciates that this matter is taken under serious consideration by UNDP management in its response; urges UNDP senior management to exercise greater oversight of offices that have received “unsatisfactory” audit ratings in the recent past, as well as those with high risk exposure, as identified by the Office

of Audit and Investigation, and to take corrective and preventative measures to address weaknesses and vulnerabilities;

6. *Notes with concern* that the most recurring audit issues in country offices are inadequate project monitoring and evaluations, delays in closing completed projects in the Atlas system, inadequate controls in procurement management such as not undertaking competitive procurement processes or the absence of contract reviews, inadequate oversight in the recruitment of personnel to ensure proper shortlisting and longlisting of applicants, weaknesses in financial management and weaknesses in asset management; and encourages UNDP management to address these recurring issues;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the high overall implementation rate of Office of Audit and Investigation recommendations, which has improved since 2018 with only four recommendations not fully implemented over 18 months or more;

8. *Further notes* improvements in applying the harmonized approach to cash transfers and encourages UNDP to continue its efforts to enhance the oversight and management functions of implementing partners;

9. *Appreciates* that UNDP has provided information on financial losses due to fraud and improved the recovery rate between 2013 and 2018, as requested by the Board, and encourages UNDP management to continue to improve its recovery efforts and rates, and continue to report to the Board on an annual basis;

10. *Requests* UNDP to continue to work—preventively and correctively to address recommendations of, and issues raised by, the Office of Audit and Investigations;

11. *Notes with concern* that, with regard to investigations, the most common complaints refer to financial irregularities including procurement fraud, misrepresentation, entitlement fraud, theft and embezzlement, and the high number of complaints from high-risk environments, and encourages UNDP management to address these issues as a matter of high priority;

12. *Expresses* continuing support for strengthening the internal audit and investigation functions of UNDP;

With regard to UNFPA:

13. *Takes note* of the report of the Office of Audit and Investigation Services on UNFPA internal audit and investigation activities in 2018 (DP/FPA/2019/6), the opinion, based on the scope of work undertaken, on the adequacy and effectiveness of the UNFPA framework of governance, risk management and control (DP/FPA/2019/6/Add.1), the annual report of the UNFPA Oversight Advisory Committee (DP/FPA/2019/6/Add.2), and the management response (DP/FPA/2019/CRP.6) thereto and to the present report;

14. *Takes note* of the recurring recommendations regarding insufficient supervisory controls and inadequate guidance for country offices, as well as procurement processes, and welcomes UNFPA actions to address this;

15. *Expresses* its continuing support for the strengthening of the audit and investigation functions at UNFPA, and urges management to provide sufficient resources to the Office of Audit and Investigative Services to fully discharge its mandate while recognizing the importance of audit and investigation functions to the organization's activities;

16. *Acknowledges and supports* the engagement of the Office of Audit and Investigation Services in joint audit and investigation activities;

With regard to UNOPS:

17. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Internal Audit and Investigations Group on internal audit and investigation activities in 2018 (DP/OPS/2019/4) and its annexes, and the

management response thereto; and takes note of the annual report of the Audit Advisory Committee for 2018 (in line with Executive Board decision 2008/37);

18. *Welcomes* the large reduction in new audit recommendations, as well as the progress made in implementation of audit recommendations;

19. *Welcomes* the improvement as expressed in the general audit opinion of, and based on the scope of work undertaken on the adequacy and effectiveness of the organization's framework of governance, risk management and control (in line with Executive Board decision 2015/13);

20. *Takes note* of the commitment the Internal Audit and Investigations Group has shown in striving for best practice with regards to efficiency, effectiveness and use of technology and other innovative approaches;

21. *Takes note* of the Internal Audit and Investigations Charter.

7 June 2019

2019/15

Update on implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The Executive Board

1. *Welcomes* the updates provided by UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [72/279](#) of 31 May 2018 on repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

2. *Requests* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to work towards adequately sequencing entity-specific country programme documents so that the individual programmes derive directly from the new United Nations Development Assistance Framework (now renamed United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework), which is to be prepared and finalized in full consultation and agreement with national Governments and is the most important planning document of the United Nations development system at the country level; and requests UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to provide an update at the next session of the Executive Board on adjustments required;

3. *Requests* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to provide, for information at the next session of the Executive Board, a detailed mapping of their regional assets and capacities, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [72/279](#) and mindful of ongoing discussions on the revamping of the regional approach of the United Nations development system;

4. *Welcomes* the preliminary updates provided by UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on efficiencies, including through shared business operations and premises; calls upon the executive heads of UNOPS, UNFPA and UNDP to continue to take action to ensure full achievement of efficiency gains and their redeployment in line with relevant existing mandates, including from General Assembly resolutions [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and [72/279](#) on repositioning of the United Nations development system, as well as to take into account the applicable recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in the report on opportunities to improve efficiency and effectiveness in administrative support services by enhancing inter-agency cooperation ([JIU/REP/2018/5](#));

5. *Requests* regular updates to the Executive Board on efficiency gains and their redeployments, through existing reporting mechanisms;

6. *Requests* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue to support the efforts of the Secretary-General to develop a tracking system to monitor efficiency gains;
7. *Notes* the cost-saving measures UNDP has had to undertake to maintain a balanced budget while providing financial support to the reforms, and requests UNDP to ensure that these measures do not negatively affect its capacities to provide adequate development support to programme countries;
8. *Welcomes* that UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS contributed their doubled contributions to the resident coordinator cost-sharing, and calls on UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to implement the 1 per cent levy, as applicable, as per the operational guidance for implementing the coordination levy (12 March 2019) issued by the United Nations Development Coordination Office;
9. *Recalls* [decisions](#) 2018/16, 2018/18 and 2018/20 and notes that the agency-administered option for collecting the coordination levy adds administrative tasks to UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS and requires adjustments to agency administrative processes, and requests UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to provide information on the adjustments and to promptly report to the Executive Board on any additional transaction and administrative costs associated with the administration of the levy, within existing reporting;
10. *Recalls* the importance of funding predictability and urges Member States in a position to do so to prioritize regular resources and multi-year pledges, given that further reductions in regular resources risk jeopardizing the ability of UNDP and UNFPA to achieve planned strategic results;
11. *Encourages* UNDP and UNFPA, in collaboration with UN-Women and UNICEF, to place special emphasis on the implementation of their respective Strategic Plans, including the common chapter on joint programming, in accordance with their respective mandates and comparative and collaborative advantages, and to report at the annual session in 2020, including through the midterm reviews of their respective Strategic Plans, where and how the inter-agency process among the United Nations funds and programmes has led to greater efficiencies and effectiveness.

7 June 2019

2019/16

Working methods of the Executive Board

The Executive Board

1. *Reaffirms* the [rules of procedure](#) of the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS;
2. *Welcomes* the [written account of the core group](#) of Member States that led the joint consultative process with Member States, in an open, transparent and inclusive manner, with a view to examining the efficiency and quality of its current sessions, as well as the functions of the joint meeting of the Executive Boards in line with decisions [2019/3](#) and [2018/22](#);
3. *Recognizes* the technical support provided by the secretariats of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP Executive Boards to the core group and notes the annex to the written account as prepared by the secretariats;
4. *Stresses* that the overarching principles of the discussion on working methods of the Executive Boards are the preservation of executive guidance and oversight of agencies; avoidance of duplication with the function of the Economic and Social Council

operational activities segment and the respective Executive Boards; and respect for the different mandates and characteristics of each agency, fund, programme and entity;

5. *Requests* UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, in collaboration with the UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP, to organize joint informal briefings/consultations and strongly encourages that they be scheduled within socially acceptable hours to allow the WFP Executive Board to participate from Rome;

6. *Requests* the secretariat of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP, to present initial proposals to improve the working methods of the joint meeting of the Boards, including an optimal timing for convening the joint meeting of the Boards, for consideration by Member States at the second regular session 2019, mindful that the joint meeting of the Boards does not have decision-making authority and of the need to avoid duplication and overlap with the functions of the Economic and Social Council operational activities segment;

7. *Requests* that the secretariat propose different alternatives of adjusting the date of the second regular session, mindful that it does not overlap with the other schedules, for consideration by the Executive Board at the second regular session 2019;

8. *Requests* that an informal, at no cost to the organizations, meeting of the Presidents of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP be held on a regular basis for enhanced harmonization of common issues, and for increased coordination among agencies, funds, programmes and entities and the respective Executive Boards, while bearing in mind that according to the rules of procedure of Executive Boards the Presidents remain under the authority of the respective Executive Boards and do not have the authority to make decisions on any substantive matters, and that the outcome of the meetings be shared with the wider membership;

9. *Affirms* the need to elect the Bureau members early on to minimize leadership gaps and enhance the efficient functioning of the Presidency and Executive Board at large;

10. *Recommends* that for continuity and smooth transition between outgoing and incoming Bureaux, whenever appropriate and consistent with the relevant rules of procedure, regional groups could consider taking appropriate measures so that one of the Vice-Chairs/Vice-Presidents of the bureau can take on the Chair/Presidency and could be effective in that capacity in the following year;

11. *Notes* the need for flexibility on chairing the informal meetings of the Executive Board from the President of the Bureau or one of the Vice-Presidents or designated members of their delegations;

12. *Requests* that the secretariat, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UN-Women, continue convening consecutive formal sessions of the Executive Boards in order to avoid gaps between the formal sessions of the various Executive Boards;

13. *Requests* that the secretariat present practical proposals for improving the efficiency of the sessions of the Executive Board, including by reviewing the agenda items and the Board's efficient consideration of these, for deliberation and consideration by the Executive Board at the second regular session 2019;

14. *Requests* that the Executive Board, with the support of the secretariat, make its sessions interactive, while securing the time slot for group and national statements as appropriate and necessary;

15. *Requests* that while encouraging interactive discussions, any format for enhanced interaction with the heads of the agencies should contain follow-up actions within existing mechanisms;
16. *Encourages* that the heads of agencies, funds, programmes and entities participating in Board sessions provide the full texts of their statements or opening remarks (presentation) online in advance and deliver shorter statements at the Executive Board sessions. The statements and presentations should be concise in highlighting the main issues, evidenced-based and action-oriented in addressing the challenges;
17. *Strongly encourages* the President to enforce implementation of time limits for statements;
18. *Affirms* the participation of diverse stakeholders in Executive Board sessions with full respect of the relevant clauses in the rules of procedure and based on the agreement of the Executive Board, recalls decision 2018/22, paragraph 11, and reaffirms the importance of giving due consideration to gender parity in the composition of panellists participating in the Executive Boards;
19. *Requests* the Bureau to decide the destination of field visits two years in advance, while allowing the flexibility to change host countries if circumstances dictated, in order to give host countries as well as agencies as much time as possible to prepare for the visits;
20. *Requests* the Bureau, assisted by the secretariat, to consult with the Bureaux of the Executive Boards of UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP, to coordinate for the selection of field visits and to propose harmonized criteria for individual field visits, for evaluation by the Board at the first regular session 2020;
21. *Requests* the secretariats of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to circulate proposed draft decisions to the wider membership at least four weeks prior to each session, at the discretion of the Bureau, and reiterates its strong encouragement to Member States to provide their comments on draft decisions, to the extent possible, prior to the start of the session, with a view to starting substantive consultations on the draft decisions on the first day of negotiations, without pre-empting bringing in additional proposals during negotiations;
22. *Requests* the secretariat, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP, to track the implementation of Executive Board decisions using the matrix of common use as attached to the written account of the core group;
23. *Requests* the secretariat to distribute the minutes of Bureau meetings to members and observers of the Executive Board once these minutes have been approved by the Bureau;
24. *Reiterates* the request that the secretariat of the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS regularly update the joint online calendar of all Board meetings in real time so as to avoid overlap of schedules with other funds and programmes as well as major official meetings including the Economic and Social Council operational activities segment.

7 June 2019

2019/17

Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its annual session 2019

The Executive Board

Recalls that during its annual session 2019, it:

Item 1

Organizational matters

Adopted the agenda and approved the workplan for its first regular session 2019 ([DP/2019/L.2](#));

Approved the report of the first regular session 2019 ([DP/2019/8](#));

Approved the tentative workplan for the second regular session 2019;

Agreed to the following schedule for the remaining session of the Executive Board in 2019:

Second regular session: 3 to 6 September 2019.

UNDP segment

Item 2

Interactive dialogue with the UNDP Administrator and annual report

Adopted decision 2019/6 on the annual report of the UNDP Administrator;

Item 3

Gender equality at UNDP

Took note of the annual report on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy, 2018-2021 ([DP/2019/11](#));

Item 4

Human Development Report

Took note of an update by the secretariat on consultations on the Human Development Report 2019;

Item 5

UNDP country programmes and related matters

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

Republic of the Congo ([DP/DCP/COG/3](#));

Took note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Timor-Leste and Tunisia from 1 January to 31 December 2020, as approved by the Administrator ([DP/2019/12](#));

Approved the two-year extension of the country programme for Comoros from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2021 ([DP/2019/12](#));

Item 6
UNDP evaluation

Adopted decision 2019/7 on UNDP evaluation;

Item 7
United Nations Capital Development Fund

Adopted decision 2019/8 on the report on results achieved by UNCDF in 2018;

Item 8
United Nations Volunteers

Adopted decision 2019/9 on the report of the Administrator on UNV;

UNFPA segment

Item 9
Annual report of the UNFPA Executive Director

Adopted decision 2019/10 on the annual report of the UNFPA Executive Director;

Item 10
UNFPA evaluation

Adopted decision 2019/11 on UNFPA evaluation;

UNOPS segment

Item 11
United Nations Office for Project Services

Adopted decision 2019/12 on the annual report of the UNOPS Executive Director;

Joint segment

Item 12
Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS Ethics Offices

Adopted decision 2019/13 on the reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS;

Item 13
Internal audit and oversight

Adopted decision 2019/14 on the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and investigations and the management responses;

Item 14
Update on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [72/279](#) on repositioning of the United Nations development system

Adopted decision 2019/15 on the update on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [72/279](#) of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

Item 15
Working methods of the Executive Board

Adopted decision 2019/16 on the working methods of the Executive Board.

7 June 2019

2019/18
UNDP structured funding dialogue

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of documents DP/2019/26 (Annual review of the financial situation, 2018), DP/2019/26/Add.1 (Detailed information relating to the annual review of the financial situation, 2018), and DP/2019/27 (Structured dialogue on financing the results of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021);
2. *Notes* the importance of sufficient and predictable regular resources, which is critical for UNDP to offer the cross-cutting and integrated development solutions that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires;
3. *Recalls* the importance of funding predictability and urges Member States to prioritize regular resources and multi-year pledges for 2019 and future years, given that reductions in regular resources risk jeopardizing the ability of UNDP to achieve the results of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021;
4. *Recognizes* the importance of the private sector as a source of expertise and an essential contributor to economic growth and development, as well as a partner in Sustainable Development Goals financing, and encourages UNDP to deepen its partnership with the private sector, in accordance with its private sector strategy, and requests information in this regard to be presented at the first regular session of the Executive Board in 2020;
5. *Urges* Member States to continue their dialogue with UNDP, through the structured funding dialogues, on shifting from highly earmarked to regular resources, or flexible other resources, in line with the Funding Compact, and with the national priorities and plans of programme countries;
6. *Requests* UNDP, utilising existing reports and assessments, to include in future structured funding dialogue reports the status of funding by UNDP to United Nations Volunteers, United Nations Capital Development Fund, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, and the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, and the results of their work;
7. *Requests* UNDP, drawing on country and regional information in the Statistical Annex to the Annual Report of the Administrator and other relevant existing reports, to integrate in future structured funding dialogue reports updates on the utilisation of resources, and in addition, requests UNDP to provide qualitative examples of how such utilisation works to concretely support the delivery of Strategic Plan outcome areas and results;
8. *Welcomes* steps taken by UNDP, in collaboration with United Nations Development System (UNDS) entities and Member States, to follow up on commitments of the Funding Compact; and encourages UNDP to continue dialogue with all UNDS entities and Member States to jointly make progress towards compliance with their mutual and interdependent Funding Compact commitments;
9. *Requests* UNDP, as part of its reports on structured funding dialogues, to present harmonized annual reporting on implementation of its entity-specific commitments and contribution to the collective commitments of the Funding Compact, including adding annual milestones, examples of country-level impact, and a forward-looking narrative outlining

intended progress for those milestones not yet realized, ahead of the second regular 2020 session of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board;

10. Recalling decision 2018/5, *requests* UNDP to further review the format and content of the report on the structured funding dialogue with a view to aligning resources, including programmatic, with expected results as set out in the Strategic Plan 2018-2021, taking into account annual information on regular and other resources, financial gaps and projections as they relate to specific organizational or programmatic objectives and results, as well as proposed solutions, and to present, by the first regular session of 2020, options on improving the quality of the structured funding dialogues.

6 September 2019

2019/19

Revised UNDP evaluation policy

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the revisions made to the evaluation policy (DP/2019/29), in response to the independent review of the UNDP evaluation policy (DP/2019/13) and the management response thereto (DP/2019/14), presented at the annual session 2019;
2. *Adopts*, in its role as custodian of the evaluation function, the revised evaluation policy and requests, in line with the policy, that an independent review of the evaluation policy be commissioned for consideration by the Executive Board in four years, in January 2024;
3. *Requests* that, under the revised evaluation policy, UNDP continue improving the quality and the credibility of its decentralized evaluations at the country level, and that planned expansion of the Independent Evaluation Office presence at the regional level enable greater independent oversight of this work, including additional measures to safeguard the independence of evaluators carrying out decentralized evaluations;
4. *Reaffirms* the importance of the evaluation function at UNDP and underscores the value of high-quality, independent evaluation evidence in the context of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, and its contributions to organizational learning and to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
5. *Recognizes* UNDP's continuing engagement in the ongoing development of the system-wide evaluation measures and encourages UNDP to adopt best practices in both the system-wide evaluation measures and its evaluation policy;
6. *Urges* UNDP to further strengthen its efforts to take measures ensuring that policy commitments are met, particularly with regard to evaluation quality and investments in evaluation.

6 September 2019

2019/20

United Nations Office for Project Services

The Executive Board

With regard to the UNOPS budget estimates for the biennium 2020-2021 (DP/OPS/2019/5), having considered the report of the Executive Director (DP/OPS/2019/5) and the comments thereon by the ACABQ in its report (DP/OPS/2019/6):

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 support its contribution goals;
3. *Requests* UNOPS to present its provisions and plans to address contingencies to the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board for review during the annual session in 2020, and to annually update the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board on their plans on how to utilise the surplus in its operational reserve, in line with the Financial Regulations and Rules of UNOPS;
4. *Encourages* UNOPS to consider introduction of separate and individual budget lines for corporate oversight and assurance functions such as the internal audit function and the ethics office;

With regard to the annual statistical report on United Nations procurement, 2018 (DP/OPS/2019/7):

5. *Takes note* of the annual statistical report on United Nations procurement, 2018 (DP/OPS/2019/7), and recalls the decision of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board 2018/20;
6. *Welcomes* the data and analysis contained therein;
7. *Welcomes* steps taken by UNOPS, in collaboration with United Nations Development System (UNDS) entities and Member States to follow up on commitments of the Funding Compact; and encourages UNOPS to continue dialogue with all UNDS entities and Member States to jointly make progress towards compliance with their mutual and interdependent Funding Compact commitments;
8. *Requests* UNOPS to present harmonized annual reporting on implementation of their entity-specific commitments and contribution to the collective commitments of the Funding Compact, including adding annual milestones, examples of country-level impact, and a forward-looking narrative outlining intended progress for those milestones not yet realized, ahead of the second regular 2020 session of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board.

6 September 2019

2019/21

Joint review of the existing cost definitions and classifications of activities and associated costs

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the analysis contained in the joint review of the existing cost definitions, classifications of activities and associated costs (DP/FPA-ICEF-UNW/2019/1);
2. *Reiterates* decision 2018/21 and paragraph 35 of resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;
3. *Endorses* recommendations 1 and 2 on further alignment, as contained in the joint review, for application effective in their integrated budgets, beginning in 2022, and requests UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, working with the UN-Women and UNICEF, to implement standardized terminology and formatting of integrated budget proposals and financial information in the annual reports, recognizing that while all cost categories and functional clusters will be shown, not all will apply to each organization;

4. *Takes note* of recommendation 3 in the joint review, which proposes the creation of separate cost-classification line items in the integrated resources plan, to report on and obtain separate appropriations for independent oversight and assurance activities, as well as resident coordinator cost-sharing contributions, and welcomes additional information on this at the first regular session 2020, to enable further analysis prior to potential adoption of this recommendation.

6 September 2019

2019/22

Working methods of the Executive Board

The Executive Board

1. *Welcomes* the joint response prepared by the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women);

2. *Requests* the secretariat of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UN-Women, to present to the Executive Board for deliberation and consideration at the first regular session 2020 an exemplary annual programme of work, including informal briefings, for each of the three options presented in the joint response, with corresponding explanatory narratives on the envisaged changes and their expected effect on Board oversight, effectiveness and efficiency, as well as further elaboration on the listed issues of joint relevance and interest to all Boards.

6 September 2019

2019/23

Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its second regular session 2019

The Executive Board

Recalls that during its second regular session 2019, it:

Item 1

Organizational matters

Adopted the agenda and approved the workplan for its second regular session 2019 (DP/2019/L.3);

Approved the report of the annual session 2019 (DP/2019/24);

Approved the tentative workplan for the first regular session 2020.

UNDP segment

Item 2

UNDP structured funding dialogue

Adopted decision 2019/18 on the UNDP structured funding dialogue.

Item 3

UNDP country programmes and related matters

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

Africa: Angola (DP/DCP/AGO/4); Liberia (DP/DCP/LBR/3); Sierra Leone (DP/DCP/SLE/4);

Took note of the first one-year extension of the country programme for Madagascar from 1 January to 31 December 2020, already approved by the Administrator (DP/2019/28/Rev.1);

Approved the fourth extension of the country programme for Yemen, from 1 January to 31 December 2020 (DP/2019/28/Rev.1).

**Item 4
Evaluation**

Adopted decision 2019/19 on the revised UNDP evaluation policy.

UNFPA segment

**Item 5
UNFPA structured funding dialogue**

The Bureau decided to defer a decision on the UNFPA structured funding dialogue; the draft decision will again be taken up during the first regular session 2020.

**Item 6
UNFPA country programme and related matters**

Approved the following country programmes, in accordance with decision 2014/7: Angola (DP/FPA/CPD/AGO/8), Congo (DP/FPA/CPD/COG/6), Liberia (DP/FPA/CPD/LBR/5), Mexico (DP/FPA/CPD/MEX/7) and Sierra Leone (DP/FPA/CPD/SLE/7);

Took note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Madagascar, Timor-Leste and Tunisia;

Approved the first two-year extension for the country programme for Afghanistan, the second, two-year extension for the country programme for Comoros, and the fourth, one-year extension for Yemen (DP/FPA/2019/9).

UNOPS segment

**Item 7
United Nations Office for Project Services**

Adopted decision 2019/20 on the United Nations Office for Project Services;

Joint segment

**Item 8
Financial, budgetary and administrative matters**

Adopted decision 2019/21 on the joint review of the existing cost definitions and classifications of activities and associated costs;

Took note of the report of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on joint procurement activities (DP-FPA-OPS/2019/3).

Item 9**Follow-up to UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board meeting**

Took note of the report on the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (DP/2019/30-DP/FPA/2019/10).

Item 10**Update on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system**

Took note of the update on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system.

Item 11**Working methods of the Executive Board**

Adopted decision 2019/22 on the working methods of the Executive Board.

Item 12**Field visits**

Took note of the report on the joint field visit of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP to Colombia (DP/FPA/OPS-ICEF-UNW-WFP/2019/CRP.1).

Item 13**Other matters**

Heard a statement by the Chairperson of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS/UN-Women Staff Council.

6 September 2019

**TENTATIVE WORKPLAN
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION 2020
(3-6 February 2020, New York)**

| <i>Day/Date</i> | <i>Time</i> | <i>Item</i> | <i>Subject</i> |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------|--|
| Monday, 3 February | 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 second regular session 2019 • Adoption of the annual workplan 2020 of the Executive Board <p style="text-align: center;">JOINT SEGMENT</p> |
| | | 2 | RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD OF AUDITORS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP report on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2018 • UNCDF report on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2018 • UNFPA report on the follow-up to the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2018: Status of implementation of recommendations • UNOPS report on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2018 |
| | 3 – 5:30 p.m. | 3 | FINANCIAL, BUDGETARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint preliminary comprehensive proposal on the cost-recovery policy <p style="text-align: center;">UNDP SEGMENT</p> |
| | | 6 | UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and approval of country programme documents • Extensions of country programmes <p style="text-align: center;">UNFPA SEGMENT</p> |
| | | 8 | UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and approval of country programme documents • Extensions of country programmes |
| Tuesday, 4 February | 10 a.m.– 1 p.m. | | UNDP SEGMENT (cont'd) INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR |
| | 3 – 4:30 p.m. | | INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR (cont'd) |
| | 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. | 5 | EVALUATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synthesis of IEO findings in conflict countries |
| Wednesday, 5 February | 10 a.m.– 1 p.m. | | UNFPA SEGMENT STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR |
| | 3 – 4 p.m. | 7 | EVALUATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developmental evaluation of results-based management approach in UNFPA |
| | 4-5:30 p.m. | 4 | JOINT SEGMENT (cont'd) WORKING METHODS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD |

| <i>Day/Date</i> | <i>Time</i> | <i>Item</i> | <i>Subject</i> |
|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------|---|
| Thursday, 6 February | 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. | | UNOPS SEGMENT INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE UNOPS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR |
| | 3 – 5 p.m. | 8 | OTHER MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adoption of pending decisions |
| | | 1 | ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adoption of the tentative workplan for the annual session 2020 |
