



EXECUTIVE BOARD DECISION TRACKING TABLE FOR 2020

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

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

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

Decision	Category	Responsible division(s)	Request	Deadline	Progress and follow-up action	Status
First Regular Session 2020 (3-6 February 2020)						
2020/1 Reports of UNDP, UNCDF, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2018	Recommendations of the Board of Auditors		Para 1. Welcomes the unqualified audit opinions that UNDP, UNFPA, UNCDF and UNOPS received for 2018, while also noting that there is still room for improvement;			No actions required
	Recommendations of the Board of Auditors	Office of the Executive Director, Ethics Office	Para 2. Calls for a strong focus on measures targeted towards preventative actions and quality assurance, as well as ethics awareness-raising, and protection of whistle-blowers, in line with existing non-retaliatory policies of the entities;	Ongoing	The Ethics Office has adopted a triaged approach to live training, whereby rules-based information is transmitted online and through targeted communications. Face to face/webinar training have been reserved for nuanced and complex ethics material. The goal is to prioritize foresight and skills training for ethical decision making and behaviour.	Completed and ongoing ●
	Recommendations of the Board of Auditors	Office of the Executive Director	Para 3. Urges UNDP, UNFPA, UNCDF and UNOPS to continue implementing and closing the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2018, and the remaining recommendations from prior years;	Ongoing	All Board of Auditors recommendations of 2018 are implemented and closed.	Completed ●

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

					mechanism to cooperate with other funds and programmes.	
	Recommendations of the Board of Auditors		Para 12. <i>Notes</i> that the Board of Auditors recommended that UNOPS needed to formulate a strategy for the effective utilization of its increasing surpluses under its operational reserve and, recalling decisions 2012/5 and 2019/20 in this regard, calls on UNOPS to utilize its operational reserve in strict accordance with the existing financial rules and regulations			No actions required
2020/2 Working methods of the Executive Board	Working Methods		Para 1. <i>Recalls</i> decision 2019/16 of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS on working methods of the Executive Board and reiterates its requests therein;			Noted
			Para 2. <i>Takes note</i> of the joint paper on working methods of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP;			No actions required
			Para 3. <i>Takes note with appreciation</i> of the revised guidelines for the field visits of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women, and for the joint field visits of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP;			No actions required
	Working Methods	Executive Board Branch/ Office of Executive Director	Para 4. <i>Requests</i> the secretariat of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UN-Women, to submit to Member States, ahead of the annual session 2020, with a view to conclude discussions on the working methods no later than the second regular session, a concrete proposal for a rearranged annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2021, which includes daily schedules of the three sessions and informal consultations, supported by a detailed comparative analysis of potential implications on items for decisions, overall costs, efficiency and oversight, with a view to reducing the workload of the second regular session by shifting agenda items among formal sessions, as appropriate;	2020 Annual Session	The secretariats of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UN-Women, prepared and submitted to Member States, ahead of the Annual Session 2020, a concrete proposal for a rearranged annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2021, which included daily schedules of the three sessions and informal consultations, supported by a detailed comparative analysis of potential implications on items for decisions, overall costs, efficiency and oversight, with a view to reducing the workload of the second regular session by shifting agenda items among formal sessions. Furthermore, a joint briefing on working methods of the Executive Boards was conducted for the Executive Board members and observers on 28 May 2020. The Executive Board adopted decision 2020/13 at the Second Regular Session on working methods, concluding these discussions.	Completed 

	Working Methods	Executive Board Branch/ Office of Executive Director	Para 5. <i>Further recalls</i> decision 2018/22 and stresses the need to continue to harmonize the consideration of common agenda items across the respective Executive Board agendas and requests the secretariat of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, in collaboration with the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UN-Women, to reflect it in the proposal of a rearranged workplan for 2021;	Ongoing	The harmonization of common agenda items across the respective Executive Board agendas is ongoing. The secretariat of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, in collaboration with the Secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UN-Women, continues to work on this.	Completed and ongoing 
	Working Methods	Executive Board Branch/Office of Executive Director	Para 6. <i>Recalls</i> decision 2018/22 and requests UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS management to circulate timely written response to the unanswered questions raised at formal sessions of the Executive Board;	Ongoing	UNFPA is committed to continue providing timely written responses to all unanswered questions raised at formal sessions of the Executive Board.	Completed and ongoing 
	Working Methods	Executive Board Branch/Office of Executive Director	Para 7. <i>Takes note with appreciation</i> of the current tracking system of the decisions of the Executive Board and requests the secretariat to put the full text of decisions into the system so that Member States have full oversight on follow-up and fulfilment of decisions, starting in 2019.	2020 Annual Session and Ongoing	UNFPA has updated current tracking systems for 2019, 2020 and 2021 with the full text of decisions so that Member States have full oversight on follow-up and fulfilment of decisions.	Completed and ongoing 
Annual Session 2020 (3-5 June 2020)						
2020/6 Integrated midterm review and progress report on implementation of the UNFPA strategic plan, 2018-2021: Report of the Executive	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 1. <i>Notes with appreciation</i> the progress made by UNFPA in achieving the cumulative results of its strategic plan, 2018-2021, and encourages UNFPA to further integrate the United Nations development system reform mandates in the remaining implementation of this strategic plan;	End 2021	UNFPA implements its country programmes and develops new country programmes that are fully aligned with CCA/UNSDCFs, and works to advance the integration of the UNDS reform mandates across the work of the organization. UNFPA is also actively leading and/or participating in UNCT situation analysis, policy advocacy, planning, and monitoring processes. UNFPA regional and global interventions are guided by the discussions in the Regional Collaborative Platforms and UNSDG Task teams at the global level.	Completed and ongoing 

Director	Annual Report and Strategic Plan		Para 2. <i>Welcomes</i> the UNFPA progress towards achieving the strategic plan outputs;			No actions required
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 3. <i>Urges</i> UNFPA to improve progress towards achieving partially achieved strategic plan outputs and ensure that the fund reflects new methods of achieving these outputs in the next strategic plan;	End 2021	The partially achieved targets were largely related to leaving no one behind, particularly at the policy level. Through the MTR process, UNFPA identified challenges to advancing leaving no one behind, including social and cultural barriers, lack of disaggregated data, and geographic barriers to reach those furthest behind. To improve the progress and overcome the challenges, UNFPA is in the process of developing specific strategies and guidance, including prioritizing the furthest behind populations, enhancing partnerships and resource mobilization efforts, and strengthening adaptive management across all levels. As part of the SP 2022-2025, the new business model, including the resource allocation system, has taken into full consideration the funding approach in supporting the achievement of these outputs in the next Strategic Plan.	In Progress 
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 4. <i>Calls for</i> UNFPA to adopt more ambitious milestones for the outputs of the strategic plan, 2018-2021, which have consistently been overachieved, in order to ensure the targets set remain both realistic and ambitious;	End 2021	During the midterm review of the Strategic Plan, UNFPA identified 10+ indicators with targets that were updated to reflect a higher level of ambition. UNFPA will closely follow up and analyze all IRRF indicators, to ensure they are both realistic and ambitious. The elaboration of the next SP took this into account.	Completed and ongoing 
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division, Division for Management Services	Para 5. <i>Notes</i> the commitment of UNFPA to strengthening its thematic focus on climate change, and requests UNFPA to report to the Executive Board, in the annual report of the Executive Director, on its programming and operational targets, corresponding efforts and results, and through applicable environmental and social standards, to make its programmes and operations consistent with its thematic focus on climate change, as outlined in the midterm review of the strategic plan, 2018-2021;	Annual Session 2021	Operational targets are reported through the Strategic Plan and in the Executive Director's annual report. UNFPA adopted an Environmental Efficiency Strategy in Feb 2021 in order to achieve the targets set by the Strategy for sustainability management in the United Nations system, 2020-2030 (CEB/2019/1/Add.1). These targets are reflected in the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan IRRF as - 'Proportion of UNFPA country offices applying environmental and social standards in programmes in line with United Nations standards (QCPR)'	Completed and ongoing 

	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 6. <i>Requests</i> that UNFPA accelerate its efforts to implement the common chapter, together with UNDP, UNICEF and UN-Women, including by developing the necessary tracking framework within the respective integrated results and resources frameworks of their current strategic plans, following the recommendations of the joint report on the evaluability assessment of the common chapter dated 30 March 2020 and in the context of the repositioning of the United Nations development system, and to present a joint update on the progress to the Executive Board at the second regular session 2020;	Second Regular session 2020	In responding to this request, UNFPA worked closely with UNDP, UNICEF and UN Women in developing the common chapter tracking framework within the respective IRRFs. UNFPA has continued to accelerate its efforts to implement the common chapter in the context of ongoing UN reforms, both in collaboration with the Common Chapter agencies and beyond those agencies. A joint informal by the 4 agencies presented a joint update on the progress in late August 2020. In addition, a joint workshop on 15 December 2020, inter alia, shared lessons on working together. Moreover, on 4 December 2020, the tracking framework on the common chapter of the Strategic Plans was shared with the Executive Board.	Completed 
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 7. <i>Welcomes</i> the strong UNFPA commitment to United Nations development system reform, and encourages UNFPA to continue to work closely with United Nations organizations, under the leadership of resident coordinators and in collaboration with the United Nations country team, stakeholders and other development partners, to support country efforts towards the Sustainable Development Goals through the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework;	Ongoing	UNFPA remains fully committed to a repositioned United Nations development system, including: (a) ensuring alignment of country programmes and related policies and procedures with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks and relevant system-wide frameworks at the regional and global levels; and (b) continued support the Resident coordinator system.	Completed and ongoing 
	Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships, Policy and Strategy Division	Para 8. <i>Welcomes</i> ongoing UNFPA implementation of its Funding Compact commitments, many of which are set for 2021, and encourages UNFPA to retain the high level of ambition of its Funding Compact commitments, and requests that UNFPA continue the practice of providing a written	Second Regular session 2020	UNFPA's annual report on SFD 2019-2020 details several aspects of the relations between the outcome of MTR and the implementation of the Funding Compact. Additionally, the August 2020 informal session on SFD provided some additional concrete illustrations of this relation in the context of the Strategic Plan.	Completed 

			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;			
Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Office of Executive Director	Para 9. <i>Takes note</i> of the report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2019 (DP/FPA/2020/4, Part II) and a slowdown in terms of addressing them, and calls on UNFPA to accelerate efforts towards their implementation, where applicable;	Ongoing	<p>UNFPA remains fully committed to implement JIU recommendations and continue to improve its systems and ability to do so. The level of implementation at the time of this decision resulted from a combination of multiple factors, some internal, some external:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some recommendations require action through inter-agency mechanisms – e.g. at the CEB level in particular – which require a longer timeframe for discussions and decisions regarding their implications. • Some recommendations require thorough inter-divisional/inter-office decision-making and action in order to make the changes lasting and sustainable; this takes time to implement fully. • Some recommendations have budgetary and operational implications; these are also carefully considered before any commitment is made. • Other recommendations require decisions by legislative organs, including Governing Bodies, to be made. • It is expected that the user-friendliness of the JIU tracking system will be soon improved. • For some JIU recommendations, UNFPA has gone different routes to achieve ultimately the same aims - e.g. on UN Reform, UNFPA has aligned with the UN system and pursued the Business Innovation Group route. This differed slightly from the approach in JIU but had the same objective. <p>Since then, UNFPA has been making good progress in implementing the JIU recommendations in terms of acceptance, implementation - and corresponding validation</p>	In Progress	

					thereof - of the recommendations. New SOPs have been developed and the Audit Monitoring Committee has been entrusted with the responsibility of monitoring the JIU recommendations. A new departmental JIU sub-focal point system has been introduced and UNFPA is expecting a major improvement in the next report to the Board.	
Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 10. <i>Approves</i> the proposed adjustments to the UNFPA strategic plan, 2018-2021, based on the findings of the midterm review, which shall be implemented in accordance with Executive Board decision 2017/23;	End 2021	The adjustments to the SP have been made following the mid-term review in accordance with EB decision 2017/23 and are now being implemented.	Completed and ongoing	
Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division, Humanitarian Office	Para 11. Notes with appreciation the UNFPA response to COVID-19, in line with United Nations system efforts, and requests UNFPA to provide an update on the impact of the pandemic on operations beginning at the second regular session in September 2020;	Second regular session 2020	An update in the form of an Information Note on the impact of COVID-19 on UNFPA was shared with the Executive Board in advance of the Second Regular Session 2020 and the First Regular Session 2021. Reference has also continued to be made in the statements of the Executive Director to the Executive Board.	Completed and ongoing	
Annual Report and Strategic Plan	Policy and Strategy Division, Humanitarian Office	Para 12. <i>Calls for</i> UNFPA to ensure delivery of the objectives of the strategic plan, 2018-2021, in the context of the COVID-19 crisis, and to continue to work as part of a coordinated international response, with a focus on supporting programme countries to build back better, leaving no one behind.	End 2021	Since the deactivation of the system-wide COVID-19 response by IASC in January 2021, the response has been fully integrated into the regular interventions of the humanitarian programme cycle and humanitarian response plans at the country level. The COVID-19 crisis in humanitarian countries is far from over and even deteriorating already severe humanitarian situations in some of the crisis countries. UNFPA continues leading SRH and GBV response in coordination with partners under the leadership of humanitarian coordinators on the ground for programme countries to achieve the goals of UNFPA's SP. The inclusion of a humanitarian output in the new SP will ensure the streamlining of preparedness and early alerts in country programmes, mitigating thereby negative potential consequences of a similar pandemic or other disasters in the future.	Completed	

2020/7 Midterm review of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021	Budget		Para 1. <i>Welcomes</i> the midterm review of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021 (DP/FPA/2020/5), aligned with the midterm review of the UNFPA strategic plan, 2018-2021 (DP/FPA/2020/4 (Part 1));		No actions required	
	Budget		Para 2. <i>Takes note</i> of the results framework and resource requirements reflected in the revised estimates for the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021, including linkages of results and resources, as contained in document DP/FPA/2020/5;		No actions required	
	Budget	Division for Management Services	Para 3. <i>Welcomes</i> the Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) on the midterm review of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2018-2021, and requests UNFPA to implement and report on all ACABQ recommendations, in line with existing reporting mechanisms;	Second regular session 2021	As per existing process, UNFPA has reported on the implementation of the ACABQ recommendations as part of the integrated budget, 2022-2025 proposal, Annex 3.	Completed 
	Budget	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 4. <i>Calls on</i> UNFPA to continue and accelerate efforts to realize efficiency gains arising from United Nations development system reform initiatives in the remainder of the strategic plan, 2018-2021 period, in line with the General Assembly resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system, and to redeploy these efficiency gains for development activities, including coordination;	End 2021	UNFPA remains fully committed to a repositioned United Nations development system (UNDS), optimally equipped to support countries achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. UNFPA is unwavering in working together with other UN entities to drive UNDS reforms forward, under the primary objective of delivering more, effectively, efficiently and improved collective development results for the people we serve. UNFPA continues to advance efforts to improve organizational effectiveness and efficiency through strengthening its leading roles in areas of comparative advantage, supporting common back offices and common services, engaging in joint programs and supporting the collective actions of UNCTs under the overall leadership of the RC. Efforts of UNFPA to calculate efficiency gains in the operations area are in line with DCO. UNFPA has reported actual efficiency gains from in-house initiatives of \$4.3 million (2019) and \$7.1 million (2020). In addition, efficiency gains from bilateral initiatives have amounted to \$2.3 million (2019) and \$1.2 million (2020). Efficiencies from BOS initiatives are only estimated by DCO at this stage and amount to estimated efficiencies for UNFPA of \$0.6 million (2019) and \$2.2 million (2020) respectively.	In Progress 

	Budget	Policy and Strategy Division, Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships	Para 5. <i>Encourages</i> UNFPA to continue to intensify its dialogue with all Member States to broaden the contributor base and encourage support to regular resources, in line with the Funding Compact of the Secretary-General;	Ongoing	UNFPA is continuing with such efforts, as noted in the most recent SFD report. In addition, UNFPA has updated its data portal, to make country level results data available for all key stakeholders. Furthermore, at the First Regular Session 2021, UNFPA launched its campaign to diversify further its base of core contributors.	Completed and ongoing 
	Budget		Para 6. <i>Approves</i> the presentation of activities and associated costs reflected in document DP/FPA/2020/5;			Noted
Para 7. Approves revised gross estimates for the institutional budget, 2018-2021, in the amount of \$738.6 million, noting that these estimates include \$169.2 million for indirect cost recovery from other resources;					Noted	
Para 8. <i>Approves</i> a revised ceiling for global and regional interventions 2018-2021, in the amount of \$162.7 million of the projected regular resources, noting that this amount cannot be exceeded without approval of the Executive Board;					Noted	
Para 9. <i>Recalls</i> Executive Board decision 2015/3, approves a revised amount of \$29.5 million of regular resources for the UNFPA emergency fund, and reaffirms the existing authorization for the UNFPA Executive Director to increase the emergency fund by up to \$2 million beyond the ceiling in a given year if the number and extent of the emergencies so warrant.					Noted	
Second Regular Session 2020 (31 August - 4 September 2020)						
2020/10 Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and investigations and management responses	Internal Audit and Investigation		Para 1. Welcomes the progress of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS in addressing audit-related management issues in 2019;			No actions required
	Internal Audit and Investigation		Para 2. Notes with appreciation efforts to implement outstanding audit recommendations from previous reports;			No actions required
	Internal Audit and Investigation	Office of Audit and Investigation Services	Para 3. Encourages UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to work with UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP and agree on harmonized definitions and reporting for audit and investigation matters, where applicable, to provide the Executive Boards with a more coherent overview of findings and results;	Ongoing	The UNFPA Office of Audit and Investigation Services together with counterparts from UNDP, UNICEF, UN-Women and UNOPS has agreed on a final harmonized template for the annual report to the Executive Boards which will be used in annual reports for the year 2021. UNFPA will start drafting the annual report of OAIS using the harmonized approach, which will be presented in the Annual Session in 2022.	In Progress 

Internal Audit and Investigation		With regard to UNDP: Para 4. Takes note of the annual report of the Office of Audit and Investigations on internal audit and investigation activities in 2019 (DP/2020/16) and its annexes, and the management response thereto;	No actions required
Internal Audit and Investigation		Para 5. Expresses continuing support for the internal audit and investigation functions of UNDP;	No actions required
Internal Audit and Investigation		Para 6. Notes the UNDP-Global Environment Facility (GEF) projects under some phase of the Office of Audit and Investigations /Social and Environmental Compliance Unit-managed grievance process and the audits and investigations performed by the Office on the UNDP-GEF portfolio, requests an update from the Office on the status of audit and investigation work and of the grievances reviewed by the Unit, and further requests the Office and UNDP management to present comprehensive reporting on UNDP-GEF-funded projects to the Executive Board during annual reporting on the Office of Audit and Investigations, starting in 2021, and at targeted informal briefings, as needed;	No actions required
Internal Audit and Investigation		Para 7. Urges UNDP to enhance audit and investigation capabilities to oversee GEF-funded projects while preserving audit and investigation capabilities in other areas;	No actions required
Internal Audit and Investigation		Para 8. Takes note of the annual report of the Audit and Evaluation Advisory Committee;	No actions required
Internal Audit and Investigation	Office of the Executive Director, Ethics Office, Office of Audit and Investigation Services	With regard to UNFPA: Para 9. Takes note of the present report (DP/FPA/2020/6), 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/2020/6/Add.1), the annual report of the Oversight Advisory Committee (DP/FPA/2020/6/Add.2), and the management response thereto and to the present report;	No actions required

	<p>Internal Audit and Investigation</p>	<p>Office of the Executive Director, Division for Human Resources</p>	<p>Para 10. Notes with concern the rising number of investigation cases carried over from past years, welcomes that human resources have been strengthened and encourages UNFPA to effectively deploy these resources to reduce the existing caseload;</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>UNFPA’s commitment to provide sufficient resources for the independent internal audit and oversight function is reflected in the steady increase in investments over the years. Even in times of financial challenges and reductions in income during the 2014-2017 and 2018-2021 cycle, UNFPA safeguarded the budgets for the two independent functions and did not reduce their allocations, unlike for other parts of the organization. This is evidenced by an increase of 133% in the Office of Internal Audit and Investigations Services (from \$17.1 in 2010 to \$39.9m for 2022-2025)."</p> <p>As part of the integrated budget planning process for the 2022-2025 strategic plan cycle, three new posts were created for the Investigation Branch to augment the current staffing that will focus on the early assessment of complaints to ascertain if these are to be investigated or not. OAIS has initiated the recruitment process to fill these new posts with the objective of having the successful candidates on board during the first quarter of 2022.</p> <p>As additional measures to address the backlog, OAIS is reorganizing the Office using existing staffing resources to streamline procedures, enhance delegation of authority, and strengthen quality assurance.</p>	<p>In Progress</p> 
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	Internal Audit and Investigation	Office of the Executive Director, Division for Human Resources, Office of Audit and Investigation Services	Para 11. Expresses its continuing support for the strengthening of the audit and investigation functions at UNFPA, and for the provision of sufficient resources to discharge their mandate;	Ongoing	<p>UNFPA's commitment to provide sufficient resources for the independent internal audit and oversight function is reflected in the steady increase in investments over the years. Even in times of financial challenges and reductions in income during the 2014-2017 and 2018-2021 cycle, UNFPA safeguarded the budgets for the two independent functions and did not reduce their allocations, unlike for other parts of the organization. This is evidenced by an increase of 133% in the Office of Internal Audit and Investigations Services (from \$17.1 in 2010 to \$39.9m for 2022-2025)."</p> <p>As part of the integrated budget planning process for the 2022-2025 strategic plan cycle, three new posts were created for the Investigation Branch to augment the current staffing that will focus on the early assessment of complaints to ascertain if these are to be investigated or not. OAIS has initiated the recruitment process to fill these new posts with the objective of having the successful candidates on board during the first quarter of 2022.</p> <p>As additional measures to address the backlog, OAIS is reorganizing the Office using existing staffing resources to streamline procedures, enhance delegation of authority, and strengthen quality assurance.</p>	In Progress 
	Internal Audit and Investigation	Office of the Executive Director, Office of Audit and Investigation Services	Para 12. Acknowledges and supports the engagement of the Office of Audit and Investigation Services in joint audit and investigation activities;	Ongoing	OAIS continues its involvement in inter-agency activities in internal audit and investigation where relevant and to the extent of its resources.	Ongoing 
	Internal Audit and Investigation		With regard to UNOPS: Para 13. Takes note of the annual report of the Internal Audit and Investigations Group for 2019 and the management response thereto;			No actions required

	Internal Audit and Investigation		Para 14. Takes note of the significant progress made in implementation of audit recommendations;		No actions required
	Internal Audit and Investigation		Para15. Takes note of the opinion, based on the scope of work undertaken, on the adequacy and effectiveness of the organization’s framework of governance, risk management and control;		No actions required
	Internal Audit and Investigation		Para16. Takes note of the annual report of the Audit Advisory Committee for 2019.		No actions required
2020/11 Reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS	Ethics		Para 1. Takes note of the reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS (DP/2020/17, DP/FPA/2020/7 and DP/OPS/2020/3);		No actions required
	Ethics		Para 2. Notes the progress made by the UNDP Ethics Office in strengthening the ethical culture of UNDP;		No actions required
	Ethics		Para 3. Welcomes the continued progress in the work of the UNFPA Ethics Office;		No actions required
	Ethics		Para 4. Notes the progress made by the UNOPS Ethics and Compliance Office in strengthening the ethical culture of UNOPS.		No actions required
	Ethics		Para 5. Takes note with appreciation of the updates provided for UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS in the background paper on response to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, and notes with appreciation increasing inter-agency cooperation;		No actions required
Ethics	Ethics Office, Division for Human Resources, Office of Executive Director, Office of Audit and Investigations Services (OAIS)	Para 6. Notes progress made and the need for continued effort and focus on preventing and taking immediate action on tackling sexual exploitation, abuse and sexual harassment, including ensuring that policies and procedures deliver impact and are resourced sufficiently, and that proposed actions are implemented at country, regional and global levels;	Ongoing	UNFPA continues its efforts, in coordination with UN system entities and the IASC communities. To ensure impact and effectiveness on the ground, UNFPA focuses on several key priorities, including a) bolstering PSEA country mechanisms, b) improving access to quality assistance and, c) strengthening interagency coordination and coherence. In 2021, UNFPA held the IASC PSEAH Championship and implemented several key initiatives under its Championship to strengthen accountability, leadership and coordination on the ground.	Completed and ongoing 
Ethics	Ethics Office, Division for Human Resources, Office of Executive Director, Office of Audit and Investigations	Para 7. Requests UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue to take action to ensure a victim-centred, system-wide and coherent approach at all levels to prevent and tackle sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, while leveraging their respective mandates, and to address the increased risk of sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual	Ongoing	UNFPA’s continued focus is to ensure a coherent victim-centred approach in all prevention and response efforts. To this end, UNFPA participates in the CEB Taskforce on SH and collaborates closely with the Office of the Victim Rights’ Advocate. UNFPA has taken a number of immediate actions to address the increased risk of SEAH during COVID-19, including providing guidance and technical support for all country	Completed and ongoing 

		Services (OAIS)	harassment during the COVID-19 response and recovery;		offices as well as targeted training and consultations with UNFPA PSEA focal points.	
		Ethics Office, Division for Human Resources, Office of Executive Director, Office of Audit and Investigations Services (OAIS)	Para 8. Requests UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue providing updates to the Executive Board on how UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS are preventing and responding to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment in its policies, procedures and operations at all levels, taking into account recommendations from the independent review.	Ongoing	The update was provided in a Joint informal briefing on PSEA and SH in advance of the Annual Session 2021 and was provided at the Annual Session 2021. A further update will be provided at the informal in January 2022 and at the First Regular Session 2022.	Completed and ongoing 
2020/12 Joint comprehensive cost-recovery policy	Financial, Budgetary and Administrative Matters		Para 1. Approves the joint comprehensive cost-recovery policy (DP/FPA-ICEF-UNW/2020/1), including cost-classification categories, methodology and rates, effective 1 January 2022;			No actions required
	Financial, Budgetary and Administrative Matters		Para 2. Requests UNDP and UNFPA, in collaboration with UNICEF and UN-Women, to adapt the presentation of the national committees' rates in table 4 of the policy, clarifying that in the case of UNICEF, the 5 per cent rate is applicable only to thematic contributions raised by National Committees;			Not applicable as UNFPA does not have national committees
	Financial, Budgetary and Administrative Matters		Para 3. Resolves that the comprehensive cost-recovery policy as outlined in document DP/FPA-ICEF-UNW/2020/1 supersedes the previous cost-recovery policy, including cost-classification categories, methodology and rates;			No actions required
	Financial, Budgetary and Administrative Matters	Division for Communications and Strategic Partnership	Para 4. Decides that agreements signed prior to 1 January 2022 will be honoured using the existing cost-recovery rates (per Executive Board decision 2013/9) and that new agreements as well as revisions of existing agreements that result in additional/new contributions signed after 1 January 2022, will comply with the rates in the cost-recovery policy as approved in this decision;	Ongoing	UNFPA is complying with the new policy.	Completed and ongoing 
	Financial, Budgetary and Administrative Matters	Division for management services, Division for	Para 5. Requests UNDP and UNFPA, in collaboration with UNICEF and UN-Women, to provide harmonized annual	Ongoing	UNFPA continues to comply with the waiver reporting requirements. The 2020 ED annual report's Financial and Statistical Review, presented at the 2021 Annual Session, contains	Completed and ongoing

		Communications and Strategic Partnership	reporting on the progress of implementation of the cost-recovery policy as an annex to their respective existing reporting, including the presentation of the financial impact of the harmonized differentiated rates and waivers granted, and to continue including, in line with the policy, inter alia an itemization of each waiver/discount listing the donor name, total contribution, programme name, cost-recovery rate and United States dollar value of the waiver/discount, as well as the resulting effective cost-recovery rates and cost-recovery amounts realized;		the dedicated chapter and an annex on cost recovery reporting, including the waivers.	
Financial, Budgetary and Administrative Matters	Division for management services	Para 6. Further requests UNDP and UNFPA, in collaboration with UNICEF and UN-Women, to present in a harmonized way in their existing reporting the calculations of the notional cost-recovery rates in their respective integrated budget documents;	Second Regular Session 2021	UNFPA included the requested information in its Integrated Budget proposal documents.	Completed and ongoing	
Financial, Budgetary and Administrative Matters	Division for management services	Para 7. Requests UNDP and UNFPA, in collaboration with UNICEF and UN-Women, to present a comprehensive review of the cost-recovery policy and its implementation for decision at the second regular session 2024, and further requests UNDP and UNFPA, in collaboration with UNICEF and UN-Women, to organize a joint briefing in 2023 to present a joint timeline for the review and preliminary observations and findings from the implementation of the cost-recovery policy.	Second Regular Session 2024 2023	Planned as per the decision. Planned as per the decision.	In Progress	

2020/13 Working methods of the Executive Board	Working Methods of the Executive Board		Para 1. Takes note with appreciation of the joint paper with concrete proposals for rearranged annual workplans of the Executive Boards for 2021, 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);			No actions required
	Working Methods of the Executive Board	Executive Board Branch/ Office of the Executive Director	Para 2. Approves the proposed shift in items among formal sessions which seeks to reduce the workload of the second regular session;			No actions required
	Working Methods of the Executive Board	Executive Board Branch/ Office of the Executive Director	Para 3. Requests the secretariat to ensure that sufficient time is allotted to each session of the Executive Board and each of their items, as well as to the respective informal consultations to enable the Executive Board to exercise its oversight function.	Ongoing	UNFPA, together with the Secretariat of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS will continue ensuring that sufficient time is allotted to each session of the Executive Board and relevant items, including during the respective informal consultations. Agencies will continue working with the membership of the Board through the Bureau to constantly improve the Board's efficiency and ensure its effectiveness.	Completed and ongoing 
2020/18 UNFPA structured funding dialogue	Structured Funding Dialogue		Para 1. Takes note of the report on the UNFPA structured funding dialogue 2019-2020 (DP/FPA/2020/9);			No actions required
	Structured Funding Dialogue		Para 2. Welcomes the efforts made by UNFPA jointly with UNDP, UNICEF and UN-Women to improve the structured funding dialogues;			No actions required
	Structured Funding Dialogue	Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships, Policy and strategy Division	Para 3. Notes the importance of sufficient and predictable regular (core) resources linked to intended and demonstrated results, which is critical for UNFPA to deliver on the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, respond to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and help realize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, recalls the importance of broadening the contributor base and encourages UNFPA, in line with the funding compact of the Secretary-General, to engage with Member States to consider to prioritize contributing to UNFPA regular resources in a timely and predictable manner; and	Ongoing	UNFPA conducts an annual campaign for core resources, including individual outreach to each Member States in UN Missions, and in capitals; UNFPA also arranges regional events where core contributions are recognized as the bedrock of UNFPA activities, and visibility is given to core-contributors and results achieved with core. Additionally, UNFPA management uses all opportunities offered by high level meetings and bilateral discussions with delegations to advocate for core funding. UNFPA also uses the structured funding dialogues with Member States to inform them of core trends, to update them on the progress on broadening the donor base, and to advocate for more core-contributions, and contributors. UNFPA recognizes its core-contributors in publications, on the UNFPA website (donor	Completed 

			further encourages UNFPA to continue to make efforts in terms of visibility and recognition of contributions to regular resources;		pages), and in events. Results achieved with core resources in countries and regions are the subject of special publications.	
Structured Funding Dialogue	Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships, Policy and strategy Division, Division for management services	Para 4. Requests UNFPA to update the Board ahead of the annual session 2021 and report at the second regular session 2021, as part of the structured funding dialogue, on how UNFPA will mitigate the effects of potential decreases in global official development assistance, including its impact on implementation of the strategic plan;	Annual Session 2021		A joint UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women informal SFD was conducted on 7 May 2021, as per this decision. A joint paper was developed to support the dialogue, and shared with the Executive Boards. The report for the 2021 Second Regular Session was shared with the Executive Board in response to this decision.	Completed 
Structured Funding Dialogue	Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships, Policy and strategy Division, Division for management services	Para 5. Invites UNFPA, as appropriate, to continue its dialogue with Member States with the aim of reaching the funding targets of the strategic plan and the integrated budget and on shifting from highly-earmarked to regular and flexible resources and on prioritizing multi-year pledges, to enable UNFPA to respond to the evolving needs of programme countries in line with the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021;	Ongoing		This is a recurrent subject of UNFPA SFDs, and of joint SFDs with the other Funds and Programmes. These dialogues continued in 2021.	Completed and ongoing 
Structured Funding Dialogue	Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships, Policy and strategy Division, Division for management services	Para 6. Recognizes the progress made by UNFPA on entity-specific commitments of the funding compact and requests UNFPA to engage with United Nations development system entities and the United Nations Development Coordination Office in the Office's coordination of a further harmonization of these indicators across the United Nations development system while maintaining their entity-specific relevance;	Ongoing		UNFPA's engagement with UNDCO is underway in close collaboration with other relevant UN entities, and in line with relevant directions provided by the ECOSOC Operational Activities Segment. Under UNFPA leadership, an informal inter-agency working group on structured funding dialogues was created, with a focus on inter-agency coordination, harmonization and alignment on funding/financing issues, in line with the Funding Compact.	Completed and ongoing 

	Structured Funding Dialogue	Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships, Policy and strategy Division, Division for management services	Para 7. Notes the lack of a commonly agreed definition for ‘joint activities’ and requests UNFPA to engage with United Nations development system entities and the United Nations Development Coordination Office in the Office’s coordination of the formulation of a system-wide definition of joint activity expenditures undertaken by the United Nations development system entities that accurately reflects the cooperation taking place among UNDS entities on joint development activities;	Ongoing	Engagement is underway in collaboration with the other UN agencies and UNDCO. UNFPA joined the United Nations Development Cooperation Office (DCO), UNDP, UNICEF and UN-Women in initiating system-wide efforts to discuss and agree on a definition that captures joint activities more systematically – in part to strengthen United Nations system-wide coherence and coordination to achieve shared results.	In Progress 
	Structured Funding Dialogue	Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships, Policy and strategy Division, Division for management services	Para 8. Requests UNFPA to continue to support full implementation of the Business Operations Strategy across all United Nations country teams by 2021;	2021	All UNFPA field offices have a Business Operations Strategy in place.	Complete 
	Structured Funding Dialogue	Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships, Policy and strategy Division	Para 9. Requests UNFPA to present in future structured funding dialogue reports how the planned and actual allocation of resources to thematic funds contributes to the achievement of the results of the strategic plan.	Second Regular Session 2021	This presentation was included in the 2021 Structured Funding Dialogue report and the presentation.	Complete 
2020/19 UNFPA evaluation	Evaluation		Para 1. Takes note of the annual report on the evaluation function, of the evaluation of the UNFPA capacity in humanitarian action, and of the programme of work and budget of the Evaluation Office in 2020;			No actions required
	Evaluation		Para 2. Welcomes the efforts made by UNFPA and the progress achieved in strengthening the evaluation function, in actively contributing to United Nations system-wide evaluation efforts, and in fostering national evaluation capacity development;			No actions required

	Evaluation	Policy and Strategy Division	<p>Para 3. Encourages UNFPA to strive to progressing towards an allocation of at least 1.4 per cent and up to 3 per cent of its total programme expenditure to the evaluation function, as embedded in the UNFPA Evaluation Policy of 2019;</p>	Ongoing	<p>UNFPA’s commitment to provide sufficient resources for the evaluation function is reflected in the steady increase in investments over the years. Even in times of financial challenges and reductions in income during the 2014-2017 and 2018-2021 cycle, UNFPA safeguarded the budgets for the two independent functions and did not reduce their allocations, unlike for other parts of the organization. This is evidenced by an increase of over 308% in the Evaluation Office (from \$4.2m in 2010 to \$17.2m for 2022-2025). In relative terms, the 2020 expenditure on evaluation represents 0.83 per cent of the total UNFPA programme expenditure. The decrease in the ratio of evaluation expenditure (0.83 in 2020 compared to 0.98 in 2019) was due to the increased total UNFPA programme expenditure on the one side, and the decrease in the Evaluation Office’s expenditures due to the COVID-19 induced travel restrictions for data collection and evaluation capacity development initiatives on the other side. Overall, without the COVID-19 related reduction, the budgeted original allocation for the evaluation function (at central and decentralized levels) was \$9.64 million, representing 0.94 per cent of the total UNFPA programme expenditure for 2020.</p> <p>The economies of scale are important to be highlighted: As the organization grows, the proportion of spending on evaluation will conversely decrease, even with nominal growth and additional investments.</p> <p>PSD with Evaluation office, and the support of Division of Management Services, also established a financial ring-fencing mechanism to support the implementation of country programme evaluations.</p>	<p>In Progress</p> 
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	Evaluation	Policy and Strategy Division, Evaluation Office	Para 4. Reaffirms the role played by the evaluation function and underscore the importance of high-quality, independent evaluative evidence in the context of the UNFPA strategic plan, 2018-2021, and its contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to a principled, efficient and timely response to the existing humanitarian needs;	Ongoing	The Evaluation Office has sought to direct its efforts toward major strategic issues and continued to deliver timely, high quality and relevant evaluation evidence on issues of highest relevance to UNFPA's organisational effectiveness and efficiency. A transitional quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan (QBEP), 2020-2023, was developed to ensure ongoing alignment with the UNFPA strategic plan (2018-2021) priorities. More importantly, in view of changing needs and expectations in humanitarian and security situations, the Evaluation Office has expanded the coverage and quality of humanitarian evaluations, including through partnership with the IASC inter-agency humanitarian evaluation mechanism.	Completed and ongoing 
	Evaluation	Policy and Strategy Division	Para 5. Acknowledges the conclusions reached by the evaluation offices of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women in their evaluability assessment of the common chapter, and requests management, in consultation with the independent evaluation offices, to develop 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;	Ongoing	UNFPA, together with UNDP, UNICEF and UN Women has developed the Common Chapter tracking framework, in consultation with the independent evaluation offices of the four agencies. This has been shared with the Board.	Completed and ongoing 
	Evaluation	Policy and Strategy Division, Humanitarian Office	Para 6. Welcomes the management response to the evaluation of the UNFPA capacity in humanitarian action and requests UNFPA to track and monitor progress of work outlined in the management response against the evaluation's recommendations, and to share this progress with the Executive Board at the annual session 2021,	Annual Session 2021	UNFPA is making progress in implementing the evaluation recommendations, under the leadership of the Humanitarian Office, to strengthen its preparedness and response capacity. A number of recommendations have been achieved, including: implementing a comprehensive corporate approach on preparedness for supplies, preparing a humanitarian supplies strategy, conducting an assessment and case studies on Leaving No One Behind (LNOB), finalizing the UNFPA Disability	Completed and ongoing 

			<p>including an update on the impacts of COVID-19 on the implementation of recommendations.</p>		<p>Inclusion Strategy (2021-2023), completing the survey of knowledge and capacity on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, and developing The Youth Peace and Security- A Programming Handbook.</p> <p>Specific actions UNFPA is taking under the Humanitarian Capacity Development Initiative include: strengthening its humanitarian supplies and supply chain management functions; strengthening its human resource management and humanitarian leadership development functions; ensuring the organization's humanitarian function is appropriately resourced to ensure delivery of the expected results on the ground; and ensuring timely and effective communication on humanitarian needs and deliveries. A fuller update on progress on implementing the evaluation's recommendations was included in the humanitarian annex to the Executive Director's annual report to the Board, which was posted online in advance of the 2021 Annual Session. As noted in that annex, COVID-19 had an impact on achieving the implementation targets to address evaluation recommendations, as the Humanitarian Office is engaged in supporting more than 63 countries facing humanitarian situations that need additional support to address the complexity.</p>	
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