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Programme, the United Nations
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UNFPA — Country programmes and related matters

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

Extensions of country programmes

Summary

The present note contains information on the extensions of UNFPA country programmes. First-time extensions of country programmes up to one year are approved by the Executive Director, and presented to the Executive Board for information. All other requests for extensions of country programmes are submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the first one-year extension of the country programme for Ghana, as presented in table 1, and may wish to approve the second one-year extensions of the country programmes for Algeria and Yemen, and the two-year extension of the country programme for the Philippines, as presented in table 2.



Table 1
Extensions of country programmes approved by the Executive Director

| <i>Country</i> | <i>Original programme period</i> | <i>Period approved for extension</i> | <i>Reason for extension</i> |
|----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Ghana | 2012-2016 | 2017 | Following national presidential and parliamentary elections in December 2016, the new Government will develop a new four-year medium-term national development plan in 2017. The Government of Ghana and the United Nations country team (UNCT) agreed to extend the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for one year to align it with the national planning cycle 'Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda Phase Two' (2014-2017). The programme will focus on improving access to maternal health, strengthening midwifery, increasing access and demand for family planning and improving obstetric fistula treatment and care. Technical assistance will be provided to enhance multisectoral investment in married adolescent girls and those at risk of child marriage, and the use of data to build an investment case for the demographic dividend. |

Table 2
Country programme extensions for which the approval of the Executive Board is sought

| <i>Country</i> | <i>Original programme period</i> | <i>Period proposed for extension</i> | <i>Reason for extension</i> | | |
|------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | | | <i>In-country development</i> | <i>United Nations harmonization</i> | <i>Implementation or other issues</i> |
| Algeria | 2012-2014 2015 (first extension) | 2016 (second extension) | The Strategic Cooperation Framework for 2016-2020 was signed by the Government of Algeria and the United Nations in June 2015. The extension will facilitate prioritization of support for these areas in preparation of the next programme of cooperation. | The cycles of some United Nations agencies overlap with the time frame of the Strategic Cooperation Framework. The extension will help to align the next country programme with the national priorities as well as the outcome of the midterm review of the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2014-2017. | The changing economic context may have implications in critical areas of sexual and reproductive health and family planning, gender and population-related investments. UNFPA seeks to realize these critical initiatives while developing a new country programme based on the new Strategic Cooperation Framework. UNFPA aims to present a new country programme document validated by the Government of Algeria to the Executive Board by the end of 2016. |
| The Philippines | 2012-2016 | 2017-2018 (two-year extension) | National elections will be held in May 2016. The National Economic and Development Authority is drafting a development plan and a long-term (25-year) blueprint for the Philippines. The two-year | The Government of the Philippines and the UNCT agreed to extend the country programmes of UNPFA, UNDP and UNICEF to align them with the extended UNDAF (2012-2018) and to synchronize them with | The Philippines has been affected by several calamities, including typhoon Haiyan in 2013. The disaster risk reduction and management experience calls for full integration of 'resilience' into the development paradigm at all |

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|----------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| | | | <i>In-country development</i> | <i>United Nations harmonization</i> | <i>Implementation or other issues</i> |
| | | | extension would allow sufficient time to develop the next country programme in consultation with all stakeholders based on the new administration's national priorities. | the national planning processes. | levels of government. After passage of the responsible parenthood and reproductive health law, an evidence-based advocacy strategy, in collaboration with government, civil society and private-sector partners, aims to support implementation of the law. |
| Yemen | 2012-2015 2016 (first extension) | 2017 (second extension) | Yemen witnessed major political upheavals in the past year, with armed conflict having spread to most governorates. It is estimated that 21.2 million people or 82 per cent of the Yemeni population is affected by the current conflict and in need of assistance. More than 1.2 million people have been displaced. | Due to the prevailing security situation in Yemen, the United Nations country team has shifted from development programming to humanitarian intervention, guided by the latest revised 2015 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan. | There are implementation challenges in terms of national execution. In working with the Government, the UNFPA country office will use direct payments and shift to UNFPA execution, increasing its activities to support non-governmental organizations in their efforts to continue providing services. |