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United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

First regular session 2025

4–7 February 2025

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Provisional annotated agenda, timetable and organization of work

Contents

<i>Item</i>	<i>Page</i>
1. Adoption of the provisional annotated agenda, timetable and organization of work	3
2. Opening statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director of UNICEF	3
Organizational and procedural matters	
3. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Executive Board	3
Programme and policy matters	
4. Road map to the development of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2026–2029	3
5. UNICEF programme cooperation	4
(a) Country programme documents	4
(b) Extensions of ongoing country programmes	4
6. Report on UNICEF follow-up to the recommendations and decisions of the fifty-third and fifty-fourth meetings of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS Programme Coordinating Board	4
7. Update on UNICEF humanitarian action	5
8. Extension and expansion of the Vaccine Independence Initiative and its revolving fund	5
9. Update on the UNICEF Disability Inclusion Policy and Strategy, 2022–2030	5
10. Timeline for the implementation of the entity-specific recommendations from the Joint Inspection Unit note on the review of measures and mechanisms for addressing racism and racial discrimination in United Nations system organizations: managing for achieving organizational effectiveness	5



Evaluation, audit and oversight matters	
11.	Evaluation reports and management responses 6
	Evaluation of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025, and management response 6
	Evaluation of the UNICEF Gender Policy and Gender Action Plans, and management response..... 6
12.	Progress on the consideration of the review of governance and oversight of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women by the Joint Inspection Unit..... 7
Resource, financial and budgetary matters	
13.	UNICEF financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 and report of the Board of Auditors, and management response 7
14.	Private Fundraising and Partnerships: 2025 workplan and proposed budget 7
Other matters and adoption of draft decisions	
15.	Report of the joint field visit (2024) of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP 8
16.	Other matters 8
17.	Adoption of draft decisions 8
18.	Closing statements by the Executive Director of UNICEF and the President of the Executive Board 8
	Provisional timetable and organization of work for the 2025 first regular session of the UNICEF Executive Board 9

Provisional annotated agenda

1. Adoption of the provisional annotated agenda, timetable and organization of work

For decision (E/ICEF/2025/1)

The provisional agenda is prepared in consultation with the Bureau of the Executive Board and is based on the proposed programme of work for 2025 presented to the Board at its second regular session of 2024. The Board will adopt the agenda for the session, making any amendments that it considers necessary.

UNICEF focal point:
Mr. Andrés Franco
Secretary of the Executive Board
afranco@unicef.org / 212 326 7663

2. Opening statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director of UNICEF

The Executive Board will hear opening statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director of UNICEF.

UNICEF focal point:
Mr. Andrés Franco
Secretary of the Executive Board
afranco@unicef.org / 212 326 7663

Organizational and procedural matters

3. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Executive Board (E/ICEF/2025/2)

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2011/11 and rule 11 of the rules of procedure of the Executive Board of UNICEF, the Board will elect a new Bureau consisting of a President and four Vice-Presidents. The President and Vice-Presidents of the Executive Board represent the regional groups of the United Nations Member States. In accordance with the rotation scheme established by the Board in its decision 1992/7, the President for 2025 will be nominated from among the Asia-Pacific States that are members of the Board. The election will take place on 10 January 2025.

UNICEF focal point:
Mr. Andrés Franco
Secretary of the Executive Board
afranco@unicef.org / 212 326 7663

Programme and policy matters

4. Road map to the development of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2026–2029 *For information (UNICEF/2025/EB/5)*

The road map outlines a timeline for the development of the new Strategic Plan and related key stages in the consultation process for 2025. It also provides an overview of the key principles that are guiding the development of the plan.

UNICEF focal point:
Ms. Vidhya Ganesh
Director, Division of Data, Analytics, Planning and Monitoring
vganesh@unicef.org / 212 824 6247

5. UNICEF programme cooperation

(a) Country programme documents

For decision

The programme documents listed below are presented to the Executive Board for approval on a no-objection basis, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1. The theme of the segment is “quality secondary education for adolescent girls”. Costed evaluation plans for each country programme are posted on the UNICEF Executive Board website alongside the documents, as is a link to the United Nations Sustainable Development Group website, where the relevant United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks have been made available, as appropriate. The five programme documents are presented by region:

Eastern and Southern Africa

Ethiopia ([E/ICEF/2025/P/L.1](#))

Rwanda ([E/ICEF/2025/P/L.2](#))

Latin America and Caribbean

Colombia ([E/ICEF/2025/P/L.3](#))

Paraguay ([E/ICEF/2025/P/L.4](#))

Middle East and North Africa

Iraq ([E/ICEF/2025/P/L.5](#))

UNICEF focal points:

Ms. Vidhya Ganesh

Director, Division of Data, Analytics, Planning and Monitoring
vganesh@unicef.org / 212 824 6247

Mr. George Laryea-Adjei

Director, Programme Group
glaryeaadjei@unicef.org / 212 326 1080

(b) Extensions of ongoing country programmes

For decision ([E/ICEF/2025/P/L.6](#))

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2009/11, the Executive Board will be informed of the six-month extension of the country programme for South Africa.

UNICEF focal points:

Ms. Vidhya Ganesh

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Mr. George Laryea-Adjei

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glaryeaadjei@unicef.org / 212 326 1080

6. Report on UNICEF follow-up to recommendations and decisions of the fifty-third and fifty-fourth meetings of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS Programme Coordinating Board

For information (UNICEF/2025/EB/2)

The Executive Board will hear an update on the implementation of the recommendations and decisions of the fifty-third and fifty-fourth meetings of the United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) Programme Coordinating Board, held in December 2023 and June 2024, respectively. The report also provides

an update on progress in the HIV response for children, adolescents and pregnant women.

UNICEF focal point:
Ms. Anurita Bains
Associate Director, HIV/AIDS
abains@unicef.org / 212 326 7228

7. Update on UNICEF humanitarian action

For information (UNICEF/2025/EB/3)

The Executive Board will hear an update on UNICEF humanitarian action with a focus on equity, covering challenges and progress towards reaching the most vulnerable children living in emergency and fragile contexts.

UNICEF focal point:
Ms. Lucia Elmi
Director, Office of Emergency Programmes
lelmi@unicef.org / 212 326 7448

8. Extension and expansion of the Vaccine Independence Initiative and its revolving fund

For decision (E/ICEF/2025/P/L.7)

The Vaccine Independence Initiative facilitates the timely access of countries to essential supplies, principally through its revolving fund. The mechanism has been reauthorized every five years since 1991. The Executive Board will be requested to authorize the extension and expansion of the Vaccine Independence Initiative and its revolving fund for the period 2026–2030.

UNICEF focal point:
Ms. Leila Pakkala
Director, Supply Division
lpakkala@unicef.org / +454 533 5700

9. Update on the UNICEF Disability Inclusion Policy and Strategy, 2022–2030

For information (E/ICEF/2025/7)

The report will provide an update on the progress of implementation of the first UNICEF Disability Inclusion Policy and Strategy, for the period 2022–2030, since its launch in February 2023. The report will also discuss challenges and lessons learned, and the way forward to advance the rights of children with disabilities and transform UNICEF into a more inclusive organization.

UNICEF focal point:
Mr. George Laryea-Adjei
Director, Programme Group
glaryeaadjei@unicef.org / 212 326 1080

10. Timeline for the implementation of the entity-specific recommendations from the Joint Inspection Unit note on the review of measures and mechanisms for addressing racism and racial discrimination in United Nations system organizations: managing for achieving organizational effectiveness

For information (E/ICEF/2025/8)

The report will provide the Executive Board with an updated timeline for the implementation of outstanding recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit note. The report will explain the approach by UNICEF in consulting other United Nations system organizations to harmonize the approaches on categorization and on the development of an inter-agency standing mechanism related to recommendations 1

and 4, as well as bringing such proposals to the working group on diversity, equity and inclusion under the High-level Committee on Management.

UNICEF focal point:
Mr. Bandjougou Magassa
Director, Division of People and Culture
bmagassa@unicef.org / 212 824 6527

Evaluation, audit and oversight matters

11. Evaluation reports and management responses

Evaluation of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025, and management response

For decision (E/ICEF/2025/3, E/ICEF/2025/4)

The evaluation examines the effectiveness of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025, as a guiding framework for the organization and its activities. It assesses the progress towards achieving the Plan’s intended results to date, the likelihood of fully achieving them by the end of the Plan period, and the factors influencing its implementation. It also provides insights into the Plan’s adaptability and usefulness to inform the upcoming strategic planning process. The evaluation was commissioned by the UNICEF Evaluation Office in collaboration with the Division of Data, Analytics, Planning and Monitoring. The report is accompanied by a management response.

UNICEF focal point for the evaluation report:
Mr. Robert McCouch
Director of Evaluation
rmccouch@unicef.org / 212 303 7952

UNICEF focal point for the management response:
Ms. Vidhya Ganesh
Director, Division of Data, Analytics, Planning and Monitoring
vganesh@unicef.org / 212 824 6247

Evaluation of the UNICEF Gender Policy and Gender Action Plans, and management response

For decision (E/ICEF/2025/5, E/ICEF/2025/6)

The evaluation assesses UNICEF performance and results in implementing the new Gender Policy and the Gender Action Plans, in the context of the humanitarian, development and peace nexus from 2018 to 2023. It focuses on the conceptual framework of the Gender Policy and Gender Action Plans, institutional enablers and their implementation, and programmatic results, including the integration of gender equality across UNICEF programmes. The evaluation was commissioned by the UNICEF Evaluation Office in collaboration with the Gender Team in the Programme Group. The report is accompanied by a management response.

UNICEF focal point for the evaluation report:
Mr. Robert McCouch
Director of Evaluation
rmccouch@unicef.org / 212 303 7952

UNICEF focal point for the management response:
Ms. Lauren Rumble
Associate Director, Gender Equality, Programme Group
lrumble@unicef.org / 212 326 7690

12. Progress on the consideration of the review of governance and oversight of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women by the Joint Inspection Unit

For decision (E/ICEF/2025/9)

The Executive Board will be provided with an update on the implementation of its decision 2024/15, on the assessment of how the Executive Board executes its governance and oversight functions.

UNICEF focal point:

Mr. Andrés Franco

Secretary of the Executive Board

afranco@unicef.org / 212 326 7663

Resource, financial and budgetary matters

13. UNICEF financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 and report of the Board of Auditors, and management response

For decision (A/79/5/Add.3); for information (E/ICEF/2025/AB/L.2)

The UNICEF financial report and audited financial statements and report of the Board of Auditors are presented to the Executive Board annually, with the presentation taking place at the first regular session so that the Board can take into account any comments on the report made by the Fifth Committee during the current session of the General Assembly.¹ In addition, the following related reports are available to the Executive Board for information: (a) report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its reports on the United Nations funds and programmes for the year ended 31 December 2023 (A/79/328/Add.1) and (b) financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors for the period ended 31 December 2023: report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/79/513).

UNICEF focal point:

Ms. Diane Kepler

Comptroller and Director, Division of Financial and Administrative Management

dkepler@unicef.org / 212 824 6386

United Nations Board of Auditors focal point:

Mr. Maurício de Albuquerque Wanderley, Brazil

mauricio.wanderley@un.org / 212 963 9630

14. Private Fundraising and Partnerships: 2025 workplan and proposed budget

For decision (E/ICEF/2025/AB/L.1)

Update on the World Bank instrument to facilitate sustained investment in private sector fundraising

For information (UNICEF/2025/EB/4)

The document covers the workplan and proposed budget for 2025 for private fundraising and partnership activities. The Executive Board will also be presented with updates on the World Bank instrument to facilitate sustained investment in private sector fundraising. In addition, the Executive Board will receive an oral update on the work of the National Committees for UNICEF.

¹ The Fifth Committee of the General Assembly considered the report on 2 December 2024.

UNICEF focal point:
Ms. Carla Haddad Mardini
Director, Private Fundraising and Partnerships Division
chaddadmardini@unicef.org / +41 22 909 5702

Other matters and adoption of draft decisions

15. Report of the joint field visit to Cambodia by members of the Executive Boards of UNICEF, UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, WFP and UN-Women, 28 October–1 November 2024

For information ([DP/FPA/OPS-ICEF-UNW-WFP/2025/1](#))

Presented for information is the report of the joint field visit to Cambodia of the Executive Boards of UNICEF, UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, WFP and UN-Women, from 28 October to 1 November 2024. The report is presented in accordance with Executive Board decision 2004/13 and paragraph 17 of the guidelines for field visits by members of the Executive Board ([E/ICEF/2004/19](#)).

16. Other matters

The Executive Board has before it the provisional list of agenda items for its annual session of 2025 and may consider any other matters under this agenda item.

17. Adoption of draft decisions

18. Closing statements by the Executive Director of UNICEF and the President of the Executive Board

Provisional timetable and organization of work for the 2025 first regular session of the UNICEF Executive Board

4–7 February 2025²

Friday 10 January	10–11 a.m.	Item 3	Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Executive Board
Tuesday 4 February	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.	Item 1	Adoption of the provisional annotated agenda, timetable and organization of work
		Item 2	Opening statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director of UNICEF
			General statements
	1.15– 2.45 p.m.		<i>Informal consultations</i>
	3–5 p.m.	Item 13	UNICEF financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 and report of the Board of Auditors, and management response
		Item 14	Private Fundraising and Partnerships: 2025 workplan and proposed budget
		Item 8	Extension and expansion of the Vaccine Independence Initiative and its revolving fund
	5–6 p.m.		<i>Informal consultations</i>
Wednesday 5 February	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.	Item 5	UNICEF programme cooperation (a) Country programme documents (b) Extensions of ongoing country programmes
		Item 11	Evaluation reports and management responses Evaluation of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025, and management response Evaluation of the UNICEF Gender Policy and Gender Action Plans, and management response
		Item 12	Progress on the consideration of the review of governance and oversight of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women by the Joint Inspection Unit
	1.15– 2.45 p.m.		<i>Informal consultations</i>
	3–5 p.m.	Item 4	Road map to the development of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2026–2029
		Item 7	Update on UNICEF humanitarian action

² When consideration of an agenda item concludes ahead of the allocated time, the next item will be taken up for consideration and the timetable adjusted accordingly.

		Item 6	Report on UNICEF follow-up to recommendations and decisions of the fifty-third and fifty-fourth meetings of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS Programme Coordinating Board
	5–6 p.m.		<i>Informal consultations</i>
Thursday 6 February	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.	Item 9	Update on the UNICEF Disability Inclusion Policy and Strategy
		Item 10	Timeline for the implementation of the entity-specific recommendations from the Joint Inspection Unit note on the review of measures and mechanisms for addressing racism and racial discrimination in United Nations system organizations: managing for achieving organizational effectiveness
		Item 15	Report of the joint field visit (2024) of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP
		Item 16	Other matters
		Item 17	Adoption of draft decisions
		Item 18	Closing statements of the Executive Director and the President of the Executive Board
	3–5 p.m.		