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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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Second regular session 2020

31 August - 4 September 2020, New York Item 1 of the provisional agenda **Organizational matters**

Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan

Note by the Executive Board secretariat

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Item 1 Organizational matters

Under this item, the Executive Board will adopt the agenda for the second regular session 2020 and agree on the workplan for the session as presented by the Secretary of the Board. The Board may wish to approve the report of its annual session 2020. A draft report was distributed to members of the Board for their comments; the final report reflects the comments received.

In accordance with decision 96/25, a draft workplan for 2021 is being submitted to the Executive Board. The document will be finalized by the secretariat in close consultation with the Bureau of the Board and will be submitted to the Board for adoption at its first regular session 2021.

Documentation:

Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan (DP/2020/L.3)

Report of the annual session 2020 (DP/2020/18)

Decisions adopted at the annual session 2020 (DP/2020/19)

Draft annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2021 (DP/2020/CRP.2)

Joint segment

Item 2 Internal audit and investigation

Under this item, the Executive Board will have before it the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and investigation.

Pursuant to decision 2016/13 of the Executive Board, the UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations submits the present report covering its activities in 2019. It includes an opinion, based on the scope of work undertaken, concerning the adequacy and effectiveness of the UNDP framework of governance, risk management and control; a concise summary of work; and the criteria that support the opinion

The management response to this report is presented separately (decision 2006/13) and the annual report of the Audit and Evaluation Advisory Committee is appended to this report (in accordance with document DP/2008/16/Rev.1).

The report on the UNFPA internal audit and investigation activities of the Office of Audit and Investigation Services (OAIS) for the year ending 31 December 2019 responds to Executive Board decisions 2015/2 and 2015/13 and earlier pertinent Board decisions. It presents a synthesis of activities completed in 2019 by OAIS on internal audit and investigation. The report contains information on (a) the resources in OAIS for 2019; (b) significant issues revealed through OAIS internal audit and investigation activities; (c) investigations, including information on cases and actions taken; (d) the review of internal audit recommendations issued in 2010-2019 and their implementation status. The opinion on the governance, risk management and control framework of UNFPA, based on the work undertaken, is provided as an addendum to the report. Annexes are available separately on the UNFPA website.

Pursuant to Executive Board decision 2015/2 and earlier pertinent decisions, the annual report of the UNFPA Oversight Advisory Committee (previously Audit Advisory Committee) is provided as an addendum to the report. A management response to the two reports is also available (DP/FPA/2020/CRP.6).

The Executive Board will also have before it the activity report on UNOPS internal audit and investigation services for the year ended 31 December 2019, submitted by the Internal Audit and Investigations Group. The report is accompanied by the management response presented separately (in accordance with decision 2006/13) and the annual report of the UNOPS Audit Advisory Committee for 2019.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on the internal audit and investigation reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS.

Documentation:

UNDP: Annual report of the Office of Audit and Investigations on internal audit and investigation activities in 2019 (DP/2020/16)

UNFPA: Report of the Office of Audit and Investigation Services on UNFPA internal audit and investigation activities in 2019 (DP/FPA/2020/6)

Opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the UNFPA framework of governance, risk management and control (DP/FPA/2020/6/Add.1)

Annual report of the UNFPA Oversight Advisory Committee (DP/FPA/2020/6/Add.2)

UNOPS: Annual report of the Internal Audit and Investigations Group on internal audit and investigations activities in 2019 (DP/OPS/2020/2)

Item 3 Ethics

Under this item, the Executive Board will have before it the reports of the Ethics Offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS.

Pursuant to Executive Board decision 2008/37, the UNDP Ethics Office submits the present report covering its activities in 2019. In accordance with Secretary-General's bulletin on United Nations system-wide application of ethics: separately administered organs and programmes (ST/SGB/2007/11), the report was e-reviewed by the Ethics Panel of the United Nations in February 2020. The report was subsequently presented to the UNDP Administrator. This is the twelfth annual report presented by the Ethics Office since its establishment in 2007. The report is accompanied by a management response.

The UNFPA report is submitted to the Executive Board pursuant to its decision 2015/2 and earlier pertinent Board decisions. In accordance with the Secretary-General's bulletin on United Nations system-wide application of ethics: separately administered organs and programmes (ST/SGB/2007/11), the report was e-reviewed by the Ethics Panel of the United Nations in March 2020 and presented to the UNFPA Executive Director. The report provides a summary of the activities of the UNFPA Ethics Office during 2019, and describes trends in the mandated areas of its work. A management response to the report is also available (DP/FPA/2020/CRP.7).

Pursuant to Executive Board decision 2010/17, the Ethics Officer of UNOPS submits to the Board the report on the activities of the Ethics Office during 2019. This report has been reviewed by the Ethics Panel of the United Nations, in accordance with section 5.4 of the Secretary-General's bulletin on United Nations system-wide application of ethics: separately administered organs and programmes (ST/SGB/2007/11), as amended. The report is accompanied by a management response.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the reports of the Ethics Offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, and comment on the progress of the work of the Ethics Offices.

Documentation:

Activities of the UNDP Ethics Office in 2019 (DP/2020/17)

UNFPA: Report of the Ethics Office 2019 (DP/FPA/2020/7)

Activities of the UNOPS Ethics and Compliance Office in 2019 (DP/OPS/2020/3)

Item 4

Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment

Under this item, UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS will provide updates on their responses to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, with a particular focus on measures in place during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Executive Board may wish to take note of the update.

Item 5

Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

In its decision 2018/21, the Executive Board requested UNDP and UNFPA, together with UNICEF and UN-Women, to present a final comprehensive proposal on cost recovery for decision of the Executive Boards at their second regular sessions in 2020. The present joint comprehensive proposal on cost recovery policy responds to the above request with the aim that the policy can be used as a reference by other agencies in the United Nations system. The Board may wish to adopt a decision, elements of which are contained in the report.

Documentation:

Joint comprehensive proposal on the cost-recovery policy (DP/FPA-ICEF-UNW/2020/1)

Item 6

Working methods of the Executive Board

As requested in its decisions 2018/22 and 2020/2, the Executive Board will be presented with the joint response of the Executive Board secretariats of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women entitled Working methods of the Executive Boards: proposed workplans for 2021. The Board may wish to adopt a decision.

UNDP segment

Item 7

Structured funding dialogue

The present report responds to Executive Board decisions 2018/5 and 2019/18, requesting UNDP to review the format and content of the report on the structured funding dialogue, and to present harmonized annual reporting on the entity-specific commitments on the implementation of the Funding Compact. The report provides an update on the structured funding dialogues, including progress made in harmonizing the approach with UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women. While the main report reviews the 2019 financial highlights and the different funding sources supporting the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, including potential gaps, a comprehensive review of the financial situation for 2019 is provided in annex 1, and the harmonized reporting on the implementation of the Funding Compact is presented in annex 2.

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The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision, elements of which are contained in the report.

Under this item, the Board will also have before it the report on the annual review of the financial situation of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) for 2019. The report undertakes a comprehensive review and analysis, from the financial perspective, of UNCDF activities at an organizational level. The overview assesses the performance of the organization against the various sources for programming: UNCDF regular resources, other resources, and provides the financial position at the end of 2019 with illustrative comparators to the previous year. The Executive Board may wish to take note of the report.

Documentation:

Structured dialogue on financing the results of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 (DP/2020/20)

Annual review of the financial situation of the United Capital Development Fund, 2019 (DP/2020/24)

Item 8 Evaluation

In its annual report on evaluation for 2019, the Independent Evaluation Office of UNDP presents the status of key initiatives during 2019 and looks at progress to date in applying the evaluation principles of independence, credibility and utility, associated with the professionalization of the Independent Evaluation Office. The report also includes an end-of-term report by the outgoing Director of the Independent Evaluation Office for the period 2012 to 2020. The report is accompanied by management commentaries.

The Independent Evaluation Office of UNDP has carried out an evaluation of UNDP development cooperation in middle-income countries. The evaluation is part of the office's medium-term plan (DP/2018/4) approved by the Executive Board in 2018. The evaluation assessed the contribution of UNDP to national development results in middle-income countries through its Strategic Plan objectives in the practice areas of poverty eradication, inclusive and accountable institutions, environment and nature-based solutions for development, clean and affordable energy, and gender equality and women's empowerment. The evaluation assesses the extent to which UNDP programmes in middle-income countries are distinct from those of least developed countries (LDCs) and net contributor countries, and the relevance of middle-income-country-specific differentiation in programme and operational strategies. The evaluation covered all 84 countries in UNDP middle-income countries list which excludes those which are also classified as LDCs.

The evaluation is accompanied by a management response.

Documentation:

Annual report on evaluation, 2019 (DP/2020/13)

Evaluation of UNDP development cooperation in middle-income countries (DP/2020/21)

Management response to the evaluation of UNDP development cooperation in middle-income countries (DP/2020/22)

Item 9 Country programmes and related matters

Under this item, the Executive Board will be asked to: (a) take note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Bahrain, Cameroon, El Salvador, Guinea-Bissau and Libya from 1 January to 31 December 2021; (b) approve the two-year extension of the country programme for Burkina Faso from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2022 and the three-year extensions of the country programmes for Mauritius and Seychelles from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2023; and (c) review and approve, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for Eswatini, Uganda; China, Indonesia, Timor-Leste; Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Serbia, Turkey, Turkmenistan; and Colombia.

Documentation:

Extensions of country programmes (DP/2020/23)

Africa

Country programme document for Eswatini (DP/DCP/SWZ/4)

Country programme document for Uganda (DP/DCP/UGA/5)

Asia-Pacific

Country programme document for China (DP/DCP/CHN/4)

Country programme document for Indonesia (DP/DCP/IDN/4)

Country programme document for Timor-Leste (DP/DCP/TLS/3)

Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States

Country programme document for Belarus (DP/DCP/BLR/4)

Country programme document for Bosnia and Herzegovina (DP/DCP/BIH/4)

Country programme document for Kazakhstan (DP/DCP/KAZ/4)

Country programme document for Serbia (DP/DCP/SRB/3), including the results and resources framework for Kosovo* (DP/DCP/SRB/3/Add.1)

Country programme document for Turkey (DP/DCP/TUR/4)

Country programme document for Turkmenistan (DP/DCP/TKM/3)

Latin America and the Caribbean

Country programme document for Colombia (DP/DCP/COL/3)

Item 10 United Nations Volunteers

Pursuant to Executive Board decision 2018/8, the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme submits the present report covering its activities in 2019, presenting UNV performance in 2019 and the midterm review of its strategic framework, 2018-2021 (DP/2018/6). On this basis, the report reflects on the organizational transformation of

^{*}References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)

UNV, proposed adjustments in its results matrix, and highlights priorities for 2020 and the Decade of Action to deliver the Global Goals.

The Board may wish to adopt a decision, elements of which are contained in the report.

Documentation:

United Nations Volunteers: Report of the Administrator (DP/2020/14)

Item 11 United Nations Capital Development Fund

The UNCDF strategic framework, 2018-2021, presented to the Board at its first regular session 2018, sets out the strategic directions, results and resources scenarios for how UNCDF will make finance work for the poor in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals, primarily in the least developed countries. The strategic framework emphasizes that UNCDF will pursue innovative "last mile" finance solutions through: (a) financial inclusion, with a focus on digital financial services; (b) local development finance for local economic expansion and local climate adaptation; and (c) strengthening the full range of capital grant, lending and guarantee instruments in support of the Goals. The current report highlights UNCDF strong results in the first two years of implementation; provides observations about areas where UNCDF will strengthen focus in the coming years; and briefly recognizes that the coronavirus crisis will affect 2020 delivery and require a reinforced emphasis on the last mile, local economic stability and resilience, which constitute UNCDF core contributions to least developed countries.

The Board may wish to adopt a decision, elements of which are contained in the report.

Documentation:

Midterm review of the United Nations Capital Development Fund strategic framework, 2018-2021, including the annual report on results achieved by UNCDF in 2019 (DP/2020/15)

UNFPA segment

Item 12

UNFPA structured funding dialogue

The Executive Board will hold a structured funding dialogue within the framework of the United Nations Funding Compact (A/74/73/Add.1) and the evolving financing landscape, with a focus on predictable and sustainable funding for the development results agreed in the strategic plan. UNFPA will report on its efforts to explore incentives, mechanisms and funding windows to broaden its donor base, improve transparency, communications and visibility for donors. The session will also reflect on progress to enhance the quality of dialogues and contributions to finance the three transformative results, as well as on implementation of entity-specific commitments and contributions to the Funding Compact.

In line with the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, and the UNFPA resource mobilization strategy, the present report provides an overview of the resource trends, current situation and funding perspective of the Fund, taking into account both core and non-core resources. The report also takes into consideration the additional challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, and presents measures taken so far to respond to the crisis, as well as forward-looking perspectives.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on the UNFPA structured funding dialogue.

Documentation:

Report on the UNFPA structured funding dialogue 2019-2020 (DP/FPA/2020/9)

Item 13 Evaluation

In accordance with the revised evaluation policy of UNFPA (DP/FPA/2019/1) and relevant Executive Board decisions, the annual report on the evaluation function for 2019 provides information on the performance of the evaluation function at central and decentralized levels, as well as the contribution of UNFPA to the United Nations coherence in evaluation, including system-wide evaluations, and national evaluation capacity development. In addition, the report presents the 2020 programme of work and budget for the Evaluation Office.

Annexes to the report, including the transitional quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan, 2020-2023, are available separately on the UNFPA website.

The annual report on the evaluation function for 2019 will be accompanied by management commentaries (DP/FPA/2020/CRP.3).

The Board will also have before it the evaluation of the UNFPA capacity to respond to humanitarian crises (DP/FPA/2020/CRP.4), and the management response to the report (DP/FPA/2019/CRP.5).

The Board may wish to adopt a decision on the annual report on the evaluation function.

Documentation:

Annual report on the evaluation function, 2019: Report of the Director, Evaluation Office (DP/FPA/2020/3), and related annexes; Management commentaries to the report (DP/FPA/2020/CRP.3).

Evaluation of the UNFPA capacity to respond to humanitarian crises (DP/FPA/2020/CRP.4), and the management response to the report (DP/FPA/2019/CRP.5)

Item 14 Country programmes and related matters

The Executive Board will be asked to: (a) approve, in accordance with decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belarus, China, Colombia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Serbia, Turkey, Timor-Leste and Turkmenistan; (b) take note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Algeria, Cameroon, El Salvador, Lebanon, Libya, Mozambique, Tajikistan, Zambia and Zimbabwe; and (c) approve the first two-year extension for the country programme for Burkina Faso, the second, six-month extension for the country programme for Madagascar, and the fifth, one-year extension for Yemen.

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Documentation:

Extensions of country programmes (DP/FPA/2020/10)

Country programme documents for:

Bosnia and Herzegovina (DP/FPA/CPD/BIH/3),

Belarus (DP/FPA/CPD/BLR/3),

China (DP/FPA/CPD/CHI/9),

Colombia (DP/FPA/CPD/COL/7),

Indonesia (DP/FPA/CPD/IDN/10),

Kazakhstan (DP/FPA/CPD/KAZ/5),

Serbia (DP/FPA/CPD/SRB/2), including the results and resources framework for Kosovo* (DP/FPA/CPD/SRB/2/Add.1),

Timor-Leste (DP/FPA/CPD/TLS/4),

Turkey CPD (DP/FPA/CPD/TUR/7),

Turkmenistan (DP/FPA/CPD/TKM/5).

UNOPS segment

Item 15 United Nations Office for Project Services

Under this item, the Executive Board will have before it the midterm review of the UNOPS strategic plan, 2018-2021, and the annual statistical report on the procurement activities of United Nations system, 2019.

As part of its annual workplan, the Executive Board requested the Executive Director of UNOPS to present a midterm review of the UNOPS strategic plan, 2018-2021, at the second regular session 2020. The midterm review was conducted as an organizational self-evaluation. It takes stock of the implementation of the strategic plan and the UNOPS fulfilment of its role as a United Nations resource for services and solutions across peace and security, humanitarian, and development efforts. The review reconfirms the relevance of the strategic direction set by the Executive Board, and the viability of the demand-driven, self-financed and non-programmatic UNOPS business model. The findings of the review will inform the development of the UNOPS strategic plan, 2022-2025.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision, elements of which are contained in the report.

In its resolution 39/220 the General Assembly established the need for recurrent reporting of statistical data on procurement by United Nations agencies on operational activities. As of 2008 and pursuant to Executive Board decision 2007/38, the Executive Director of UNOPS has assumed the responsibility of compiling and submitting the report. The report provides details on United Nations system procurement by country of supply. The current report presents an analysis of the \$19.9 billion of goods and services procured by 39 United Nations organizations in 2019. The Board may wish to adopt a decision.

^{*}References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)

Documentation:

Midterm review of the UNOPS strategic plan, 2018-2021 (DP/OPS/2020/5)

Annual statistical report on the procurement activities of United Nations system, 2019 (DP/OPS/2020/6)

Item 16 Other matters

TENTATIVE WORKPLAN EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS SECOND REGULAR SESSION 2020

(31 August – 4 September 2020, New York)

| Day/date | Time | Item | Subject |
|-------------|------------------|------|---|
| Monday, | 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. | 1 | ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS |
| 31 August | | | Adoption of the agenda and workplan for the session Adoption of the report of the annual session 2020 |
| | | | Joint segment |
| | | 2 | INTERNAL AUDIT AND INVESTIGATION Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and investigation activities in 2019, and management responses |
| | | 3 | Reports of the Ethics Offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on activities for 2019, and management responses |
| | | 4 | PROTECTION AGAINST SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT |
| | 3 – 4 p.m. | | Joint segment (cont'd) |
| | | 5 | FINANCIAL, BUDGETARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS • Joint comprehensive proposal on the cost-recovery policy |
| Tuesday, | 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. | | UNOPS segment |
| 1 September | | | STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR |
| | | 15 | Midterm review of the UNOPS strategic plan, 2018-2021 Annual statistical report on the procurement activities of United Nations system organizations, 2019 |
| | 3 – 4 p.m. | | Joint segment (cont'd) |
| | | 6 | WORKING METHODS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD |
| | | 16 | OTHER MATTERS |
| | | | Address by the Chairperson of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS/ UN-Women Staff Council |
| Wednesday, | 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. | | UNFPA segment |
| 2 September | | | STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR |
| | | 12 | UNFPA STRUCTURED FUNDING DIALOGUE Report on the UNFPA structured funding dialogue 2019-2020 |

| 1 | 2 5 | 12 | EVALUATION |
|-------------|-------------------|----|---|
| | 3 – 5 p.m. | 13 | EVALUATION Annual report of the UNFPA Evaluation Office 2019, and management |
| | | | commentaries • Evaluation of UNFPA capacity to respond to humanitarian crisis, and management response |
| | | 14 | UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS Presentation and approval of country programme documents Extensions of country programmes |
| Thursday, | 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. | | UNDP segment |
| 3 September | | | INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE UNDP ADMINISTRATOR |
| | | 7 | UNDP STRUCTURED FUNDING DIALOGUE |
| | | | • Structured dialogue on financing the results of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 |
| | 3 – 5 p.m. | 8 | EVALUATION Annual report on evaluation 2019, and management commentaries Evaluation of UNDP development cooperation in middle-income countries, and management response |
| | | 9 | UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS • Presentation and approval of country programme documents • Extensions of country programmes |
| Friday, | 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. | | UNDP segment (cont'd) |
| 4 September | | 10 | UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS • United Nations Volunteers: annual report of the Administrator |
| | | 11 | UNITED NATIONS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND • Midterm review of the United Nations Capital Development Fund strategic framework, 2018-2021, including the annual report on results achieved by UNCDF in 2019 |
| | 4 – 5 p.m. | 16 | OTHER MATTERS • Adoption of decisions |
| | | 1 | ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS • Draft annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2021 • Adoption of the tentative workplan for the first regular session 2021 • Closing of the session |