



**Executive Board of the
United Nations Development
Programme, the United Nations
Population Fund and the
United Nations Office for
Project Services**

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Organizational matters

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its annual session 2024

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2024/8

Update on the implementation efforts on the repositioning of the United Nations development system

The Executive Board

1. *Welcomes* the updates provided by UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [72/279](#) and related mandates on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;
2. *Takes note* with appreciation of the annex on the United Nations development system reform checklist prepared by UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, which is included with their respective updates;
3. *Encourages* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue to strive for inter-agency harmonization of reporting on implementation efforts and results of the repositioning of the United Nations development system;
4. *Reaffirms* the strong commitment to the United Nations development system reform, and encourages UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue to work closely with United Nations organizations, under the leadership of resident coordinators and in collaboration with United Nations country teams, stakeholders and other development partners, to support country efforts towards the Sustainable Development Goals through the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework;
5. *Calls* upon UNDP and UNFPA to take further steps to align their country programmes and respective resource allocations with the Cooperation Frameworks, and to strengthen monitoring and reporting on how their entity-specific activities contribute to collective United Nations country team results, in line with national priorities and needs;
6. *Calls* upon UNOPS to continue contributing to the implementation of the Cooperation Frameworks through the delivery of its mandate;
7. *Requests* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to adhere to all elements of the Management and Accountability Framework and encourages their constructive engagement in the upcoming review of the Framework;
8. *Requests* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to take further steps to ensure effective information-sharing with resident coordinators within the respective country teams;
9. *Notes* the importance of pooled funding for UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to progress on the Sustainable Development Goals in an integrated manner, and encourages them to continue increasing their engagement with pooled funds, in line with the agencies' respective mandates.

7 June 2024

2024/9

Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit activities and investigations in 2023, and management responses

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the respective audit offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS (DP/2024/10; DP/FPA/2024/6; DP/OPS/2024/4), which have been harmonized with those of other United Nations organizations, in line with Executive Board decision 2020/10, and the reports of the respective audit committees as well as the management responses;
2. *Expresses* its continuing support for the internal audit and investigation functions of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS and reiterates the importance of their full independence and direct access to the Executive Board;
3. *Recalls* its decision 2023/7 and commends the audit and investigation offices for the proactive approach to organize closed briefings limited to the members and observers of the Executive Board, to share relevant information regarding the annual workplan, risk assessments, emerging risks and control issues, and encourages the audit and investigation offices to continue this practice;
4. *Encourages* UNDP, the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), UNFPA and UNOPS to ensure full and timely implementation of audit recommendations;
5. *Reiterates* Executive Board decision 2020/10, which encourages UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to use harmonized definitions and reporting, including harmonized audit ratings, to provide the Executive Board with a more coherent overview of findings and results;
6. *Acknowledges* that the internal audit offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS have both assurance and advisory functions that add value to the organizations, and requests them, in line with their independence from management and in alignment with the international standards of the Institute of Internal Auditors, to strive to achieve a balance between advisory and assurance engagements;

With regard to UNDP:

7. *Takes note of* the opinions of the audit and investigation functions on the adequacy and effectiveness of the framework of governance, risk management and internal control elements of UNDP;
8. *Notes* the recurring findings and recommendations on risk management, particularly those made by the Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI), the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Joint Inspection Unit, and requests UNDP to promptly implement the recommendations directed at UNDP;

With regard to UNCDF:

9. *Takes note of* the OAI audit rating opinion that systems of governance, risk management and controls within UNCDF are ‘partially satisfactory, major improvements needed’ in some areas;
10. *Requests* the Fund to continue to prioritize fully implementing all recommendations from the report in a proactive and transparent manner and to inform the Executive Board of progress in an informal briefing ahead of the second regular session 2024;

With regard to UNFPA:

11. *Notes with appreciation* the Office of Audit and Investigation Services (OAIS) opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the UNFPA governance, risk management and control processes, as set out in document DP/FPA/2024/6;

With regard to UNOPS:

12. *Takes note* of the opinion, based on the scope of work undertaken, on the adequacy and effectiveness of the UNOPS framework of governance, risk management and control (pursuant to Executive Board decision 2015/13);

13. *Requests* UNOPS to further harmonize the format of its management response to annual reports on internal audit and investigation with those of UNDP and UNFPA, and, particularly, to provide a summary of actions taken to address key audit findings.

7 June 2024

2024/10

Reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on activities in 2023, and management responses

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the ethics offices of UNDP ([DP/2024/11](#)), UNFPA ([DP/FPA/2024/7](#)) and UNOPS ([DP/OPS/2024/5](#)), and the management responses;

2. *Commends* the important work of the UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS ethics offices in strengthening an ethical organizational culture, and encourages them to continue their work in full independence;

3. *Requests* the ethics offices of the UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue to strengthen the whistle-blower protection procedures and policies of their respective organizations to meet the standards of the best international practices, including protection from retaliation, and to provide annual updates to the Board on these efforts within existing reporting;

With regard to UNDP:

4. *Commends* progress made by the UNDP Ethics Office in continuing to strengthen the ethical culture of UNDP;

With regard to UNFPA:

5. *Commends* the continued progress in the work of the UNFPA Ethics Office;

With regard to UNOPS:

6. *Takes note* of the implementation of the recommendations from the independent review of the UNOPS ethics function and the comprehensive response plan in relation to ethics;

7. *Commends* progress made by the UNOPS Ethics Office in renewing its efforts to promote a culture of ethics at UNOPS;

8. *Requests* UNOPS to provide management response to annual reports of the Ethics Office as a separate document;

With regard to the Joint Inspection Unit review of organizational ombudsman services across the United Nations system (JIU/REP/2015/6) and its recommendation 5:

9. *Notes* the separate mandate of the Office of the Ombudsman for the United Nations funds and programmes as [ST/SGB/2016/7](#), and invites the Ombudsman's Office to present its annual report at the first regular session of the Executive Board, as part of the organizational culture agenda item;

10. *Invites* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to provide the Ombudsman's Office with all necessary resources to adequately perform its mandate, as per their cost-sharing agreement;

With regard to 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 (JIU/NOTE/2022/1/Rev.1):

11. *Expresses concern* that despite progress in combating racism and discrimination in certain parts of the United Nations system, racism and racial discrimination remain major and underrecognized problems in United Nations organizations;

12. *Takes note of* the management responses by UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit note;

13. *Urges* the management of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to implement the entity-specific recommendations 2, 3, 5 and 6 outlined in the note, and emphasizes the importance of harmonizing the outcomes of each recommendation;

14. *Also urges* the management of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, in collaboration, where possible, with the management of all relevant entities and through the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to further efforts to achieve the system-wide recommendations 1 and 4;

15. *Requests* the management of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to develop timelines for the implementation of the entity-specific recommendations mentioned above, to be presented at the first regular session in 2025;

16. *Also requests* the management of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to jointly present updates on the organizations' individual efforts to implement all recommendations by the Joint Inspection Unit at the annual session of the Executive Board in 2025;

17. *Invites* the Bureau, in coordination with the bureaux of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and the World Food Programme, to consider the work of the organizations on addressing racism and racial discrimination as a topic for the joint meeting of the boards;

18. *Decides* to add an agenda item on addressing racism and racial discrimination for information at the first regular session 2025 and for decision at the annual session 2025.

7 June 2024

2024/11

Joint update on protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the updates by UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on actions to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, and respective action plans;
2. *Welcomes* the new uniform template and approach to reporting on actions to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, and requests UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to include, in reporting, a brief synthesis outlining collective progress and shared challenges and to better align reporting to future protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment action plans;
3. *Recalls* decision 2023/9 and requests UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue, with firm commitment and support from leadership:
 - (a) To take action to ensure a victim/survivor-centred, system-wide and coherent approach to preventing and responding to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, and to continue to foster inclusive and respectful organizational cultures where all personnel are empowered and encouraged to report sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment and protected against retaliation;
 - (b) To report to the Executive Board about all cases in a transparent and accountable manner and to use iReport for sexual exploitation and abuse cases;
 - (c) To increase their system-wide collaboration efforts on prevention, protection, and response, including through conducting joint assessments of implementing partners, joint capacity-building of implementing partners and community engagement.
4. *Welcomes* that risks associated to the topic have been incorporated into respective enterprise risk management systems or safeguarding mechanisms, and encourages UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to increase the rate of sexual exploitation and abuse risk assessments for their programmes and projects and design appropriate mitigation measures;
5. *Recalls* decision 2023/9, on piloting the Misconduct Disclosure Scheme, welcomes the steps taken by UNOPS and UNFPA and encourages UNDP to also pilot the scheme and requests these agencies to report on the results of the pilot and lessons learned, within existing reporting;
6. *Requests* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue to update the Executive Board on their actions to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment and decides to include this as a recurring item for decision during the annual session.

7 June 2024

2024/12

Assessment of how the Executive Board executes its governance and oversight functions*The Executive Board*

1. *Recalls* its decision 2022/22, which requested the Bureau of the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, in consultation with the relevant bureaux of United Nations development system entities, to provide options and cost estimates for an assessment, including the feasibility of a third-party assessment by an entity external to the United Nations system with independent expertise on governance and oversight, of how the Executive Board, in collaboration with UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS as well as the United Nations system, executes its governance and oversight functions, with a view to ensuring that these functions are aligned with the highest international standards and best practices;
2. *Welcomes* the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled “Review of the governance and oversight of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services, the United Nations Children’s Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women” (JIU/REP/2023/7), and takes note of its recommendations;
3. *Recalls* its decisions 2022/24, paragraph 11, and 2023/14, paragraphs 3-5, in which the Executive Board expressed the need to further consider relevant recommendations made on governance and oversight, addressed to the Executive Board;
4. *Stresses* the importance of inclusive and meaningful participation and consultation of Board members and observers, in particular of programme countries, including through cross-board and cross-regional consultations, and stresses the need for phased, inclusive, transparent and balanced processes when proposing action on the Joint Inspection Unit report;
5. *Stresses* that improvements to the way the Executive Board execute their governance and oversight functions should contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals by enabling UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to deliver effectively and efficiently on their mandates and by ensuring that they are responsive to the needs and priorities of programme countries;
6. *Commits*, therefore, to a two-track process that constitutes: (a) an information gathering exercise; and (b) the establishment of a working group;
7. *Confirms* that consultations and information notes on the report do not prejudice any decision of the Executive Board on how to address the Joint Inspection Unit report and its recommendations;
8. *Decides* to include an item for decision on the progress of the consideration of the Joint Inspection Unit report on the agendas of every formal session, until decided otherwise;
9. *Requests* the Bureau to provide, in consultation with the bureaux of the participating Boards, an update on the implementation of this decision at the second regular session 2024;

With regard to additional information required:

10. *Requests* the management of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to provide, in an information note, their initial views of the Joint Inspection Unit report;

11. *Requests* the directors of the independent offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to provide, in an information note, their initial views of the Joint Inspection Unit report;

12. *Requests* the Bureau to organize, in coordination with the bureaux of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UN-Women, a joint informal consultation of the Executive Boards with the Joint Inspection Unit on the report by the first regular session 2025, while taking into consideration other United Nations processes, to ensure inclusive and meaningful participation, particularly of programme countries;

13. *Requests* the Bureau to undertake an open and inclusive consultation with Executive Board members and observers on information and analysis needs relating to the Joint Inspection Unit report and its recommendations, to support the working group on the Joint Inspection Unit report;

With regard to the working group:

14. *Decides* to establish a working group to study and report on the Joint Inspection Unit report, in which representatives of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UN-Women will be invited to participate;

15. *Requests* the Bureau, in potential collaboration with the bureaux of UNICEF and UN-Women, to develop, through a cross-board and cross-regional consultative process, terms of reference that enable the operationalization of the working group and to present it to the Executive Board for adoption at the first regular session 2025;

16. *Decides* that the Bureau, in consultation with the regional groups and in collaboration with the bureaux of participating Boards, will facilitate the nomination of members or observers of the Executive Boards to participate in the working group, up to an aggregate total of 15, with equal representation of the five regional groups, to be confirmed by the participating boards through a silence procedure, ahead of the first regular session 2025;

17. *Requests* that the secretariat provide information and support services, when and as requested by the Joint Inspection Unit working group, to further its work;

18. *Requests* the working group to provide regular updates to the participating Boards, as necessary, starting after the first regular session 2025.

7 June 2024

2024/13

Midterm review of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2022-2025, including the annual report of the Administrator for 2023

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the midterm review of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2022-2025, including the annual report of the Administrator for 2023 ([DP/2024/12](#) and [Corr.1](#)) and its annexes, the report of UNDP on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2023 ([DP/2024/12/Add.1](#)) and the statistical annex ([DP/2024/12/Add.2](#));

2. *Welcomes* progress made towards the outcome areas of the Strategic Plan, 2022-2025 and, in this regard, encourages UNDP to further its efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development, and strengthen resilience to shocks and crises;

3. *Requests* UNDP to continue improving its results reporting, including by identifying where activities are not achieving intended results and how the organization is learning from this;

4. *Requests* that UNDP take into account the lessons learned from the first two years of implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2022-2025 in its continued implementation and also in the design of subsequent strategic plans;
5. *Requests* that UNDP include in midterm reviews of future strategic plans detailed information on its proposed adjustments, for consideration of the Executive Board;
6. *Encourages* UNDP to continue responding to specific development challenges of programme countries, in consultation with their respective South-South cooperation focal points, through South-South and triangular cooperation, including by strengthening its collaboration with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation;
7. *Requests* UNDP to assess its accountability framework against the updated 2023 Joint Inspection Unit reference accountability framework, as presented in the Unit report on the review of accountability frameworks in the United Nations system organizations ([JIU/REP/2023/3](#)), and adjust it as necessary, by the annual session 2025;
8. *Welcomes* UNDP progress towards achieving the outputs of the Strategic Plan, 2022-2025, and urges UNDP to enhance progress towards achieving the partially met outputs, also by enhancing its portfolio and other innovative approaches.

7 June 2024

2024/14

Midterm review of the UNDP integrated resources plan and the integrated budget, 2022-2025

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the midterm review of the UNDP integrated resources plan and integrated budget, 2022-2025 ([DP/2024/13](#));
2. *Welcomes* the strong UNDP performance in balancing the institutional budget and achieving efficiency, against the backdrop of the complex funding landscape;
3. *Welcomes* the detailed overview of the allocation of regular resources and the comprehensive analysis of the impact of the current funding levels.

7 June 2024

2024/15

UNDP evaluation

The Executive Board

With regard to the annual report on evaluation, 2023 ([DP/2024/16](#) and [Corr. 1](#)) and the management commentaries thereto:

1. *Takes note of* the annual report on evaluation and the management commentaries thereon, welcomes the analysis provided on key findings and lessons learned from evaluations carried out in 2023, and requests that UNDP address the issues raised;

With regard to the evaluation of UNDP support to private sector development and structural transformation (DP/2024/17) and the management response thereto (DP/2024/18):

2. *Takes note of the evaluation of UNDP support to private sector development and structural transformation and requests UNDP management to address the issues raised in the report and its recommendations, as outlined in the management response thereto;*

With regard to the evaluation of UNDP support to ecosystem management and biodiversity conservation (DP/2024/19) and the management response thereto (DP/2024/20):

3. *Takes note of the evaluation of UNDP support to ecosystem management and biodiversity conservation and requests UNDP management to address the issues raised in the report and its recommendations, as outlined in the management response thereto.*

7 June 2024

2024/16

Midterm review of the UNCDF Strategic Framework, 2022-2025, and the report on results achieved by UNCDF in 2023

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of the midterm review of the UNCDF Strategic Framework, 2022-2025, and the report on results achieved by UNCDF in 2023 (DP/2024/22);*
2. *Acknowledges the progress made by UNCDF in undertaking reforms to enhance implementation of its Strategic Framework, 2022-2025 and requests UNCDF to continue to ensure an inclusive, open, respectful and empowering organizational culture for all staff as an integral part of the reforms;*
3. *Encourages UNCDF to further explore how it can respond to the financing needs of the least developed countries, including its role in providing catalytic and blended Sustainable Development Goal financing, while enhancing collaboration with the United Nations development system and development finance institutions;*
4. *Recommits to supporting UNCDF to achieve its base growth resource requirements of \$25 million per year in regular resources as per the Strategic Framework, 2022-2025.*

7 June 2024

2024/17

United Nations Volunteers programme: annual report of the Administrator

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of the results achieved in 2023 and the findings and recommendations of the midterm review of the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) Strategic Framework 2022-2025, as reflected in the report of the Administrator (DP/2024/23);*
2. *Recognizes that volunteerism can be a powerful and cross-cutting means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and expresses*

appreciation to all UN Volunteers for their exemplary contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Acknowledges* the efforts of UNV in promoting disability inclusion and encourages UNV to continue advocating for the inclusion of persons with disabilities;

4. *Takes note of* results in further improving its operational efficiency and agility, and in this regard, welcomes the recommendation of the midterm review to revise the deployment speed target for national volunteers;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of the Special Voluntary Fund in delivering the UNV Strategic Framework, 2022-2025, and urges all development partners in a position to do so to contribute to the Fund;

6. *Takes note of* the proclamation of 2026 as the International Year of Volunteers for Sustainable Development and encourages UNV to facilitate implementation of the International Year.

7 June 2024

2024/18

Annual report of the UNFPA Executive Director

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of* the Integrated midterm review and progress report on the implementation of the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2022-2025 [DP/FPA/2024/4 (Part I)], the statistical and financial review, 2023 [DP/FPA/2024/4 (Part I/Add.1)] and their related annexes, as well as the report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2023 [DP/FPA/2024/4 (Part II)];

2. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made by UNFPA in achieving the results of the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2022-2025, as recorded during the first two years of its implementation and urges UNFPA to address identified gaps and challenges in the Strategic Plan implementation going forward;

3. *Approves* the proposed adjustments to the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2022-2025, based on the findings of the midterm review, as contained in DP/FPA/2024/4 (Part I) and annex 1;

4. *Welcomes* the six remedial priorities to improve UNFPA readiness and the execution of its Strategic Plan, 2022-2025;

5. *Encourages* UNFPA to continue to strengthen its humanitarian response and preparedness capacity;

6. *Reaffirms* the importance of high-quality data and its contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, acknowledges the role of UNFPA in generating high-quality population data, and encourages UNFPA to strengthen its capacity and efforts in this regard;

7. *Notes with concern* the stagnating numbers in the reduction of maternal and newborn mortality and encourages UNFPA to accelerate its efforts on this matter;

8. *Welcomes* the UNFPA headquarters optimization process and its intended benefits, and recognizing the efforts of UNFPA to keep the Board informed on the process thus far:

(a) *Requests* UNFPA to continue to provide periodic briefings to the Executive Board on the progress of the headquarters optimization process, prior to each session, until the first regular session 2026;

(b) *Requests* UNFPA to share the risk assessment and mitigation measures underlying the headquarters optimization process with the Executive Board before the second regular session 2024;

(c) *Requests* UNFPA to monitor the impacts of the headquarters optimization process on performance and effectiveness, integrate results of this monitoring in subsequent annual reports of the Executive Director, and carry out an independent assessment of the headquarters optimization process by 2026, after its completion;

(d) *Encourages* UNFPA to continue to proactively engage with the Staff Council on the headquarters optimization process and other significant change processes;

9. *Requests* UNFPA to assess its accountability framework against the updated 2023 Joint Inspection Unit reference accountability framework, as presented in the Joint Inspection Unit report on the review of accountability frameworks in the United Nations system organizations (JIU/REP/2023/3), and adjust it, as necessary, by the annual session 2025.

7 June 2024

2024/19

Midterm review of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2022-2025

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of* the midterm review of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2022-2025 (DP/FPA/2024/10), and welcomes its alignment with the midterm review of the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2022-2025 [DP/FPA/2024/4 (Part I)], and also takes note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the midterm review of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2022-2025 (DP/FPA/2024/8);

2. *Takes note of* the results framework and resource requirements reflected in the revised estimates for the UNFPA integrated budget, 2022-2025, including linkages of results and resources, as contained in document DP/FPA/2024/10;

3. *Approves* the presentation of activities and associated costs, as reflected in document DP/FPA/2024/10;

4. *Also approves* revised gross estimates for the institutional budget 2022-2025 in the amount of \$872.3 million, noting that these estimates include \$249.8 million for indirect cost recovery from other resources;

5. *Further approves* a revised ceiling for global and regional programmes during 2022-2025 in the amount of \$211.6 million in regular resources, noting that this amount cannot be exceeded without approval of the Executive Board;

6. *Recalls* Executive Board decision 2015/3, and approves a revised amount of \$42 million of regular resources for the UNFPA emergency fund, and also reaffirms the existing authorization for the UNFPA Executive Director to increase the emergency fund by up to \$2 million beyond the ceiling in any given year if the number and extent of the emergencies so warrant;

7. *Endorses* the proposal of the Executive Director, similar to decisions 2008/6, 2012/13, 2013/32, 2017/24 and 2021/9, to grant her exceptional authority during 2024-2025 to access up to an additional \$5.6 million in regular resources for security measures, provided these are used for new and emerging security mandates, as defined by the directives of the United Nations Department of Safety and Security, and requests UNFPA to report to the Executive Board annually on the use of those funds in its statistical and financial review.

7 June 2024

2024/20

UNFPA evaluation

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of* the of the annual report on the evaluation function, 2023 (DP/FPA/2024/5), including the programme of work and budget of the Independent Evaluation Office in 2024, and related management commentaries;
2. *Welcomes* the progress and achievements of the evaluation function and the continued adaptability and responsiveness of the evaluation function to local contexts and new and emerging global challenges;
3. *Also welcomes* the contributions to United Nations interagency and system-wide evaluation efforts, and fostering national evaluation capacity development;
4. *Encourages* the Independent Evaluation Office to continue using innovative practices, including artificial intelligence;
5. *Also encourages* UNFPA to continue to enhance the capacity of the decentralized evaluation function and humanitarian evaluations, and to increase investments in the evaluation function.

7 June 2024

2024/21

Report on implementation of the restated UNOPS Strategic Plan, 2022-2025

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of* the report (DP/OPS/2024/6) and its annexes;
2. *Recognizes* the contributions of UNOPS to the results of United Nations and other partners in 2023, and welcomes its progress in implementing the restated Strategic Plan, 2022-2025;
3. *Takes note of* the new format and approach of the report of the Executive Director on implementation, and encourages further alignment in format and structure with the annual reporting of UNDP and UNFPA;
4. *Reiterates* decision 2023/23, paragraph 8, that UNOPS must refrain from new strategic initiatives, subject to approval from the Executive Board;
5. *Recalls* decisions 2022/13, 2023/18, 2023/22, 2024/4 to freeze all transfers out of the operational reserve for any purpose other than daily operations;

6. *Takes note* of the annual report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit, and draws attention to recommendation 5 of the “Review of the use of non-staff personnel and related contractual modalities in the United Nations system organizations” (JIU/REP/2023/8), and requests UNOPS to implement it in full;
7. Requests UNOPS to assess its accountability framework against the updated 2023 Joint Inspection Unit reference accountability framework, as presented in the Unit’s report on the “Review of accountability frameworks in the United Nations system organizations” (JIU/REP/2023/3), and adjust it as necessary, by the annual session 2025.

7 June 2024

2024/22

Comprehensive response plan in response to the recommendations of the two independent third-party reviews of UNOPS

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the document (DP/OPS/2024/7);
2. *Acknowledges* the progress made by UNOPS in implementing the comprehensive response plan in response to the third-party reviews of UNOPS and encourages UNOPS to continue to focus on implementing all recommendations and outstanding actions in a timely manner until the comprehensive response plan is completed;
3. *Calls on* UNOPS to implement in full the whistleblower process to ensure that strong, safe and confidential systems for whistleblowing and protection against retaliation for all staff and non-staff are in place, to safeguard the protection of individuals that report wrongdoings, risks and misconduct within UNOPS;
4. *Recalls* decision 2024/5 to increasingly engage with its staff and non-staff, including through Pulse surveys, and to report to the Executive Board the complete and unredacted survey results and follow-up actions taken in response, and requests these be shared within three months of conducting the survey;
5. *Recalls* decision 2024/4, paragraphs 20 and 21, on the prevention of impunity, and in line with rule 16 of the rules of procedure, requests the Bureau to organize a closed-door confidential briefing with the Office of Internal Oversight Services with a view to discuss Sustainable Investments in Infrastructure and Innovation (S3i) initiative accountability and related issues;

With regard to the terms of reference of the external third-party review, which was requested to be commissioned by UNOPS at the end of the implementation period of the comprehensive response plan, within paragraph 18 of decision 2022/24;

6. *Recalls* its decision 2024/4 that the third-party review will be conducted in early 2025 and that UNOPS will commission a final third-party review on the implementation of the last recommendation, which concerns a multi-year programme on process innovation and digitalization, once implemented;
7. *Takes note* of the draft terms of reference in relation to the external third-party review to be submitted as per decision 2022/24 by the Internal Audit and Investigations Group (IAIG),

and requests the IAIG to present the terms of reference to the Executive Board at the second regular session 2024;

With regard to the detailed workplan with relevant milestones to implement the recommendations contained in the third-party review of the organizational culture, as requested within paragraph 4 of decision 2024/5;

8. *Welcomes* the proposed approach and workplan for organizational culture transformation at UNOPS, rooted in the values of the United Nations;

9. *Recalls* its decision 2024/5, paragraph 5, to report progress and challenges in implementing the workplan through the continued monthly briefings on the comprehensive response plan until the first regular session 2025 and as part of the annual item on organizational culture during first regular sessions.

7 June 2024

2024/23

Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its annual session 2024

The Executive Board

Recalls that during its annual session 2024, it:

Item 1

Organizational matters

Adopted the agenda ([DP/2024/L.2](#)) and approved the workplan for the annual session 2024;

Adopted the report of the first regular session 2024 ([DP/2024/8](#));

Adopted the tentative workplan for the second regular session 2024;

Joint segment

Item 2

Update on the implementation efforts on the repositioning of the United Nations development system

Adopted decision 2024/8 on the update on the implementation efforts on the repositioning of the United Nations development system;

Item 3

Internal audit and investigation

Adopted decision 2024/9 on the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and investigation activities in 2023, and management responses;

Item 4

Ethics

Adopted decision 2024/10 on the reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on activities in 2023, and management responses;

Item 5

Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment

Adopted decision 2024/11 on the joint update on protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment;

Item 6

Field visits

Took note of the report of the field visit of the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to Uruguay ([DP/FPA/OPS/2024/1](#));

Item 19. Third-party assessment on the governance and oversight functions of the Executive Boards

Adopted decision 2024/12 on the assessment of how the Executive Board executes its governance and oversight functions;

UNDP segment

Item 7

Midterm review of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2022-2025, including the annual report of the Administrator for 2023

Adopted decision 2024/13 on the midterm review of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2022-2025, including the annual report of the Administrator for 2023;

Held an interactive discussion with the Administrator on the combined midterm review and the annual report;

Item 8

Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

Adopted decision 2024/14 on the midterm review of the UNDP integrated resources plan and the integrated budget, 2022-2025;

Item 9

Gender equality at UNDP

Took note of the annual report on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy, 2022-2025 ([DP/2024/15](#));

Item 10

UNDP evaluation

Adopted decision 2024/15 on UNDP evaluation;

Item 11

UNDP country programmes and related matters

Took note of the first one-year extension of the country programme for Liberia already approved by the Administrator and presented in document [DP/2024/21](#);

Approved the 18-month extension of the country programme for the Syrian Arab Republic, the two-year extension of the country programme for the Republic of the Congo, and the second six-month extension of the country programme for Rwanda, as presented in document [DP/2024/21](#);

Item 12

United Nations Capital Development Fund

Adopted decision 2024/16 on the midterm review of the United Nations Capital Development Fund Strategic Framework, 2022-2025, and the report on results achieved by the United Nations Capital Development Fund in 2023;

Item 13

United Nations Volunteers programme

Adopted decision 2024/17 on the United Nations Volunteers programme: annual report of the Administrator;

UNFPA segment

Item 14

Annual report of the Executive Director

Adopted decision 2024/18 on UNFPA: Annual report of the Executive Director;

Held an interactive discussion with the Executive Director on the combined midterm review and annual report;

Item 15

UNFPA – Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

Adopted decision 2024/19 on the midterm review of the UNFPA integrated budget, 2022-2025;

Item 16

UNFPA evaluation

Adopted decision 2024/20 on UNFPA evaluation;

Item 17

UNFPA country programmes and related matters

Took note of the first one-year extension of the country programme for the Syrian Arab Republic already approved by the Executive Director and presented in document [DP/FPA/2024/9](#);

Approved the second, six-month extension for Rwanda, as presented in document [DP/FPA/2024/9](#);

UNOPS segment

Item 18

Annual report of the UNOPS Executive Director

Adopted decision 2024/21 on the report on implementation of the restated UNOPS Strategic Plan, 2022-2025;

Adopted decision 2024/22 on the comprehensive response plan in response to the recommendations of the two independent third-party reviews of UNOPS;

Held an interactive discussion with the Executive Director on the above topics and a thematic interactive dialogue on the topic of ending the cycle of climate-induced disasters through sustainable resilient and inclusive infrastructure.

7 June 2024

**TENTATIVE WORKPLAN (as of 7 June 2024)
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS
SECOND REGULAR SESSION 2024
(26 – 29 August 2024, New York)**

<i>Day/date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Subject</i>
Monday, 26 August	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of the agenda and workplan for the session Adoption of the report of the annual session 2024 <p>UNFPA SEGMENT</p> <p>STATEMENT BY THE UNFPA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</p>
	3 – 5:00 p.m.		THEMATIC INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE UNFPA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
	5 – 6:00 p.m.	2	<p>JOINT SEGMENT</p> <p>FINANCIAL, BUDGETARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive review of the cost-recovery policy and its implementation
Tuesday, 27 August	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		<p>UNDP SEGMENT</p> <p>INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE UNDP ADMINISTRATOR</p>
	3 – 5:00 p.m.		THEMATIC INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE UNDP ADMINISTRATOR
Wednesday, 28 August	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	7	<p>UNOPS SEGMENT</p> <p>STATEMENT BY THE UNOPS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive response plan in response to the recommendations of the two independent third-party reviews of UNOPS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terms of reference for the external third-party review at the end of the implementation period of the comprehensive response plan Implementation strategy for the Process Innovation and Digitalization Programme Update on approximate amount remaining of undisbursed funds Annual statistical report on the procurement activities of United Nations system organizations, 2023
	3 – 6 p.m.	3	<p>UNDP SEGMENT (cont'd)</p> <p>UNDP STRUCTURED FUNDING DIALOGUE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structured dialogue on financing the results of the UNDP Strategic Plan Annual review of the financial situation of the United Nations Capital Development Fund, 2023 <p>UNFPA SEGMENT (cont'd)</p>

		5	<p>UNFPA STRUCTURED FUNDING DIALOGUE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the UNFPA structured funding dialogue 2023-2024
Thursday, 29 August	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	4	<p style="text-align: center;">UNDP SEGMENT (cont'd)</p> <p>UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and approval of country programme documents • Extensions of country programmes <p style="text-align: center;">UNFPA SEGMENT (cont'd)</p> <p>UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and approval of country programme documents • Extensions of country programmes
		6	
	3 – 4:30 p.m.	8	<p>OTHER MATTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of decisions <p>ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS</p> <p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2025 • Adoption of the tentative workplan for the first regular session 2025 • Closing of the session