



**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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27 to 31 January 2025, 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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Annotations and list of documents

Item 1

Organizational matters

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2006/14 and rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, the Board will elect a new Bureau consisting of a President and four Vice-Presidents. The election will take place on 10 January 2025. Following the established rotation among regional groups, the President of the Executive Board for 2025 should be elected from the Board members of the Latin America and Caribbean States group.

Under this item, the Executive Board will adopt the agenda and the workplan for the session as presented by the Secretary of the Board. The Board will also approve the report of its second regular session 2024. The draft report was distributed to Board members for their comments; the final report reflects the comments received.

In accordance with decision 96/25, a workplan for 2025 was prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the Bureau of the Executive Board and is submitted to the Board for adoption.

Documentation:

Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan (DP/2025/L.1)

Report of the second regular session 2024 (DP/2025/1)

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board in 2024 (DP/2025/2)

Annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2025 (DP/2025/CRP.1)

Joint segment

Item 2

Recommendations of the Board of Auditors

In response to Executive Board decision 2022/1, which recalled decision 2021/1, UNDP, the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), UNFPA and UNOPS will present their reports in a harmonized report template.

The UNDP report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2023 outlines progress on the implementation status of the recommendations for the year ended 31 December 2023 and prior years. UNDP has received an unqualified (clean) audit opinion from the Board of Auditors on its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023, marking 19 consecutive years of unqualified audit opinions. Pursuant to Executive Board decision 2010/9, details of the implementation status of the individual audit recommendations and the full audit report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for UNDP (A/79/5/Add.1) are available on the UNDP Executive Board website.

The UNCDF report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2023 outlines progress on the implementation status of the recommendations for the year ended 31 December 2023 and prior years. UNCDF has received an unqualified (clean) audit opinion from the Board of Auditors on its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023, marking 12 consecutive years of unqualified audit opinions since it presented its own separate financial statements in 2012. Pursuant to Executive Board decision 2010/9, details of the implementation status of the audit recommendations and the full audit report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for UNCDF (A/79/5/Add.2) are available on the UNDP Executive Board website.

The UNFPA report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2023 outlines progress on the implementation status of the recommendations for the year ended 31 December 2023 and prior years. The Board of Auditors has issued an unqualified (clean) audit opinion on the UNFPA financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023, marking 14 consecutive years of unqualified audit opinions for UNFPA. In the opinion of the Board of Auditors, the financial statements of UNFPA represent fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of UNFPA as of 31 December 2023 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards. The details of the implementation status of the audit recommendations and the full audit report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for UNFPA (A/79/5/Add.8) are available on the UNFPA Executive Board website.

UNOPS has responded to the recommendations made in the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors and provided an update on the status of implementation. In its report, the Board of Auditors issued an unqualified (clean) audit opinion for UNOPS for the year ended 31 December 2023 and issued nine recommendations classified as high priority and 10 classified as medium priority. UNOPS management remains actively engaged with the Board of Auditors and confirms that all recommendations are on track for completion within the established timelines. As acknowledged by the Board of Auditors, UNOPS has made significant progress towards implementing the pending recommendations in 2023. The details of the implementation status of the audit recommendations and the full audit report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for UNOPS (A/79/5/Add.11) are available on the UNOPS Executive Board website.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on the reports of UNDP, UNCDF, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2023.

Documentation:

UNDP: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors, 2023 (DP/2025/3)

UNCDF: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors, 2023 (DP/2025/4)

UNFPA: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors, 2023 (DP/FPA/2025/2)

UNOPS: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors, 2023 (DP/OPS/2025/1)

Item 3

Follow-up to UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board meeting

This joint UNDP and UNFPA report addresses the implementation of decisions and recommendations of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. The report highlights the implementation of decisions from the fifty-third and fifty-fourth Programme Coordinating Board meetings. It also highlights the contributions of UNDP and UNFPA to the HIV response and contains analysis of some of the main issues facing the Joint Programme.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the joint report.

Documentation:

UNDP and UNFPA report on the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (DP-FPA/2025/1)

Item 4

Update on the assessment of how the Executive Board executes its governance and oversight functions

In its decision 2024/12, the Executive Board decided to include an item for decision on the progress of the consideration of the Joint Inspection Unit report on the ‘Review of governance and oversight of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, and UN-Women’ (JIU/REP/2023/7) on the agendas of every formal session, until decided otherwise. Furthermore, the Executive Board requested the Bureau, in potential collaboration with the bureaux of UNICEF and UN-Women, to develop, through a cross-board and cross-regional consultative process, a term of reference for the operationalization of the working group and to present it to the Executive Board for adoption at the first regular session 2025. This term of reference has been prepared by the bureaux for review and potential adoption by the Executive Board.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on this item.

Item 5

Risk management

In its decision 2024/1 on the reports of UNDP, UNCDF, UNFPA, and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2022, the Executive Board decided to include a recurring joint agenda item on risk management. UNDP, UNFPA, and UNOPS will provide updates on their ongoing efforts to improve the enterprise risk management system and inform the Board of critical risks of strategic importance.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on this item.

Item 6

Organizational culture

In its decision 2024/1, the Executive Board requested that UNDP, UNFPA, and UNOPS provide a joint update at the first regular session on their ongoing efforts to strengthen organizational culture. This update will include actions to address discrimination, including racism and racial discrimination, and efforts to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion, and to improve geographical representation and gender balance. In this decision, the Board also requested that the annual address by the Chairperson of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS/UN-Women Staff Council be formally included under this new agenda item, to integrate the staff perspective into discussions on organizational culture. In its decision 2024/10, the Board also invited the Office of the Ombudsman for the United Nations funds and programmes to present its annual report at the first regular session of the Executive Board, as part of the organizational culture agenda item.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on the joint update on organizational culture and take note of the address by the Chairperson of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS/UN-Women Staff Council as well as the annual report of the Office of the Ombudsman for the United Nations funds and programmes.

Item 7

Addressing racism and racial discrimination

In its decision 2024/10, the Executive Board decided to add an agenda item on addressing racism and racial discrimination for information at the first regular session 2025 and requested the management of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to establish timelines for implementing entity-specific recommendations in relation 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](#)). UNDP, UNFPA, and UNOPS will provide updates on their

timelines for implementing the entity-specific recommendations from the Joint Inspection Unit note.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the updates.

Item 8

Field visits

Under this item, the Executive Board will review the report of the joint field visit of the Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the World Food Programme (WFP) to Cambodia (28 October to 1 November 2024).

The Board will receive a presentation on the Executive Board field visit to the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine (2 to 6 December 2024).

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the report on the joint field visit to Cambodia and the presentation on the field visit to the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

Documentation:

Report of the joint field visit of the Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP to Cambodia (DP/FPA/OPS-ICEF-UNW-WFP/2025/1)

UNDP segment

Item 9

Human Development Report

The Human Development Report Office (HDRO) will present on consultations for the preparation of the Human Development Report 2024/2025, planned for launch in early 2025, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 57/264.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the update on Human Development Report consultations.

Item 10

Country programmes and related matters

Under this item, the Executive Board will be asked to: (a) review and approve, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for: Bahrain, Colombia, Iraq, Paraguay and Rwanda; (b) take note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Guatemala, Kuwait, and Mali; and (c) approve the fourth one-year extension of the country programme for the Republic of Sudan.

Documentation:

Country programme documents for:

Bahrain (DP/DCP/BHR/4);

Colombia (DP/DCP/COL/4);

Iraq (DP/DCP/IRQ/4);

Paraguay (DP/DCP/PRY/4); and

Rwanda (DP/DCP/RWA/4).

Extensions of country programmes (DP/2025/5)

Item 11

Evaluation

As requested by the Executive Board in its decision 2019/19, the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) is presenting a review of the UNDP evaluation policy. The report was prepared by an independent team assessing progress on implementing the revised 2019 evaluation policy, including factors that enabled and hindered policy implementation. The review examined evaluation procedures, governance, and alignment with best practices; quality assurance processes and guidance for decentralized and independent evaluations; the effectiveness of translating findings into actionable outcomes; support for UNCDF and UNV evaluations; and efforts to strengthen independent evaluation. The report is accompanied by management responses from UNDP and the IEO.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on this item.

Documentation:

Independent review of the UNDP evaluation policy and the Independent Evaluation Office response (DP/2025/6)

Management response to the independent review of the UNDP evaluation policy (DP/2025/7)

UNFPA segment

Item 12

Evaluation

The Board will consider under this agenda item the formative evaluation of the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2022-2025. The Independent Evaluation Office conducted this formative evaluation as part of the UNFPA quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan, 2022-2025. Covering the period from January 2022 to July 2024, the evaluation assessed UNFPA organizational readiness and strategic positioning to accelerate the progress towards the achievement of the three transformative results and catalyse a discussion on the design of the next strategic plan.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the formative evaluation of the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2022-2025.

Documentation:

Formative evaluation of the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2022-2025 (DP/FPA/2025/1)

Item 13

Country programmes and related matters

Under this item, the Executive Board will be asked to: (a) review and approve, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for: Colombia, Iraq, Paraguay and Rwanda; (b) take note of the first one-year extension of the country programme for Mali; and (c) approve the fourth one-year extension of the country programme for Sudan.

Documentation:

Country programme documents for:

Colombia (DP/FPA/CPD/COL/8);

Iraq (DP/FPA/CPD/IRQ/4);

Paraguay (DP/FPA/CPD/PAR/9); and

Rwanda (DP/FPA/CPD/RWA/9).

Extensions of country programmes (DP/FPA/2025/4)

UNOPS segment

Item 14

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

Under this item, and in line with its decision 2024/22, the Board will have before it the report on the comprehensive response plan in response to the recommendations of the two independent third-party reviews of UNOPS. The report summarizes progress made in the implementation of the comprehensive response plan and addresses its funding allocation. The Board will also receive an update on the review of whistleblower process in line with its decision 2022/24.

The Board may wish to adopt a decision on this item, including with regard to the release of the third tranche from the operational reserve for the implementation of the comprehensive response plan and the second interim review of the status of implementation of the comprehensive response plan, as per decision 2024/28. In addition, the Board may also wish to address the issue of undisbursed excess reserves allocated to two paying entities, as per decision 2023/4.

Documentation:

Comprehensive response plan in response to the recommendations of the two independent third-party reviews of UNOPS (DP/OPS/2025/2)

Item 15

Report on the Process Innovation and Digitalization Programme implementation

Under this item, the Board will have before it the UNOPS annual report on the implementation of the Process Innovation and Digitalization Programme, in line with Board decision 2024/28. The report outlines progress across all sub-programmes, steps taken to support and inform the selection process of the enterprise resource planning system, and changes to timelines following the Board's request to submit a formative evaluation of the programme at its annual session 2025.

The Board may wish to take note of the report on the Process Innovation and Digitalization Programme implementation.

Item 16

Other matters

TENTATIVE WORKPLAN (as of 9 October 2024, check the Executive Board [website](#) for the latest versions)
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION 2025
(27 – 31 January 2025, New York)

<i>Day/Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Subject</i>
Monday, 27 January	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.	1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of the agenda and workplan for the session Adoption of the report of the second regular session 2024 Adoption of the annual workplan 2025 of the Executive Board <p style="text-align: center;">JOINT SEGMENT</p>
		2	RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD OF AUDITORS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP, UNCDF, UNFPA and UNOPS reports on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2023
		4	UPDATE ON THE ASSESSMENT OF HOW THE EXECUTIVE BOARD EXECUTES ITS GOVERNANCE AND OVERSIGHT FUNCTIONS
		3 – 6:00 p.m.	5
	6		ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint update on organizational culture Address by the Chairperson of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS/UN-Women Staff Council Presentation of the annual report of the Office of the Ombudsman for the United Nations funds and programmes
	7		ADDRESSING RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
	Tuesday, 28 January	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.	
14			STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMPREHENSIVE RESPONSE PLAN IN RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TWO INDEPENDENT THIRD-PARTY REVIEWS OF UNOPS
15			REPORT ON THE PROCESS INNOVATION AND DIGITALIZATION PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
	3 – 6:00 p.m.	3	JOINT SEGMENT (cont'd) FOLLOW-UP TO UNAIDS PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD MEETING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint UNDP and UNFPA report on the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Programme Coordinating Board of UNAIDS

<i>Day/Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Subject</i>
		10	<p style="text-align: center;">UNDP SEGMENT</p> <p>UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and approval of country programme document • Extensions of country programmes
		13	<p style="text-align: center;">UNFPA SEGMENT</p> <p>UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and approval of country programme document • Extensions of country programmes
Wednesday, 29 January	<i>Observation of Lunar New Year</i>		
Thursday, 30 January	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.		<p style="text-align: center;">UNDP SEGMENT (cont'd)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR</p>
	3 – 6:00 p.m.	9	<p>HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on the Human Development Report consultations (GA resolution 57/264)
		11	<p>UNDP EVALUATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent review of the evaluation policy, and management response
		12	<p style="text-align: center;">UNFPA SEGMENT (cont'd)</p> <p>UNFPA EVALUATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formative evaluation of the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2022-2025
Friday, 31 January	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.		<p style="text-align: center;">UNFPA SEGMENT (cont'd)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</p>
	3 – 5:30 p.m.	8	<p style="text-align: center;">JOINT SEGMENT (cont'd)</p> <p>FIELD VISITS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the joint field visit of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women, and WFP • Presentation on the field visit of the Executive Board
16		<p>OTHER MATTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of decisions 	
1		<p>ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the tentative workplan for the annual session 2025 • Closing of the session 	