



**Executive Board of the  
United Nations Development  
Programme and of the  
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**UNFPA - Country programmes and related matters**

**UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND**

**Extensions of country programmes in the Asia and the Pacific region**

**Note by the Executive Director**

*Summary*

The present note contains information on the one-year extension of the country programme for Afghanistan and the two-year extension of the country programme for Pakistan.

In accordance with established procedures, the Executive Director approves the first one-year extension of a country programme, while requests for extensions for a second year or two-year extensions are submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the one-year country programme extension for Afghanistan as indicated in table 1, and approve the two-year extension of the country programme for Pakistan, as indicated in table 2.



Table 1. One-year country programme extensions approved by the Executive Director

| Country     | Original programme period | Year proposed for extension | Reason and Explanation  |   |   |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|---|
|             |                           |                             | United Nations harmonization  | In-country political development  | Implementation and/or other Issues  |
| Afghanistan | 2006-2008                 | 2009                        | The formulation of the Afghanistan national development strategy will begin in March 2008. As a result, the United Nations country team has recommended that the development of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework be undertaken in 2008, after the finalization of the national development strategy. | The development of the Afghanistan national development strategy is a government-led process. It is supported by the international community, under the auspices of the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board, which is co-chaired by the Government and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan. The participation of the United Nations country team in the national analytical process will create opportunities: (a) for dialogue with government and international partners to identify critical trends and disparities; (b) for the involvement of stakeholders to conduct consultations on the interim Afghanistan national development strategy in the 34 provinces of Afghanistan; (c) for discussions on capacity development; and (d) to enable the Government, the United Nations and the international community to undertake a quality analysis of development issues. | The current country programme provides an adequate framework for all UNFPA-supported projects being implemented in Afghanistan. |

Table 2. Extensions of country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is sought

| Country  | Original programme period | Year proposed for extension | Reason and Explanation  |  |  |
|----------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|--|
|          |                           |                             | United Nations harmonization  | In-country political development   | Implementation and/or other Issues   |
| Pakistan | 2004-2008                 | 2009-2010                   | The United Nations Development Group Executive Committee agencies in Pakistan are requesting a two-year extension of their country programmes in order to align them with the government national planning cycle, 2005-2010. The United Nations system in Pakistan also agreed to extend the United Nations Development Assistance Framework so that it could reflect the United Nations 'delivering as one' programme for which Pakistan is a pilot country. | The Government has agreed to the extension of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework in order to ensure alignment with the national cycle of development planning. Recent political developments have made it more difficult to achieve expected results during the original time frame of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the country programme (2004-2008). | Heightened security concerns and additional needs resulting from natural disasters and their aftermath will be incorporated in the UNFPA-supported country programme in Pakistan. This will ensure continued delivery of results and programme monitoring. |