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Extensions of ongoing country programmes

Note by the secretariat

Summary

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2009/11, this note informs the Executive Board of the one-year extensions approved by the Executive Director for the country programmes for Cuba, Mexico, Nigeria and Togo, as well as the Gulf Area subregional programme.

This note also presents the reasons for the proposed two-year extensions of the country programmes for Colombia and Comoros, the second one-year extensions for Tunisia and Madagascar and the third-year extension for Namibia. The Executive Board is requested to approve these programme extensions.

Draft decision

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the one-year extensions approved by the Executive Director for the country programmes for Cuba, Mexico, Nigeria and Togo, as well as the Gulf Area subregional programme, as indicated in table 1.

2. *Approves* the two-year extensions for Colombia and Comoros, the second-year extension for Tunisia and Madagascar and the third-year extension for Namibia, as presented in table 2.

* E/ICEF/2012/9.



Table 1
One-year extensions of country programmes approved by the Executive Director

<i>Country</i>	<i>Original programme period</i>	<i>Year proposed for extension</i>	<i>Reason for extension</i>
Cuba	2008-2012	2013	Harmonization with the extended United Nations Development Assistance Framework [UNDAF], approved by the regional United Nations Development Group [UNDG] team and by the Government, to synchronize with national planning process timelines.
Mexico	2008-2012	2013	Allow sufficient time for the United Nations country team [UNCT] and the new Government to plan the next UNDAF and the new country programme.
Nigeria	2009-2012	2013	Harmonization with the extended UNDAF, approved by the regional UNDG team and by the Government, to synchronize with national planning process timelines.
Togo	2008-2012	2013	Harmonization with the extended UNDAF, approved by the regional UNDG team and by the Government, to synchronize with the national planning cycle.
Gulf Area (<i>subregional programme</i>)	2010-2012	2013	Enable UNICEF and strategic partners in the Gulf Area to define strategic modes of engagement in these high-income countries. Formal approval for the extensions was received from all five countries (Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates).

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

Country	Original programme period	Years proposed for extension	Reason for extension		
			In-country development	United Nations harmonization	Implementation or other issues
Colombia	2008-2012	2013-2014	In consultation with the Government and the regional UNDG team, the United Nations agencies have extended the UNDAF to 2014, to synchronize it with the national development plan for 2010-2014.	The two-year extension of the country programme will align it with the extended UNDAF and the national development plan.	During the 2011 midterm review, UNICEF and the Government agreed to continue with the existing country programme focus and strategy.
Comoros	2008-2012	2013-2014	In consultation with the Government and the regional UNDG team, the United Nations agencies have extended the current UNDAF to 2014, to synchronize it with the poverty reduction strategy for 2011-2014.	The two-year extension of the country programme will align it with the extended UNDAF and the national poverty reduction strategy.	The midterm review confirmed the continued programme focus on accelerated child survival and development, basic education and gender equality, social policy advocacy and communication with a sharper focus on most marginalized children and families.
Madagascar	2008-2012	2013 second consecutive one-year extension	In consultation with the Government and the regional UNDG team, the United Nations agencies have extended the current UNDAF by one year to synchronize the next UNDAF with the new national development plan.	The one-year extension will align the next country programme with the new five-year national plan.	The programme will continue to support national efforts in accelerated maternal and child survival and development, education and gender equality, HIV/AIDS, child protection, with a sharper focus on the most vulnerable populations.

Country	Original programme period	Years proposed for extension	Reason for extension		
			In-country development	United Nations harmonization	Implementation or other issues
Namibia	2006-2012	2013 third consecutive one-year extension	The United Nations agencies have extended the current UNDAF to 2013, to synchronize the timing of the next UNDAF with the Fourth National Development Plan.	The one-year extension will align the next country programme with the UNDAF and the Fourth National Development Plan.	The country programme will continue to focus on maternal and child survival and development, education for HIV prevention and mitigation, and special protection for vulnerable children.
Tunisia	2007-2012	2013 second consecutive one-year extension	The United Nations agencies have extended the current UNDAF, to synchronize the timing of the new UNDAF with the new national development plan.	The one-year extension will align the next country programme with the planning processes of the Government.	The country programme will continue with the existing programme focus and strategy.