



**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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21 - 25 January 2019, 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 6 December 2018. According to the established pattern of rotation of posts among the various regional groups, the President of the Executive Board for 2019 should be elected from the Board members of the Asia-Pacific group.

Under this item, the Executive Board will adopt the agenda and agree on 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 2018. A draft report was distributed to Board members for their comments; the final report contains comments received by or before the deadline.

In accordance with decision 96/25, a workplan for 2019 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/2019/L.1)

Report of the second regular session 2018 (DP/2019/1)

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board during 2018 (DP/2019/2)

Annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2019 (DP/2019/CRP.1)

UNDP segment

Item 2 Evaluation

The UNDP Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) has carried out an evaluation of UNDP support to poverty reduction in the least developed countries. The evaluation is part of the IEO medium-term plan (DP/2018/4) approved by the Executive Board at the first regular session 2018. The evaluation assessed the contribution of the country programmes and of global and regional programmes to reducing poverty across five streams of UNDP support, i.e., inclusive growth and employment, local economic development, sustainable livelihoods, early economic revitalization, and integration of the Millennium Development Goals/Sustainable Development Goals. Cross-cutting programmatic principles outlined in the Strategic Plan, i.e., gender equality and the empowerment of women, and partnerships were assessed. The evaluation covered all LDCs in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, the Arab States and Haiti in the Caribbean. The evaluation is accompanied by a management note. The Board may wish to take note of the evaluation and the management note.

The UNDP Independent Evaluation Office, in addition to its main function – conducting independent thematic and programmatic evaluations – also contributes to capacity development for evaluation within UNDP and beyond, with national partners and the global evaluation community, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development. The IEO has developed an overview of this small yet highly relevant component of its work. Through this component, the IEO seeks to contribute to three immediate outcomes through a series of interrelated capacity development activities and interventions: improved quality and relevance of UNDP-led evaluations; strengthened national evaluation capacities and systems; and a more robust global evaluation culture. The document describes support to each of these three streams, with an emphasis to strengthening national evaluation capacities, a key component of which has been the National Evaluation Capacities (NEC) Conference series. Each UNDP region had hosted one of the conferences, with the conclusion of the fifth Conference in Turkey in October 2017, prompting the Office to reflect on the future of the series. In 2019, the IEO will continue to strengthen its capacity development strategy, seeking greater synergies between its various capacity development initiatives, as well as between these and its evaluative work. The Board may wish to take note of the report.

Documentation:

Evaluation of UNDP support to poverty reduction in the least developed countries (DP/2019/4)

Report of the Independent Evaluation Office on its support to evaluation capacity development (DP/2019/6)

Item 3 Country programmes and related matters

Under this item, the Executive Board will be asked to: (a) take note of the first one-year extension of the country programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina; (b) approve the second one-year extensions of the country programmes for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Africa; and (c) review and approve, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for Burundi, Niger, Togo, Cambodia, Chile, and Ecuador.

Documentation:

Extensions of country programmes (DP/2019/3)

Africa

Country programme document for Burundi (DP/DCP/BDI/4)

Country programme document for Niger (DP/DCP/NER/3)

Country programme document for Togo (DP/DCP/TGO/3)

Asia and the Pacific

Country programme document for Cambodia (DP/DCP/KHM/4)

Latin America and the Caribbean

Country programme document for Chile (DP/DCP/CHL/4)

Country programme document for Ecuador (DP/DCP/ECU/3)

UNFPA segment

Item 4 Evaluation

The revised evaluation policy of UNFPA was developed in accordance with Executive Board decision 2018/11, and is the result of extensive consultations with key stakeholders. The policy is informed by General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of United Nations operational activities for development, and by the UNFPA strategic plan, 2018-2021, and it is aligned to the 2016 norms and standards of the United Nations Evaluation Group. The policy outlines evaluation principles and procedures; sets out roles and responsibilities; describes contributions to system-wide evaluations and national evaluation capacity development; highlights human and financial resource requirements; and concludes with a note on the implementation, reporting and future review of the policy.

The Executive Board may wish to endorse the revised evaluation policy of UNFPA.

The Executive Board will also have before it a thematic evaluation of the UNFPA support to the prevention of, response to, and elimination of gender-based violence and harmful practices (2012-2017). The evaluation assessed the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of UNFPA support to the prevention of, response to and elimination of gender-based violence and harmful practices, in both development and humanitarian contexts. As the first broad thematic evaluation in this area of work, the evaluation generated important findings, lessons and recommendations, and is intended to be used to support accountability for past performance, contribute to evidence-based decision-making and support the ongoing implementation of UNFPA policies and programmes, including the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2018-2021. The evaluation is also intended to inform the strategic positioning of UNFPA, reflecting the changing development environment and alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the thematic evaluation.

Documentation:

Evaluation policy of UNFPA (DP/FPA/2019/1)

Thematic evaluation of UNFPA support to the prevention, response to, and elimination of gender-based violence and harmful practices (2012-2017) (DP/FPA/2019/CRP.1)

Management response to the thematic evaluation of UNFPA support to the prevention, response to and elimination of gender-based violence and harmful practices (2012-2017) (DP/FPA/2019/CRP.2)

Item 5 Country programmes and related matters

The Executive Board will be asked to approve, in accordance with decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for Cambodia and Niger, and the second country programme extension for South Africa.

Documentation:

Country programme document for Cambodia (DP/FPA/CPD/KHM/6)

Country programme document for Niger (DP/FPA/CPD/NER/9)

Extensions of country programmes (DP/FPA/2019/3)

UNOPS segment

Item 6

United Nations Office for Project Services

The Executive Director of UNOPS will deliver her statement to the Executive Board. She will provide an update on the implementation of the organization's Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, as well as a summary of key focus areas in the coming year.

Joint segment

Item 7

Recommendations of the Board of Auditors

The UNDP and UNCDF report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2017 reviews the progress made on the top seven audit-related management priorities for 2016-2017 (as presented in document DP/2017/11 and supported by the Board in its decision 2017/5) and revises the top audit-related management priorities for the next biennium. It also reports on the implementation status of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the year ended December 2017 and prior years. 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 UNDP and UNCDF (A/73/5/Add.1 and Add.2, respectively) are available on the Executive Board website.

Pursuant to decision 97/2 of the Executive Board, the Executive Director of UNFPA reports on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the financial period that ended on 31 December 2017 (A/73/5/Add.8).

The United Nations Board of Auditors acknowledges that UNFPA is in good financial health and provides the opinion that the organization's financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of UNFPA as at 31 December 2017 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with IPSAS. A separate table, available on the UNFPA website, provides an updated status of the implementation of the audit recommendations.

UNOPS is pleased to respond to the recommendations made in the report of the Board of Auditors (A/73/5/Add.11) and to provide an update on the current status of implementation. The report of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2017 was unqualified. UNOPS management continues to emphasize the importance of addressing audit concerns. The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2017.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2017.

Documentation:

UNDP and UNCDF: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2017 (DP/2019/7)

UNFPA: Follow-up to the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2017: the status of implementation of the recommendations (DP/FPA/2019/2)

UNOPS: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2017 (DP/OPS/2019/1)

Item 8
Update on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 on repositioning of the United Nations development system

As requested by the Executive Board in its decisions 2018/16, 2018/18 and 2018/20, UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS will continue to engage with the Board on the progress in implementation of the General Assembly resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on 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 and provide regular updates in this regard starting from 2019. The Board may wish to adopt a decision.

Item 9
Working methods of the Executive Board

In its decision 2018/22, the Executive Board requested the Bureau of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, in collaboration with the bureaux of UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP, to launch a joint consultative process with Member States, starting at the first regular session 2019, with a view to examining the efficiency and quality of its current sessions, as well as the functions of the joint meeting of the Boards, building on the joint response prepared by the secretariats and presented at the second regular session 2018. The Board may wish to adopt a decision on the working methods of the Board.

Item 10
Other matters

**TENTATIVE WORKPLAN
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION 2019
(21 - 25 January 2019, New York)**

<i>Day/Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Subject</i>
Monday, 21 January	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 second regular session 2018 • Adoption of the annual workplan 2019 of the Executive Board <p style="text-align: center;">UNDP SEGMENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR</p>
	3 – 5:45 p.m.		INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR (cont'd)
	5:45 – 6 p.m.		<i>Informal consultations on draft decisions</i>
Tuesday, 22 January	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	2	<p>EVALUATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of UNDP support to least developed countries for poverty reduction, and management note • Report on the Independent Evaluation Office support to national evaluation capacity development
		3	<p>COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and approval of country programme documents • Extensions of country programmes
	3– 5:30: p.m.	6	<p>UNOPS SEGMENT</p> <p>STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</p>
	5:30 – 6 p.m.		<i>Informal consultations on draft decisions</i>
Wednesday, 23 January	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		<p>UNFPA SEGMENT</p> <p>STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</p>
	3 – 5:45 p.m.	4	<p style="text-align: center;">STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (cont'd)</p> <p>EVALUATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised evaluation policy • Evaluation of UNFPA support to the prevention, response to and elimination of gender-based violence and harmful practices
	5:45 - 6p.m.		<i>Informal consultations on draft decisions</i>

Thursday, 24 January	10 a.m.–1 p.m.	5	COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and approval of country programme documents • Extensions of country programmes
	3 – 5:45 p.m.	7	JOINT SEGMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD OF AUDITORS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of UNDP on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2017 • UNFPA report on the follow-up to the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2017: Status of implementation of recommendations • Report of UNOPS on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2017
	5:45 – 6 p.m.		<i>Informal consultations on draft decisions</i>
Friday, 25 January	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	8	JOINT SEGMENT (cont'd) UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 72/279 ON REPOSITIONING OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM
		9	WORKING METHODS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
	3 – 6 p.m.	10	OTHER MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of pending decisions
		1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the tentative workplan for the annual session 2019