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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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3 - 6 February 2020, 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 2019. According to the established pattern of rotation of posts among the various regional groups, the President of the Executive Board for 2020 should be elected from the Board members of the Latin American and Caribbean 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 2019. 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 2020 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/2020/L.1)

Report of the second regular session 2019 (DP/2020/1)

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board during 2019 (DP/2020/2)

Annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2020 (DP/2020/CRP.1)

Joint segment

Item 2

Recommendations of the Board of Auditors

The UNDP report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2018 reviews the progress made on the refined top seven audit-related management priorities for 2018-2019 (as presented in document DP/2017/11, supported by the Board in its decision 2017/5 and endorsed by the Board in its decision 2019/2). It also reports on the implementation status of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the year ended December 2018 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 (A/74/5/Add.1) are available on the Executive Board website.

The UNCDF report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2018 presents the implementation status of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the year ended December 2018 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 UNCDF (A/74/5/Add.2) is available on the Executive Board website.

Pursuant to Executive Board decision 97/2, the UNFPA Executive Director of UNFPA submits the report on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the financial period ended on 31 December 2018 (A/74/5/Add.8). The Board of Auditors acknowledges that UNFPA is in good financial health and that the organization's financial statements represent fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of UNFPA as at 31 December 2018 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards. A separate table, available on the UNFPA Executive Board 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 United Nations Board of Auditors (A/74/5/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 2018 was unqualified. UNOPS management continues to emphasize the importance of addressing audit concerns and according to UNOPS assessment, progress has been achieved in the implementation of recommendations made for the year ended 31 December 2018. UNOPS continues to address the remaining recommendations.

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 2018.

Documentation:

UNDP: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors, 2018 (DP/2020/3)

UNCDF: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors, 2018 (DP/2020/4)

UNFPA: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors, 2018 (DP/FPA/2020/1)

UNOPS: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors, 2018 (DP/OPS/2020/1)

Item 3

Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

In its decision 2018/21, the Executive Board requested "UNDP and UNFPA, together with UNICEF and UN-Women, to present a preliminary comprehensive proposal on the cost-recovery policy for consideration by the Executive Board at its first regular session in 2020". In addition, in decision 2019/21 the Board endorsed "recommendations 1 and 2 on further alignment, as contained in the joint review, for application effective in their integrated budgets, beginning in 2022", and took note of "recommendation 3 in the joint review, which proposes the creation of separate cost-classification line items in the integrated resources plan, to report on and obtain separate appropriations for independent oversight and assurance activities, as well as resident coordinator cost-sharing contributions, and welcome[d[additional information on this at the first regular session 2020, to enable further analysis prior to potential adoption of this recommendation." The joint proposal is presented in response to the above request.

The Board may wish to take note of the preliminary proposal.

Documentation:

Joint preliminary comprehensive proposal on the cost-recovery policy (DP/FPA-ICEF-UNW/CRP.1)

Item 4 Working methods of the Executive Board

In response to Executive Board decision 2019/16, revised and harmonized guidelines for the field visits of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women, containing also harmonized criteria for the joint field visits of the Executive Boards, will be presented to the Board for information.

As requested in decision 2019/22, the Board will also have before it an exemplary annual programme of work, including informal briefings, for each of the three options presented in the joint response of the Executive Board secretariats of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women on Executive Board working methods.

UNDP segment

Item 5 Country programmes and related matters

Under this item, the Executive Board will be asked to: (a) take note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Colombia, Guatemala, Lebanon, Tajikistan and Venezuela from 1 January to 31 December 2020; (b) approve the second extension of the country programme for Mexico, from 1 January to 30 June 2020; (c) approve the third extensions of the country programmes for South Africa, from 1 April to 30 June 2020, and for the Syrian Arab Republic, from 1 January to 30 September 2020; and (d) review and approve, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Iraq, Kuwait, Cuba and Paraguay.

Documentation:

Extensions of country programmes (DP/2020/5)

Africa

Country programme document for the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DP/DCP/COD/3)

Country programme document for Mali (DP/DCP/MLI/4)

Arab States

Country programme document for Iraq (DP/DCP/IRQ/3)

Country programme document for Kuwait (DP/DCP/KWT/3)

Latin America and the Caribbean

Country programme document for Cuba (DP/DCP/CUB/3)

Country programme document for Paraguay (DP/DCP/PRY/3)

UNFPA segment

Item 6 Evaluation

The Executive Board will have before it a developmental evaluation of the results-based management approach at UNFPA. This innovative type of evaluation is forward-looking and utilization-focused, involving continuous real-time feedback and high level of engagement within all levels of the organization. The evaluation provided useful evaluative input for decision-making in order to develop the next stage of results-based management. It included two main streams: identifying and analysing the root causes of persistent issues in results-based management; and bringing evidence for solutions, possible scenarios, and courses of action in the area of results-based management. The evaluation framed and analysed five creative tensions (gaps and challenges) that led to the creation of six leverage points as possible solutions for the way forward. A management response to the report is also available (DP/FPA/2020/CRP.2).

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

Documentation:

Developmental evaluation of the results-based management approach in UNFPA (DP/FPA/2020/CRP.1)

Item 7 Country programmes and related matters

The Executive Board will be asked to: (a) approve, in accordance with decision 2014/7, the country programme documents for Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Mali and Paraguay; (b) take note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Colombia, Guatemala and Venezuela; and (c) approve the third, three-month extension for South Africa and the third one-year extension for the country programme for Syrian Arab Republic.

Documentation:

Extensions of country programmes (DP/FPA/2020/2)

Country programme documents for:

Cuba (DP/FPA/CPD/CUB/9),

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DP/FPA/CPD/COD/5),

Iraq (DP/FPA/CPD/IRQ/3),

Mali (DP/FPA/CPD/MLI/8),

Paraguay (DP/FPA/CPD/ PRY/8).

Item 8 Other matters

TENTATIVE WORKPLAN EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS FIRST REGULAR SESSION 2020

(3 – 6 February 2020, New York)

	Time	Item	Subject
Day/Date Monday,			
3 February	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.	1	 ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS Adoption of the agenda and workplan for the session Adoption of the report of the second regular session 2019 Adoption of the annual workplan 2020 of the Executive Board
			JOINT SEGMENT
		2	RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD OF AUDITORS
		2	 UNDP, UNCDF, UNFPA and UNOPS reports on the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2018
	3 – 5:30 p.m.	3	FINANCIAL, BUDGETARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS • Joint preliminary comprehensive proposal on the cost-recovery policy
		4	WORKING METHODS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
Tuesday, 4 February	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.		UNDP SEGMENT
			INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR
	3 – 4:30 p.m.		INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR (cont'd)
	4:30 – 5:30 p.m.	5	UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS
			 Presentation and approval of country programme documents Extensions of country programmes
Wednesday,	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.		UNFPA SEGMENT
5 February			STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
	3 – 4 p.m.	6	EVALUATION Developmental evaluation of results-based management approach in UNFPA, and related management response
	4-5:30 p.m.	7	UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS
			 Presentation and approval of country programme documents\ Extensions of country programmes
Thursday, 6 February	10 a.m. –1 p.m.		UNOPS SEGMENT
o i coi dai y			STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
	3 – 5 p.m.	8	OTHER MATTERS • Adoption of pending decisions
			Adoption of pending decisions
		1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS • Adoption of the tentative workplan for the annual session 2020

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