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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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#### **Annual session 2023**

5 to 9 June 2023, 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

Under this item, the Executive Board will adopt the agenda for the annual session 2023 and agree on the workplan for the session as presented by the Secretary of the Board. The Board may wish to adopt the report of its first regular session 2023. A draft report was distributed to members of the Board for their comments; the final report reflects comments received within the deadline.

#### Documentation:

Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan (DP/2023/L.2)

Report of the first regular session 2023 (DP/2023/10)

Decisions adopted at the first regular session 2023 (DP/2023/11)

# Joint segment

#### Item 2

# Update on implementation efforts on the repositioning of the United Nations development system

In line with Executive Board decision 2019/4, UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS will report to the Executive Board on the status of implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system, and General Assembly resolution 76/4 on the review of the functioning of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, including its funding arrangement, within the framework of General Assembly resolution 75/233 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the update of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on implementation efforts on the repositioning of the United Nations development system.

# Item 3 Internal audit and investigation

Under this item, the Executive Board will have before it the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and investigation. The structure and content of the reports are harmonized with each other and the annual reports of the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

Pursuant to decision 2016/13 of the Executive Board, the UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations submits the present report covering its activities in 2022. It includes an opinion, based on the scope of work undertaken, on the adequacy and effectiveness of the entity's framework of governance, risk management and control; a concise summary of work and the criteria that support the opinion; a statement of conformance with the internal audit standards being adhered to; and a view on whether resourcing is appropriate, sufficient and effectively deployed to achieve the desired internal audit and investigation coverage.

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The management response to this report is presented separately and the annual report of the Audit and Evaluation Advisory Committee is appended to this report (in accordance with document DP/2008/16/Rev.1).

In response to Executive Board decisions 2015/2, 2015/13, 2022/15, 2022/22 and earlier pertinent Board decisions, the UNFPA Director of the Office of Audit and Investigation Services (OAIS) presents the report on the internal audit, investigation, and advisory services for the year ending 31 December 2022.

The report includes information on (a) the OAIS mandate; (b) the internal audit opinion on the governance, risk management and internal controls of UNFPA; (c) the statement on the independence of OAIS and conformance to professional standards; (d) OAIS resources for 2022; (e) results of the implementation of the risk-based audit plan for 2022; (f) significant issues and recommendations resulting from audits, investigations and advisory services; (g) public disclosure of internal audit reports; and (h) investigations, including information on the nature of cases received, investigated, and actions taken.

The Executive Board will also have before it the activity report on UNOPS internal audit and investigation services for the year ended 31 December 2022, submitted by the Internal Audit and Investigations Group. The report is accompanied by the management response presented separately (in accordance with decision 2006/13) and the annual report of the UNOPS Audit Advisory Committee for 2022.

Annexes to this report, as well as the management response to the OAIS and OAC annual reports (DP/FPA/2023/CRP.6), as well as the terms of reference of the UNFPA Oversight Advisory Committee, are available on the UNFPA website.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on the internal audit and investigation reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS.

#### Documentation:

UNDP: Annual report of the Office of Audit and Investigations on internal audit and investigation activities in 2022 (DP/2023/12)

UNFPA: Report of the Office of Audit and Investigation Services on UNFPA internal audit and investigation activities in 2022 (DP/FPA/2023/6)

Annual report of the UNFPA Oversight Advisory Committee (DP/FPA/2023/6/Add.1)

UNOPS: Annual report of the Internal Audit and Investigations Group on internal audit and investigations activities in 2022 (DP/OPS/2023/3)

# Item 4 Ethics

Under this item, the Executive Board will have before it the reports of the Ethics Offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS.

Pursuant to decision 2008/37 of the Executive Board, the UNDP Ethics Office submits the present report covering its activities in 2022. In accordance with the Secretary-General's bulletin on United Nations system-wide application of ethics: separately administered organs and programmes (ST/SGB/2007/11), the Ethics Panel of the United Nations reviewed the report in February 2023. This is the fifteenth annual report presented by the Ethics Office since its establishment in 2007. The report is accompanied by a management response.

The Report of the Ethics Office 2022 is submitted to the Executive Board pursuant to paragraph 9 of Executive Board decision 2010/17: Reports of the Ethics Offices of UNDP, UNFPA, and UNOPS. In accordance with the Secretary-General's bulletin entitled United Nations system-wide application of ethics: separately administered organs and programmes (ST/SGB/2007/11/Amend.1), the report was reviewed by the Ethics Panel of the United Nations in February 2022 and presented to the UNFPA Executive Director.

The report summarizes the activities of the UNFPA Ethics Office during 2022 and describes trends in the mandated areas of its work. It also provides recommendations to management to further strengthen the organizational culture of integrity and compliance. A management response to the report (DP/FPA/2023/CRP.3) is available on the UNFPA website.

Pursuant to Executive Board decision 2010/17, the Director, Ethics Office of UNOPS, submits to the Board the report on the activities of the Ethics Office (formerly the Ethics and Compliance Office) during 2022. This report has been reviewed by the Ethics Panel of the United Nations, in accordance with section 5.4 of the Secretary-General's bulletin on United Nations system-wide application of ethics: separately administered organs and programmes (ST/SGB/2007/11), as amended. The report is accompanied by a management response.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on the reports of the ethics offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS.

#### Documentation:

Activities of the UNDP Ethics Office in 2022 (DP/2023/13)

UNFPA: Report of the Ethics Office 2022 (DP/FPA/2023/3)

Activities of the UNOPS Ethics Office in 2022 (DP/OPS/2023/4)

# Item 5 Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment

Under this item, UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, in line with decision 2022/2, will provide an update on how each organization is improving its organizational culture to address all forms of sexual harassment, and its actions to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment in its policies, procedures, operations, and through improvement of organizational culture at headquarters, regional and country levels.

The Executive Board may wish to adopt a decision on the joint update on protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment.

# **UNDP** segment

# Item 6 Annual report of the Administrator

The Administrator presents his report on UNDP results for 2022 and highlights from the first year of the Strategic Plan, 2022-2025. It shows UNDP as both prepared for the current moment and successful in meeting complex demands across its six signature solutions. UNDP is delivering at record levels because it is trusted as a partner to be both fair and expert in what it does. It is attuned to local needs and

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equipped to operate at scale, always in line with core values such as equity and inclusion. Current crises have cast a long shadow. But the promise of development remains, as does the centrality of a multilateral response in fulfilling it. In practice and principle, as affirmed by its partners and its programme results, UNDP keeps that commitment.

In line with General Assembly resolutions 59/267 and 62/246, the UNDP report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) provides a synopsis of UNDP management responses to the recommendations contained in the reports issued by the JIU in 2021, as well as the implementation status of relevant JIU recommendations issued in 2021 and 2020.

The statistical annex contains detailed financial information on the annual stock of revenue and expenses for UNDP country programme activities from all sources of regular resources (core) and other resources (non-core) funding.

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

#### Documentation:

Report of the Administrator on results for 2022 and progress on the Strategic Plan, 2022-2025 (DP/2023/14)

Report of UNDP on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2022 (DP/2023/14/Add.1)

Statistical annex (DP/2023/14/Add.2)

# Item 7 Gender equality at UNDP

Under this item, UNDP presents highlights in implementing the first year of its gender equality strategy, 2022-2025, where there was rapid progress despite a moment of crisis and backlash. The strategy is shaping an organization prepared to drive results on gender equality globally. First steps have triggered new ways of working through more aware and committed leadership and concrete action plans in 85 country offices. Engagement with diverse partners is flourishing, including feminist and women's movements in 108 country offices.

In line with the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2022-2025, the gender equality strategy has begun ushering in structural shifts in development that are fundamental to achieving gender equality at scale. UNDP has put gender equality at the heart of 100 climate action plans and 15 integrated national financing frameworks. It is guiding expanded efforts to close gaps in social protection and care systems, including through the innovative use of digital technology. More than 88,000 civil servants learned to develop gender-responsive public policies during the year. Programmes also continued to respond to pressing immediate needs, delivering essential services to nearly 72 million women and bolstering lifesaving responses to gender-based violence in 96 countries.

The Board may wish to take note of the report.

#### Documentation:

Annual report on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy, 2022-2025 (DP/2023/15)

## Item 8 Evaluation

The Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) of UNDP will present its annual report on evaluation for 2022, as well as the evaluation of UNDP support to social protection and the evaluation of UNDP support to access to justice.

The annual report on evaluation presents the status of evaluations undertaken in 2022 by UNDP, the United Nations Capital Development Fund and the United Nations Volunteers programme. The report synthesizes key findings on the work of UNDP and lessons learned from evaluations and the *Reflections* series. The report documents UNDP efforts in strengthening decentralized evaluations and highlights considerable improvement in completion rates compared to previous years, while quality has remained mixed. It reflects the investments made by IEO in innovative practices and tools, including artificial intelligence, to manage knowledge and extract lessons. The leadership and early contributions of UNDP to evaluative syntheses of achievements against the Sustainable Development Goals are highlighted. The report is accompanied by a management response.

The evaluation of UNDP support to social protection assesses the relevance, coherence, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of UNDP support to social protection over the period 2016-2022. It illustrates UNDP support to key social protection-related areas such as cash transfers, health and care services, social insurance and labour- market support including for the informal sector, as well as shock-responsive social protection. The evaluation emphasizes that workable linkages between social protection and economic empowerment, health and environmental objectives are critical for strengthening UNDP contribution. The report includes seven recommendations to this end. The report is accompanied by a management response.

The evaluation of UNDP support to access to justice assesses the relevance, coherence, effectiveness and sustainability of UNDP support to access to justice. It illustrates the UNDP contribution to enhancing the ability of people to seek and obtain justice, with a focus on individuals most at risk of being left behind. The evaluation identifies opportunities to strengthen the UNDP approach, particularly regarding justice institutions' development and engagement with alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. The report includes seven recommendations to this end. The report is accompanied by a management response.

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

Documentation:

Annual report on evaluation, 2022 (DP/2023/16)

Evaluation of UNDP support to social protection (DP/2023/17)

Management response to the evaluation of UNDP support to social protection (DP/2023/18)

Evaluation of UNDP support to access to justice (DP/2023/19)

Management response to the evaluation of UNDP support to access to justice (DP/2023/20)

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# Item 9 UNDP 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 Namibia, Rwanda, and Sierra Leone; and (b) review and approve, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/7, the country programme document for Chile.

Documentation:

Extensions of country programmes (DP/2023/21)

Country programme document for Chile (DP/DCP/CHL/6)

# Item 10 United Nations Capital Development Fund

Under this item, the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) presents the annual review of results achieved by UNCDF in 2022. It examines progress made in achieving the three outcome areas of the strategic framework, 2018-2021: (a) inclusive, diversified, green economic transformation accelerated; (b) increased flows of public and private finance; and (c) strengthened market systems and enhanced public and private financing mechanisms. Analysis of UNCDF institutional effectiveness and a summary of key evaluation findings are also presented.

The Board may wish to adopt a decision, elements of which are contained in the report.

Documentation:

Report on results achieved by UNCDF in 2022 (DP/2023/22)

# Item 11 United Nations Volunteers

Pursuant to Executive Board decision 2018/8, the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme submits the present report covering its performance in 2022, the first year of its new Strategic Framework, 2022-2025, and the contribution of UNV to the emergency response efforts of United Nations system around the world.

The Board may wish to adopt a decision, elements of which are contained in the report.

Documentation:

United Nations Volunteers: annual report of the Administrator (DP/2023/23)

# **UNFPA** segment

### Item 12

# Annual report of the Executive Director

Under this item, the Executive Board will consider the report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2022-2025. It analyses the progress made in achieving the results of the UNFPA strategic plan, 2022-2025, during the first year of its implementation. It should be read in conjunction with the statistical and financial review, 2022 (DP/FPA/2023/4 (Part I)/Add.1), which provides details of UNFPA expenditures. Also available is the UNFPA report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) in 2022 (DP/FPA/2023/4 (Part II).

In 2022, UNFPA generated momentum to accelerate the achievement of the three transformative results of its strategic plan and to scale up the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. The report also takes stock of the challenges encountered and the lessons learned. The annexes to the report, available on the UNFPA Executive Board website, provide detailed analyses and information on the progress achieved.

The UNFPA Executive Director will transmit for the consideration of the members of Executive Board her comments on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) entitled "Review of Management and Administration in the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)" (JIU/REP/2023/1). The JIU review is one of a series of similar reviews of United Nations system organizations and has been conducted as part of the JIU programme of work for 2022. Both the review and the Executive Director's comments on the review are available to members of the Executive Board on the UNFPA website.

The Board may wish to adopt a decision on the annual report of the Executive Director.

#### Documentation:

Implementation of the UNFPA strategic plan, 2022-2025: Report of the Executive Director [DP/FPA/2023/4 (Part I)]

Statistical and financial review, 2022 [DP/FPA/2023/4 (Part I, Add.1)]

Report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2022 [DP/FPA/2023/4 (Part II)]

Report of the Joint Inspection Unit: Review of management and administration in the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) (JIU/REP/2023/1)

UNFPA response to the Report of the Joint Inspection Unit: Review of management and administration in the United Nations Population Fund (DP/FPA/2023/CRP.4)

#### Item 13 Evaluation

In accordance with the revised evaluation policy of UNFPA (DP/FPA/2019/1) and relevant Executive Board decisions, the annual report on the evaluation function for 2022 provides information on the performance of the evaluation function at centralized and decentralized levels, details the contribution of UNFPA to coherence among evaluation functions across the United Nations, as well as national evaluation capacity development. It also presents the 2023 programme of work and budget for the Evaluation Office.

In addition, the Board will review and take note of the Evaluation of UNFPA support to population dynamics and data (DP/FPA/2023/CRP.1) and the Evaluation of UNFPA support to adolescents and youth (DP/FPA/2023/CRP.2).

The UNFPA management commentaries to the annual report on the evaluation function (DP/FPA/2023/CRP.5) and the management responses to the evaluation on population dynamics and data (DP/FPA/2023/CRP.7) and to the evaluation on adolescents and youth (DP/FPA/2023/CRP.8) are available on the UNFPA website.

The Board may wish to adopt a decision on the annual report on the evaluation function.

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#### Documentation:

Annual report on the evaluation function, 2022: Report of the Director, Evaluation Office (DP/FPA/2023/5)

# Item 14

## Country programmes and related matters

The Executive Board will be asked to take note of the first one-year extension of the country programme for Namibia and approve, in accordance with decision 2014/7, the extension of the country programme for Libya.

#### Documentation:

Country programme extension document (DP/FPA/2023/7)

# **UNOPS** segment

#### Item 15

# **United Nations Office for Project Services**

Under this item, the UNOPS Executive Director will present his vision, priorities and deliverables to the Executive Board. The Board will consider the early midterm review+ of the UNOPS strategic plan, 2022-2025, including the annual report of the Executive Director for 2022, and the UNOPS strategic plan, 2022-2025, restated. Also tabled will be the comprehensive response plan in response to the recommendations of the two independent third-party reviews on UNOPS; UNOPS distribution to paying entities, including those of the United Nations system, of excess reserves accumulated after 31 December 2021; and the tndependent review of the UNOPS ethics function to ensure its independence and impartiality.

The Board may wish to adopt a decision on the early midterm review+ of the UNOPS strategic plan, 2022-2025, including the annual report of the Executive Director for 2022, and the UNOPS strategic plan, 2022-2025, restated, the elements of which are contained in the reports.

The Board may wish to adopt a decision on the comprehensive response plan in response to the recommendations of the two independent third-party reviews of UNOPS.

The Board may wish to adopt a decision on UNOPS distribution to paying entities, including those of the United Nations system, of excess reserves accumulated after 31 December 2021.

In its decision its annual 2022/16, the Executive Board requested an independent review of the ethics function to ensure the independence and impartiality of its work. This item serves to provide an outline of the report by the panel, its findings and recommendations to further strengthen the independence of the UNOPS Ethics Office and the Ethics Office's and management's response to the report.

#### Documentation:

Early midterm review of the UNOPS strategic plan, 2022-2025, including the annual report of the Executive Director for 2022 (DP/OPS/2023/5)

UNOPS strategic plan, 2022-2025, restated (DP/OPS/2023/6)

## Item 16 Other matters

# TENTATIVE WORKPLAN EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS ANNUAL SESSION 2023

(5 to 9 June 2023, New York)

Day/Date	Time	Item	Subject
Monday,	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS
5 June			<ul> <li>Adoption of the agenda and workplan for the session</li> <li>Adoption of the report of the first regular session 2023</li> </ul>
			JOINT SEGMENT
		3	INTERNAL AUDIT AND INVESTIGATION
			<ul> <li>Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and investigation activities in 2022, and management responses</li> </ul>
		4	ETHICS
		_	Reports of the Ethics Offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on activities for 2022, and management responses
	3 – 6 p.m.	5	PROTECTION AGAINST SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT
		2	UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION EFFORTS ON THE REPOSITIONING OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM
Tuesday,	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		UNDP SEGMENT
6 June		6	INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE UNDP ADMINISTRATOR AND ANNUAL REPORT
			Report of the Administrator on results for 2022 and progress on the Strategic Plan, 2022-2025
			UNDP report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2022     Statistical annex
	3 – 6 p.m.	6	INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE UNDP ADMINISTRATOR (cont.)
Wednesday,	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		UNDP SEGMENT (cont.)
7 June		9	UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS
			<ul> <li>Presentation and approval of country programme documents</li> <li>Extensions of country programmes</li> </ul>
		10	UNITED NATIONS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND  • Report on results achieved by UNCDF in 2022
		11	UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS
			United Nations Volunteers: annual report of the Administrator
	3 – 6 p.m.	7	GENDER EQUALITY AT UNDP
			<ul> <li>Annual report on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy, 2022-2025</li> </ul>
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		8	<ul> <li>EVALUATION</li> <li>Annual report on evaluation, 2022, and management commentaries</li> <li>Evaluation of UNDP support to social protection, and management response</li> <li>Evaluation of UNDP support to access to justice, and management response</li> </ul>
Thursday,	10 a.m 1 p.m.		UNFPA SEGMENT
8 June		12	<ul> <li>STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND ANNUAL REPORT</li> <li>Progress on the implementation of the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2022-2025</li> <li>Report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2022</li> <li>UNFPA response to the Joint Inspection Unit review of management and administration in the United Nations Population Fund</li> <li>Statistical and financial review, 2022</li> </ul>
	3 – 6 p.m.	13	<ul> <li>EVALUATION</li> <li>Annual report on the UNFPA evaluation function 2022, and management commentaries</li> <li>Evaluation of UNFPA support to population dynamics and data, and management response</li> <li>Evaluation of UNFPA support to adolescents and youth, and management response</li> </ul>
		14	UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS  • Presentation and approval of country programme documents  • Extensions of country programmes
Friday,	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		UNOPS SEGMENT
9 June		15	STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
			<ul> <li>UNOPS Executive Director's vision, priorities and deliverables</li> <li>Early midterm review of the UNOPS Strategic Plan, 2022-2025, including the annual report of the Executive Director for 2022</li> <li>UNOPS Strategic Plan, 2022-2025, restated</li> <li>Comprehensive response plan in response to the recommendations of the two independent third-party reviews on UNOPS</li> <li>UNOPS distribution to paying entities, including those of the United Nations system, of excess reserves accumulated after 31 December 2021</li> <li>Independent review of the UNOPS ethics function to ensure its independence and impartiality</li> </ul>
	3 – 6 p.m.	16	OTHER MATTERS  • Adoption of decisions
		1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS  • Adoption of the tentative workplan for the second regular session 2023 • Closing of the session