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United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

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Item 6 (d) of the provisional agenda*

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 of the country programmes for Guinea-Bissau and Mali and the six-month extension of the country programme for Rwanda approved by the Executive Director.

The note further presents the reasons for the proposed second one-year extension for the Syrian Arab Republic and a second extension for Egypt, for six months, which the Executive Board is requested to approve.

Draft decision

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the one-year extensions of the country programmes for Guinea-Bissau and Mali and the six-month extension of the country programme for Rwanda approved by the Executive Director, as indicated in table 1;

2. *Approves* the one-year extension for the Syrian Arab Republic and the second extension for Egypt, for six months, as presented in table 2.

* E/ICEF/2012/15.



Table 1

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>
Guinea-Bissau	2008-2012	2013	The one-year extension of the country programme will allow the Government sufficient time to review the 2013-2017 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), which will form the basis of the new country programme.
Mali	2008-2012	2013	The one-year extension will allow sufficient time for the revision of the new UNDAF and development of a new country programme in the context of the new priorities.
Rwanda	2008-2012	2013 (1 January-30 June) six months	The six-month extension until 30 June 2013 will enable UNICEF and other United Nations agencies to align the new country programme to the country's national planning and budget cycle.

Table 2

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

<i>Country</i>	<i>Original programme period</i>	<i>Year proposed for extension</i>	<i>Reason for extension</i>
Egypt	2007-2012	2013 (1 January-30 June) second consecutive extension	The United Nations country team and the Government of Egypt have agreed to extend the country programmes for an additional six months, until 30 June 2013. The extension will allow the United Nations agencies, including UNICEF, to continue supporting the Government of Egypt during the transition period while allowing the newly elected Government to review the new programmes. These will begin on 1 July 2013.
Syrian Arab Republic	2007-2012	2013 second consecutive one-year extension	The one-year extension of the country programme will provide sufficient time for finalization of a national development plan that will form the basis for the new UNICEF country programme.