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United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

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Agenda item 12

Draft decision submitted to the Executive Board

Update on the implementation of the recommendations made in the independent panel review of the UNICEF response to protection from sexual exploitation and abuse; the Morgan Lewis report on sexual harassment investigations conducted by the UNICEF Office of Internal Audit and Investigations; and the report of the Independent Task Force on Workplace Gender-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Harassment and Abuse of Authority

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the report on the update on the implementation of the recommendations made in the independent panel review of the UNICEF response to protection from sexual exploitation and abuse; the Morgan Lewis report on sexual harassment investigations conducted by the UNICEF Office of Internal Audit and Investigations; and the report of the Independent Task Force on Workplace Gender-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Harassment and Abuse of Authority ([E/ICEF/2020/24](#));

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the update provided by UNICEF on the implementation of the recommendations made in the independent panel review of the UNICEF response to protection from sexual exploitation and abuse; the Morgan Lewis report on sexual harassment investigations conducted by the UNICEF Office of Internal Audit and Investigations; and the report of the Independent Task Force on Workplace Gender-Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Harassment and Abuse of Authority, and notes with appreciation the increasing inter-agency cooperation;

3. *Notes* progress made and the need for continued effort and focus on preventing and taking immediate action on tackling sexual exploitation, abuse and sexual harassment, including ensuring that policies and procedures deliver impact and are resourced sufficiently, and that proposed actions are implemented at the country, regional and global levels;



4. *Requests* UNICEF to continue to take action to ensure a victim-centred, system-wide and coherent approach at all levels to prevent and tackle sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, while leveraging its mandate, and to address the increased risk of sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment during the COVID-19 response and recovery;

5. *Also requests* UNICEF to continue to provide updates to the Executive Board on how UNICEF is preventing and responding to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment in its policies, procedures and operations at all levels, taking into account the recommendations from the independent review;

6. *Encourages* UNICEF to give the same level of consideration to all the issues raised in the 2019 report of the Independent Task Force and requests UNICEF to highlight in particular its actions taken in implementing the Independent Task Force's recommendations related to abuse of authority in its next update on this matter at the annual session of 2021;

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the establishment of an Internal Task Team on Anti-Racism and Discrimination and requests UNICEF to report to the Executive Board at the annual session of 2021 on the work of this task team and on UNICEF actions to prevent and respond to all forms of discrimination, including racism and racial discrimination, in its policies, procedures and programmes.
