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Draft country programme document**

Lebanon

Summary

The draft country programme document for Lebanon is presented to the Executive Board for discussion and approval. The Board is requested to approve the aggregate indicative budget of \$3,750,000 from regular resources, subject to the availability of funds, and \$7,500,000 in other resources, subject to the availability of specific-purpose contributions, for 2010-2014.

* E/ICEF/2009/8.

** In accordance with Executive Board decision 2006/19, the present document will be revised and posted on the UNICEF website, along with the results matrix, no later than six weeks after discussion of the CPD at the annual session of the Executive Board. The revised CPD will then be presented to the Executive Board for approval at the second regular session of 2009.



*Basic data†**(2007, unless otherwise stated)*

Child population (millions, under 18 years)	1.4
U5MR (per 1,000 live births)	29
Underweight (% , moderate and severe, 2004)	4
Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births, 2005)	150 ^a
Primary school enrolment/attendance (% , net, male/female, 2006)	82/82
Survival rate to last primary grade (% , 2005)	87
Use of improved drinking water sources (% , 2006)	100
Use of improved sanitation facilities (% , 2006)	
Adult HIV prevalence rate (%)	0.1
Child labour (% , children 5-14 years old, 2000)	7
GNI per capita (US\$)	5 770
One-year-olds immunized with DPT3 (%)	74
One-year-olds immunized with measles vaccines (%)	53

† More comprehensive country data on children and women are available at <http://www.unicef.org>.

^a This 2005 estimate, developed by WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA and The World Bank, is adjusted for underreporting and misclassification of maternal deaths. For more information, see <http://www.childinfo.org/areas/maternalmortality/>.

Summary of the situation of children and women

1. Lebanon's second report on the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals and the Common Country Assessment (CCA) provides the most recent updates on progress towards the Goals. The need for further efforts to strengthen national capacities in data collection, dissemination and analysis is recognized by the Lebanese Government as a priority and is reflected in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).

2. **Goal 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.** Although poverty incidence is relatively low (with 29 per cent of Lebanese living below the upper poverty line of \$4 per capita/day, including 8 per cent under the lower poverty line of \$2.4 per capita/day) regional disparities persist. According to the United Nations assessment, there is insufficient information to judge whether Lebanon is on track for achieving this goal.

3. **Goal 2. Achieve universal primary education.** High drop-out and repetition rates in public schools, reaching 22 per cent and 48 per cent, respectively, low quality of education and its high cost, not commensurate with learning achievements, are the main challenges faced by the national education system. According to the United Nations assessment, Lebanon is very likely to achieve this goal.

4. **Goal 3. Promote gender equality and empower women.** Gender parity in education has yet to be translated into more active participation of women in social life. The rates of economic participation for females (22 per cent) are much lower than for males (73 per cent). Women's representation in the political arena and in

decision-making roles in public governance remains limited. According to the United Nations assessment, Lebanon is very likely to achieve this goal.

5. **Goal 4. Reduce child mortality.** In the least developed regions, child mortality is lagging at least two times behind the national average. Only about half of the children get vaccination in medical facilities supervised by the Ministry of Public Health, and there is no information on vaccination coverage by the private sector. As a result, measles remain an important cause of child morbidity, with Lebanon having the highest confirmed measles caseload (per 100,000 people) in the region.¹ According to the United Nations assessment, Lebanon could achieve this goal if extra efforts and changes are introduced.

6. **Goal 5. Improve maternal health.** Although maternal health services are generally accessible to more than 80 per cent of women, the national Millennium Development Goals progress analysis suggests that maternal care tends to be medicalized and dominated by the private sector, with little attention for the prevention of illnesses. Overall, existing services are not quite commensurate with the status of maternal mortality. According to the United Nations assessment, Lebanon is very likely to achieve this goal.

7. **Goal 6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.** At the end of 2008, the number of cases reported by the Ministry of Public Health exceeded 1,100, with the World Health Organization (WHO) estimating the number to be even 2.5 times higher. In 70 per cent of cases, the transmission of infection occurred through sexual relations. Voluntary counselling and testing outlets are recent initiatives. According to the United Nations assessment, there is insufficient information to judge whether Lebanon is on track for achieving this goal.

8. **Goal 7. Ensure environmental sustainability.** Water availability is perceived as a critical issue. Levels of water pollution are high, and losses in water supply systems reach up to 50 per cent of the water distributed through public networks. According to the United Nations assessment, there is insufficient information to judge whether Lebanon is on track for achieving this goal.

9. **Child protection** (addressed in Section VI of the Millennium Declaration). In Lebanon, child protection issues include the high numbers of children in residential care facilities, the persistent child labour phenomenon, the insufficient application of juvenile justice standards to children in conflict with the law, and the hidden incidences of child abuse.

10. Adherence to the Millennium Declaration, Section V (genuine participation by all citizens, including children and young people) is also a challenge. The concepts of tolerance, coexistence and peaceful settlement of conflicting viewpoints are being questioned by the young generations who faced the latest round of armed clashes in Spring 2008, which reminded the Lebanese of the prolonged civil war of the 1980s.

11. Most of the above-mentioned issues were highlighted in the observations by the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the third periodic report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in Lebanon.² The State Party was urged to undertake a number of actions: (a) strengthen data collection and develop a comprehensive and time-bound national development

¹ WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office (EMRO), *Measles Bulletin*, October 2007.

² Reviewed by the Committee in January 2006.

strategy and social programmes aiming at reducing poverty and strengthening community development; (b) increase budgetary allocation for vulnerable children at the local level to address existing disparities; (c) secure equal access to quality primary health services for mothers and children in all areas; (d) guarantee free and quality primary education and enrolment for all children; (e) develop standards for services provided by non-governmental organizations (NGOs); (f) eliminate discrimination against children belonging to vulnerable groups, such as children with disabilities, foreign children, refugee and asylum-seeking children, Palestinian children, children living in poverty, children in conflict with the law and children living in rural areas; (g) review national legislation to bring it in line with the CRC norms (the minimum age for marriage, for criminal responsibility, the right to a nationality); (h) secure the right to be protected against violence and abuse; (i) avoid separation of children from their family environment; and (j) fully implement juvenile justice standards and secure the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of Palestinian refugee children. Lebanon has yet to ratify the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, which the country signed in 2002.

Key results and lessons learned from previous cooperation

12. For the last four years, the prevailing insecurity due to the political situation in Lebanon has prevented United Nations agencies from completing the UNDAF and developing five-year country programme documents (CPDs). Guided by the joint United Nations Transitional Recovery Strategy in 2007-2008, UNICEF operated on the basis of one-year CPDs in 2007 and 2008. Another bridging CPD approved for 2009 provided a transition period to a new type of programmatic presence that is commensurate with Lebanon's middle-income country status and gives priority to upstream work at the policy level.

Key results achieved

13. Most of the results achieved throughout 2006-2008 stem from the emergency and post-crisis response. However, every effort was made to link the recovery interventions with longer-term policy reform priorities in public health, water and sanitation, education and protection, and emergency funds were used, to the extent possible, to develop elements of future policy frameworks and mechanisms. Some highlights of the results of collaboration among UNICEF and its governmental and non-governmental partners are provided below:

(a) Enhanced immunization coverage rates in underserved districts. Combined diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus vaccine and measles-containing vaccine immunizations through the public health care system have exceeded 70 per cent coverage in 17 out of Lebanon's 27 Qazas (districts). The 'Reach Every District' approach piloted so far in 5 Qazas fostered a new partnership between the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Interior and the municipalities, whereby local authorities were mobilized to reach out to every child.

(b) Modelling decentralized service delivery in hard-to-reach areas. Brokering the alliance of the Ministry of Public Health, NGOs and local municipalities for preventive health care and community outreach schemes served to bring primary health care services and education for health promotion to about

60,000 people in Bent Jbeil, Marjeyoun, Hasbayeh, Akkar and Beqaa through the network of 120 community health workers.

(c) Rehabilitation of water supply systems. Up to 460,000 people affected by the 2006 conflict have regained access to safe drinking water in South Lebanon and other parts of the country through the installation of 7 major water reservoirs (six of 200m³ capacity and one of 1,000m³), 22 water storage tanks with chlorination units, 40 km of pipes, electrical generators for 6 pumping stations, and 10 mobile water treatment units. In the Palestinian Nahr El Bared camp, destroyed after the hostilities in summer 2007, UNICEF has maintained stable water supply for approximately 20,000 people. As part of the camp's reconstruction plan, UNICEF is in charge of connecting 300 housing units to a permanent water supply network for about 15,000 beneficiaries. Parallel to the emergency effort, UNICEF raised the water quality issue with national water authorities and is coordinating with the World Bank its advocacy for a national policy in this respect.

(d) Testing integrated packages of assistance to local communities. Basic rehabilitation of public schools and their water and sanitation facilities, hygiene education, routine medical screening and child-centred classroom management were the elements of the assistance delivered to 28 schools selected among those particularly damaged during the 2006 and 2007 emergencies. In addition to directly benefiting 3,800 students and their families, this cooperation experience between the Ministry of Education, UNICEF and the NGO International Medical Corps equipped all the partners with valuable lessons in planning multi-sectoral packages of assistance at the community level.

(e) Brokering public-private sector partnerships. In close coordination with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the 'Adopt-a-School' initiative piloted in some 20 locations was further strengthened by attracting new donors and partners from the private sector. Converting schools into community development centres in the most impoverished areas in Hermel, Tripoli, Akkar and the Beqaa Valley helped addressing adult illiteracy, the high drop-out rates and poor hygiene practices in schools and households. Through 'Adopt-a-School' as an entry point, the private sector has been increasingly involved in local development issues.

(f) Action-based advocacy for juvenile justice. As a continuation of the successful lobbying of UNICEF for the adoption of the Law 422 in 2002, introducing the elements of the juvenile justice system in the country, UNICEF joined efforts with the Ministry of Justice in building mechanisms to secure the operationalization of the juvenile justice standards and to expand the application of 'community work' as an alternative to detention, increasing the number of cases involving youth from barely 1 per cent in 2002–2005 to about 15 per cent in 2008. UNICEF advocacy is aimed at gradually increasing the share of the Ministry of Justice in funding the scheme in order to substantially expand the piloted approach.

(g) Initiation of an open public debate around the sensitive issue of children in residential care. Based on a UNICEF-supported study of almost 140 facilities, a series of consultations with the Ministries of Social Affairs, Education, Finance and Interiors, professional care givers, religious leaders and the media have been launched to pave the way for a comprehensive reform of Lebanon's residential child care system.

(h) Launching of child protection networks. On the basis of the partnerships established for emergency psycho-social assistance to the displaced populations during the 2006 conflict (25 child-friendly spaces, 7 youth centres, more than 25 NGO partners and several municipalities) with an estimated outreach to some 250,000 children and young people, the local municipalities and the NGOs have been increasingly taking ownership of child protection responsibilities. This aims at the institutionalization of the child protection focal points as regular staff in targeted municipalities.

(i) Launch of an innovative television programme. *Sawtouna* (Our Voice) is a television programme produced by young people for the youth, aired on the main television channel twice a month. The audience coverage has been stable since 2006, with each broadcast reaching no fewer than 300,000 viewers in 2008. Based on viewership data, it is estimated that at least 35 per cent of the Lebanese youth are familiar with *Sawtouna*.

Lessons learned

14. In an attempt to address the issue of disparities, international donors have been increasingly engaged in decentralized programming. However, it was not before 2008 that these multiple experiences were brought together under the umbrella of the European Union-led Consultative Group of donors on decentralization and reviewed in terms of their effectiveness and sustainability. Consequently, the need to shift from a project-based approach to a more comprehensive social policy planning strategy emerged from the experience of the United Nations and other donor agencies, aimed at addressing larger poverty alleviation measures and sector-wide reforms. Expertise in social policy planning and commitment to high-level advocacy, geared to translate pilot successes into systemic normative and budgetary changes, were acknowledged as key inputs to address the needs and issues identified in a middle-income country context.

15. The joint United Nations programming has been taking shape since 2007–2008. The implementation of the National Youth Policy project and the Palestinian Nahr El Bared Palestinian camp reconstruction programme offer two examples of how coherent United Nations action can bring clear benefits. There is a consensus among the members of the United Nations Youth Task Force that joint advocacy and continuous pressure for a more definite youth agenda has helped gain the commitment of key national stakeholders in the Cabinet of Ministers and the Ministry of Youth and Sports. The Palestinian Nahr El Bared reconstruction project, which has addressed a complex set of infrastructural needs, is an example of the economy of scale, the division of responsibilities guided by technical considerations and availability of corresponding expertise in individual agencies. The project also highlights the particular benefits of much closer interaction among the United Nations agencies, the United Nations Resident Coordinator (UNRC) and United Nations Relief and Work Agency (UNRWA) in all technical and coordination matters.

16. The provision of integrated packages of key interventions, incorporating services for health, water and sanitation, education and protection has been tested since 2006, in collaboration with international and national NGOs, line ministries and municipalities. It has proved to be an effective strategy for community outreach. Using schools as educational entry points to health and water, sanitation and

hygiene (WASH) issues has helped mobilize parents, community leaders, local service providers and municipal administrations around challenges affecting the well-being of children. However, as confirmed during midyear and annual programme reviews in 2007-2008, managing integrated projects requires a certain realignment of UNICEF staffing capacity, such as assigning the responsibility for a local project modelling to a single manager rather than splitting this responsibility across sectoral units.

17. The UNICEF comprehensive audit in 2008, the annual reviews in 2007-2008 and the individual project reviews confirmed the weakness of the monitoring and evaluation function throughout the entire programme cycle. The strategy of relying on the capacity of implementing partners in monitoring and evaluation proved to be ineffective, calling for a consolidation of the monitoring and evaluation tasks within UNICEF. Regularization of the monitoring and evaluation function will also secure appropriate UNICEF inputs to the recently established government monitoring systems that track international assistance flows (such as the Development Assistance Database at the Prime Minister's Office).

The country programme 2010-2014

Summary budget table

<i>Programme</i>	<i>(In thousands of United States dollars)</i>		
	<i>Regular resources</i>	<i>Other resources</i>	<i>Total</i>
Social policy	1 750	750	2 500
Child protection	625	2 680	3 305
Life skills for adolescence	625	2 400	3 025
Cross-sectoral costs	750	1 670	2 420
Total	3 750	7 500	11 250

Preparation process

18. The country programme for 2002-2006 has been extended three times (for 2007, 2008 and 2009, respectively), in response to the country's complex political developments and a series of emergencies. The current CPD proposal has benefited from the findings of the Common Country Assessment conducted in 2007, and is developed in line with the UNDAF 2010-2014 expected outcomes. The CPD draws upon the results of internal programme performance reviews in 2007-2008 (including lessons learnt during the emergency in 2006), technical discussions with governmental and NGO experts, and formal consultations with key government counterparts and United Nations agencies in early 2009. The concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on Lebanon's periodic reports (in 2006 and 2008) provided important guidance in reaching a consensus on refining the country programme priorities.

Goals, key results and strategies

19. Within the overall commitment to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the goal of the country programme of cooperation between UNICEF and the Government of Lebanon is to place children and adolescents at the centre of the national social policy agenda and to include most disadvantaged and excluded populations in a social protective environment. More equitable development is fundamental for preventing the risk of conflicts rooted in inequality and for sustaining any previously achieved results for children.

20. The attainment of this goal implies the incorporation of a children's rights-based approach, grounded in the norms of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and guided by the Millennium Development Goals, in the national social policy agenda at all levels. The planned key results of the cooperation programme correspond to the problem areas highlighted by the Common Country Assessment: (a) insufficient data collection and analysis capacity; (b) policy gaps in key sectors; (c) absence of regular mechanisms to ensure adherence to human rights frameworks and standards; and (d) limited opportunities for young people to develop to their full potential and participate in social life. The suggested key results are as follows:

(a) Updated and disaggregated data and in-depth analysis of the situation of children and adolescents is available to guide decision-making and national policy formulation in the areas of health care, education and HIV/AIDS.

(b) High-quality analysis of social policies, national legislation and budgetary allocations for the achievement of women's and children's rights is produced and used for high-level advocacy for social policy and resource allocation improvements.

(c) Alternatives for judicial and administrative improvements in the area of child protection and juvenile justice are analysed and discussed, with the view of enhancing a protective environment for all children living in Lebanon.

(d) National policies and systems for creating more space for adolescent participation and development of their life skills are discussed, with the view of enhancing the national role and capacity of adolescents in preventing conflict and violence and promoting a culture of tolerance and peace.

21. The general strategy of the country programme of cooperation uses evidence to develop and further enhance national social development policies, implementation mechanisms, norms and standards in health, water and sanitation, education and protection. Evidence obtained from research and analysis will be enriched by limited modelling of integrated local development approaches, as part of joint UNDAF initiatives in targeted areas. These two mutually reinforcing streams of knowledge will feed into nationwide policy reforms, to ultimately materialize as appropriate budgetary and institutional shifts.

22. In Lebanon's complicated political and security environment, maintaining a degree of disaster risk management and humanitarian response capacity is critical. All programmes will have a built-in contingency component, aiming to guarantee minimal assistance standards. Preparedness for any sudden deterioration of the situation will include stand-by agreements with key field outreach actors (the Lebanese Red Cross and major national NGOs); identification of operational hubs; warehousing and distribution capacities in high-risk areas for rapid interventions;

completion of administrative preparations for organizational surge-capacity mobilization; and adherence to minimum operating security standards to ensure the security of UNICEF staff and assets.

23. Sound communication strategy, including both communication for development and advocacy, will be vital to achieving significant results for children over the next five years. It will continue to cultivate long-term relationships with Lebanon's private sector, paving the way for sustainable partnerships.

Relationship to national priorities and the UNDAF

24. The proposed country programme of cooperation reflects the priorities of the national Social Action Plan, 'Toward Strengthening Social Safety Nets and Access to Basic Social Services', including poverty reduction, increased efficiency in social spending and the need to elaborate a comprehensive medium- and long-term social development agenda, supported by detailed action plans and appropriate budgeting. It is aligned with the outcomes of the UNDAF 2010-2014, formulated in response to major national concerns, such as regional disparities, social exclusion, weak governance and environmental degradation. Strengthening the human rights culture has been acknowledged as a fundamental requirement to frame the country's socio-economic reform agenda. The CCA and UNDAF underline the need for universal recognition of the human rights of the Lebanese and Palestinian populations alike.

Relationship to international priorities

25. The goals of the proposed country programme components are in line with the standards and norms introduced by the CRC and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). They are aligned with the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the targets of the Millennium Declaration and *A World Fit for Children* and the recommendations of Committee on the Rights of the Child and of the *United Nations Study on Violence against Children*. The proposed country programme aligns with the UNICEF medium-term strategic plan for 2006-2011, placing particular emphasis on focus area 4 (child protection from violence, exploitation and abuse) and focus area 5 (policy, advocacy and partnerships for children's rights).

Programme components

26. The **social policy** programme component is designed to take into consideration the specific situation of Lebanon as a middle-income country where setting up a consensual agenda for action and prioritizing the use of available resources is key. To ensure that the national socio-economic development agenda acquires an explicit child-rights dimension, the awareness and understanding of the Government and other stakeholders of their obligations under the international human rights conventions need to be considerably strengthened while their skills to plan, formulate and monitor child-focused social policies at the national and local levels need to be improved. To this end, the programme component will focus on the provision of high-quality technical advice in thematic policy analyses in health, education, water and sanitation, social protection and other areas directly affecting the well-being of children and women, including public expenditure reviews of resource allocation for children.

27. Generating gender-disaggregated statistical data and qualitative analysis for evidence-based policymaking will form the thrust of the social policy programme component. Greater utilization of the results from the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) will be achieved by opening the DevInfo database for public use by the Central Administration for Statistics. Regularly updated analysis of the situation of children and women (including those of Palestinian origin) and advocacy with the Government, parliamentarians, civil society organizations, community leaders, young people and children will remain critical strategies. Lebanon's renowned academic community will be increasingly tapped to support UNICEF work. Private-sector alliances will be further fostered as an important funding channel and as a platform to promote a culture of social responsibility.

28. The contribution of UNICEF to the national reform agenda and to policy development will be backed by some degree of participation in initiatives to support the capacity of local development actors, implemented jointly with UNDAF partners, the World Bank and the European Union. Transferring the experience of integrated packages of UNICEF-supported interventions into planning, budgeting and operational guidelines for decentralized development will be another important result of the social policy programme component.

29. The **child protection** programme component will focus on reinvigorating the CRC and the CEDAW as result-oriented platforms of action for all children. The situation of the Palestinian children represents an area of particular concern. Revision of national legislation, closure of existing legislative gaps and development of procedural and budgeting mechanisms — to support family-based care, introduce and expand juvenile justice principles, prevent child abuse and exploitation and protect children from violence and involvement in armed conflicts — will serve as building blocks in the creation of a protective environment for all children, irrespective of their nationality. Child protection networks will provide a forum for information exchanges, joint advocacy and coordination among the stakeholders representing the large spectrum of actors from governmental entities, NGOs, academic institutions and the media.

30. The **life skills for adolescence** programme component will be innovative in testing initiatives enabling for a smooth transition of adolescent boys and girls from childhood to adulthood, contributing to preventing conflict and violence and to promoting the culture of tolerance and peace. It will particularly target the underserved areas of the country where developmental opportunities for adolescents and youth are especially limited, including the Palestinian camps. Programmes will be introduced to equip young boys and girls with knowledge and skills to avert the threats to their health (including HIV infection), develop social and cultural tolerance, master techniques in conflict resolution and apply creativity in identifying resources for self-development. Both school-based and out-of-school channels to deliver life skills education to the Lebanese and Palestinian youth will be explored, using the existing infrastructure of social development centres, municipalities, voluntary counselling and testing centres, UNRWA schools and national NGO facilities.

31. **Cross-sectoral costs** will be used to support staff and non-staff costs, including for safety and security, risk management, training and travel, accountability and management efficiency, common services, office equipment, operations, and business continuity arrangements, in case of emergency.

Major partnerships

32. The United Nations agencies and the World Bank, as well as major national and international NGOs, will continue to be key partners of the country programme, as will the Lebanese Ministries of Foreign Affairs; Finance; Social Affairs; Health; Education; Justice; Internal and Municipal Affairs; Water and Energy; and Youth and Sports. In addition to joint UNDAF initiatives, workplans will be closely aligned with UNDP, WHO, UNRWA and the World Bank. UNDAF outcome working groups, European Union-led donor consultative forums on decentralization and water and sanitation, UNRC coordination cells in the North and South Lebanon will be extensively used as already tested collaboration channels. Partnerships will also be expanded with the Higher Council for Childhood, the Council for Development and Reconstruction and the Union of Municipalities. Collaboration with Lebanon's academic institutions will be fostered for the national, as well as the regional socio-economic development agenda of the Middle East and North Africa Regional Office (MENARO) and the 'South-South' exchange of experience and know-how. The business community will be an important target audience of UNICEF advocacy, given the private sector's leading role in many innovative cross-sectoral initiatives.

Monitoring, evaluation and programme management

33. Monitoring and evaluation are key tools for the country programme and the UNDAF. Practices and systems for evidence-based planning, data collection, analysis and dissemination will be strengthened within UNICEF. Internal knowledge management systems will be linked to the DevInfo hosted by the Central Administration for Statistics and the Development Assistance Database at the Prime Minister's Office. A five-year Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (IMEP) and annual IMEPs will identify monitoring and evaluation mechanisms as well as major studies, surveys, evaluations and research products. The monitoring plan will reflect the UNDAF Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.

34. The progress of the cooperation programme will be analysed during the midterm review (MTR) in the second quarter of 2012. The MTR findings, supported by the results of annual reviews and routine monitoring, will inform the UNDAF evaluation, which would take place in 2014. All reviews will be coordinated with national implementing partners under the leadership of the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

35. Each programme component will be directly managed by a respective officer, and closely coordinated with respective line ministries and other non-governmental partners. The Deputy Representative will coordinate programme implementation within the office while the Representative will oversee the country programme implementation, closely liaising with Lebanese governmental and non-governmental partners, donors and international development partners, the United Nations country team, MENARO and UNICEF headquarters. The UNICEF country management team will regularly review the status of programme implementation, based on key results progress updates, budget utilization information, continuous risk assessment and other performance indicators.