



**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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Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Organizational matters

**Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular
session 2019**

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**First regular session 2019
(21 to 25 January 2019)**

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2019/1
Revised UNFPA evaluation policy

The Executive Board

1. *Welcomes* the revised evaluation policy (DP/FPA/2019/1);
2. *Endorses* the 2019 evaluation policy;
3. *Reaffirms* the role played by the evaluation function at UNFPA and underscores the importance of high-quality independent evaluation evidence in supporting the UNFPA strategic plan, 2018-2021 in accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
4. *Requests* that UNFPA and the Evaluation Office always seek out opportunities with other United Nations agencies for joint evaluations of joint programming as well as the common chapter of the strategic plan;
5. *Encourages* UNFPA management to work with the Evaluation Office to continue its efforts to increase the implementation rate of decentralized evaluations and to ensure that management at all levels use evaluation findings as a key source of evidence to make decisions about enhancing programmes, as well as to duly communicate and disseminate such evaluation findings and implementations;
6. *Requests* UNFPA to report to the Executive Board, as part of the annual report on the evaluation function, starting in 2019, on all actions taken at all levels to increase spending on evaluations to a minimum 1.4 per cent and to a maximum 3 per cent, including detail of how funds for evaluation have been ringfenced as foreseen by the policy;
7. *Encourages* UNFPA to report to the Executive Board, as part of the annual report on the evaluation function, in 2020 on how evaluations are generating the specific knowledge and evidence UNFPA needs to deliver on the 2030 Agenda as well as on how such knowledge and evidence are duly communicated and disseminated;
8. *Requests* UNFPA to report, as part of the annual report on the evaluation function, on progress made on implementing management responses of evaluations and resulting changes on policies, programmes and practices.

25 January 2019

2019/2
Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2017

The Executive Board

With regard to UNDP and UNCDF:

1. *Takes note* of the report (DP/2019/7) on the actions taken by UNDP and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and the further actions planned to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the financial period that ended on 31 December 2017;
2. *Notes* the unqualified audit opinions issued by the Board of Auditors for 2017;
3. *Notes* progress made by UNDP and UNCDF in addressing the top seven audit-related priorities in 2016-2017;

4. *Endorses* the suggested, refined top seven audit-related management priorities of UNDP for the biennium 2018-2019;
5. *Recalls* decisions 2018/3 and 2018/13, and underscores the need for UNDP to address issues relating to procurement oversight and fraud mitigation strategies, financial management and sustainability of country offices, programme/project management and evaluation, and partnerships and resource mobilization;
6. *Acknowledges* the findings of the Board of Auditors on the monitoring of risk in country offices, requests UNDP to ensure the capacity is in place to do this effectively, and requests UNDP to report to the Board on the implementation of the updated enterprise risk management policy at its annual session of 2019, as appropriate, and as part of its report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;
7. *Notes* that many of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors are at country level, and requests UNDP to consider more systemic action within their ongoing reviews of businesses process and structure;
8. *Acknowledges* the efforts made by UNDP, and encourages UNDP to continue to improve actions for recovery of funds lost, including those due to fraud;
9. *Supports* the ongoing efforts of UNDP management to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2017 as well as the remaining recommendations from prior years;

With regard to UNFPA:

10. *Takes note* of the report ([DP/FPA/2019/2](#)) on the actions taken by UNFPA and the further measures planned by the organization to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the financial period that ended on 31 December 2017;
11. *Notes* the audit opinion by the Board of Auditors that UNFPA financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of UNFPA as at 31 December 2017 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS);
12. *Also notes* the progress made by UNFPA in addressing prior-year recommendations and support ongoing management efforts in implementing the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2017;
13. *Encourages* UNFPA efforts to continue to improve the maturity of risk management at all levels of the organization (including strengthened approaches to fraud risk, inventory audit and supply chain management), encourages UNFPA to continue to adopt a risk-based approach to audit coverage of implementing partners to mitigate the risk of overcontrol, and requests UNFPA to report to the Board on the implementation, enforcement and resourcing of the updated enterprise risk management policy and the policy and procedures on management of programme supplies at its annual session of 2019, as appropriate, and as part of its report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;
14. *Also encourages* UNFPA to ensure that its investment in a new enterprise resource planning system produces actionable information for managers to drive improvements in the identification, prioritization and management of strategic delivery risks, including relating to commodity inventory losses and the performance of its implementing partners, and to work with other funds and programmes to ensure compatibility of enterprise resource planning systems;

With regard to UNOPS:

15. *Takes note* of the report (DP/OPS/2019/1) on the progress in the implementation of the various recommendations made for the year ended 31 December 2017 and the efforts currently in progress to ensure that the remaining recommendations are successfully implemented;

16. *Acknowledges* that due to the fact that recommendations were issued to UNOPS towards the end of July 2018 and that many of them require long-term attention, UNOPS will need to work beyond the financial year 2018 to implement them successfully.

25 January 2019

2019/3

Working methods of the Executive Board

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the rules of procedure of the Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP;

2. *Recalls* decision 2018/22 on working methods of the Executive Board in which the Bureau of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, in collaboration with the Bureaux of UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP, was asked to launch a joint consultative process with the Member States starting at the first regular session 2019;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the formation of the core group of Member States to lead the joint consultative process with Member States, in an open, transparent and inclusive manner, with a view to examining the efficiency and quality of its current sessions, as well as the functions of the joint meeting of the Executive Boards, building on the joint response prepared by the secretariats and in close consultation with all Member States, seeking their inputs to the written account of the core group;

4. *Requests* the Executive Board secretariats to support the core group, upon request, in analysing the effects of its findings and suggestions;

5. *Looks forward* to the written account of the core group, to be presented at the joint meeting of the Executive Boards in May 2019, for subsequent consideration of its findings and recommendations by the members and observers of the respective Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP.

25 January 2019

2019/4

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

1. *Welcomes* the updates provided by UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

2. *Recognizes* the continuing contributions of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS in operationalizing resolution [72/279](#) and requests them, in line with General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, resolution [72/279](#) and the Secretary General's implementation plan, to continue to support and contribute to the full implementation of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system including a matrixed, dual reporting model, with United Nations country team members accountable and reporting to their respective entities on individual mandates, and periodically reporting to the resident coordinator on their individual activities;
3. *Calls on* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to provide written, harmonized agency-specific information to the Executive Board at its annual session 2019 on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [72/279](#), based on the information previously provided during informal consultations;
4. *Recognizes* the importance of improving efficiency and effectiveness in administrative support services through inter alia enhancing inter-agency cooperation, and encourages the executive heads of UNOPS, UNFPA and UNDP to continue to take action as appropriate in these areas;
5. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to operationalize their respective Strategic Plans while implementing General Assembly resolution [72/279](#);
6. *Requests* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to continue to support the Secretary-General to collaboratively implement a new generation of United Nations country teams, with needs-based tailored country presence, to be built on the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and finalized through open and inclusive dialogue between the host Government and the United Nations development system, facilitated by the resident coordinator, to ensure the best configuration of support on the ground, as well as enhanced coordination, transparency, efficiency and impact of United Nations development activities, in accordance with national development policies, plans, priorities and needs;
7. *Welcomes* the strong commitment of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, as part of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group, to redeploy their efficiency gains from United Nations development system reform for development activities, including coordination, and requests the three agencies to contribute to the Secretary-General's report on the cost-savings and efficiency gains and their redeployments and to update the Executive Board through existing reporting mechanisms;
8. *Welcomes* the steps already taken by UNDP to support the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, including the transfer of its 2019 cost-sharing contribution to the United Nations Development Coordination Office and the 2019 service-level agreement with the United Nations Secretariat.

25 January 2019

2019/5

Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular session 2019

The Executive Board

Recalls that during its first regular session 2019, it:

Item 1

Organizational matters

Elected the following members of the Bureau for 2019:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| President: | H.E. Mr. Cho Tae-yul (Republic of Korea) |
| Vice-President: | H.E. Mr. Walton Webson (Antigua and Barbuda) |
| Vice-President: | H.E. Ms. Besiana Kadare (Albania) |
| Vice-President: | H.E. Ms. Geraldine Byrne Nason (Ireland) |
| Vice-President: | H.E. Mr. Collen V. Kelapile (Botswana) |

Adopted the agenda and approved the workplan for its first regular session 2019 ([DP/2019/L.1](#));

Approved the report of the second regular session 2018 ([DP/2019/1](#));

Adopted the annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2019 ([DP/2019/CRP.1](#));

Approved the tentative workplan for the annual session 2019;

Agreed to the following schedule for the remaining sessions of the Executive Board in 2019:

Annual session: 3 to 4 and 6 to 7 June 2019

Second regular session: 3 to 6 September 2019.

UNDP segment

Item 2

Evaluation

Took note of the evaluation of UNDP support to poverty reduction in the least developed countries ([DP/2019/4](#)) and the accompanying management note, and the report of the Independent Evaluation Office on its support to evaluation capacity development ([DP/2019/6](#));

Item 3

UNDP country programmes and related matters

Approved the following UNDP country programmes in accordance with decision 2014/7:

Africa: Burundi ([DP/DCP/BDI/4](#) and Corr.1); Niger ([DP/DCP/NER/3](#)); Togo ([DP/DCP/TGO/3](#));

Asia and the Pacific: Cambodia ([DP/DCP/KHM/4](#));

Latin America and the Caribbean: Chile ([DP/DCP/CHL/4](#)); Ecuador ([DP/DCP/ECU/3](#));

Took note of the first one-year extension of the country programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1 January to 31 December 2019 ([DP/2019/3](#));

Approved the second one-year extensions of the country programmes for the

Democratic Republic of the Congo from 1 January to 31 December 2019 and for South Africa from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 ([DP/2019/3](#)).

UNFPA segment

Item 4 Evaluation

Adopted decision 2019/1 on the revised UNFPA evaluation policy;

Item 5 Country programmes and related matters

Approved the following UNFPA country programmes in accordance with decision 2014/7:

Cambodia ([DP/FPA/CPD/KHM/6](#)); Niger ([DP/FPA/CPD/NER/9](#))

Approved the second, one-year extension of the country programme for South Africa from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 ([DP/FPA/2018/11](#));

UNOPS segment

Item 6 United Nations Office for Project Services

Heard the UNOPS Executive Director give a statement;

Joint segment

Item 7 Recommendations of the Board of Auditors

Adopted decision 2019/2 on the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, related to the following reports: UNDP and UNCDF: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2017 ([DP/2019/7](#)); UNFPA: Follow-up to the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for 2017: Status of implementation of recommendations ([DP/FPA/2019/2](#)); and UNOPS: Report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2017 ([DP/OPS/2019/1](#));

Item 8 Update on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 on repositioning of the United Nations development system

Adopted decision 2019/3 on implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Item 9 Working methods of the Executive Board

Adopted decision 2019/4 on the working methods of the Executive Board.

25 January 2019

**TENTATIVE WORKPLAN
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS
ANNUAL SESSION 2019
(3-4 and 6-7 June 2019, New York)**

| <i>Day/Date</i> | <i>Time</i> | <i>Item</i> | <i>Subject</i> |
|------------------------------|---|-------------|---|
| Monday, 3 June | 10 - 10:30 a.m. | 1 | ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of the agenda and workplan for the session Adoption of the report of the first regular session 2019 |
| | 10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. | 9 | UNFPA SEGMENT STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND ANNUAL REPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual report of the Executive Director: progress on implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 Statistical and financial review, 2018 Report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2018 |
| | 3 – 6 p.m. | 9 | ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (cont'd) |
| | | 10 | UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation and approval of country programme documents Extensions of country programmes |
| | | 11 | EVALUATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual report of the UNFPA Evaluation Office 2018, and management response |
| Tuesday, 4 June | 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. | 2 | UNDP SEGMENT INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE UNDP ADMINISTRATOR AND ANNUAL REPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the Administrator on results for 2018 and progress on the strategic plan, 2018-2021 Status of implementation of the Common Chapter UNDP report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2018 Statistical annex |
| | 3 – 5:30 p.m. | 2 | ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR (cont'd) |
| | | 3 | GENDER EQUALITY AT UNDP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual report on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy, 2018-2021 |
| | 5:30 – 6 p.m. | | <i>Informal consultations on draft decisions</i> |
| Wednesday, 5 June | <i>Official United Nations holiday</i> | | |
| Thursday, 6 June | 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. | 4 | HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on the Human Development Report consultations (GA resolution 57/264) |
| | | 5 | UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation and approval of country programme documents Extensions of country programmes |

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|---------------------------|------------------|----|---|
| | | 6 | <p>EVALUATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of the UNDP evaluation policy, and management response Annual report on evaluation, with annexed synthesis report from 2018 independent country programme evaluations, and management commentaries Evaluation of UNDP support to poverty reduction in the least developed countries, and management response |
| | 3 – 5:30 p.m. | 7 | <p>UNITED NATIONS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on results achieved by UNCDF in 2018 |
| | | 8 | <p>UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> United Nations Volunteers: annual report of the Administrator |
| | 5:30 – 6 p.m. | | <i>Informal consultations on draft decisions</i> |
| Friday, 7 June | 10 a.m.– 12 p.m. | | UNOPS SEGMENT |
| | | 12 | <p>STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND ANNUAL REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual report of the Executive Director |
| | 12 – 1 p.m. | | JOINT SEGMENT |
| | | 13 | <p>REPORTS OF THE ETHICS OFFICES OF UNDP, UNFPA AND UNOPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports of the Ethics Offices of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on activities for 2018, and management responses Independent reviews of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS respective policies and processes on tackling sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, and management responses |
| | 3 – 6 p.m. | 14 | <p>INTERNAL AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and investigation activities in 2018, and management responses |
| | | 15 | <p>UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 72/279 ON THE REPOSITIONING OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM</p> |
| | | 16 | <p>WORKING METHODS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD</p> |
| | | 17 | <p>OTHER MATTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of decisions |
| | | 1 | <p>ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of the tentative workplan for the second regular session 2019 Closing of the session |