



United Nations

Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund

**Report on the first, second and annual
sessions of 2004**

Economic and Social Council

Official Records, 2004

Supplement No. 14 (E/2004/34/Rev.1-E/ICEF/2004/7/Rev.1)

Annex

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board in 2004

2004/1. Discontinuation of the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health

The Executive Board

Takes note of the reports on the evaluation of the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health (CCH) (E/ICEF/2004/6 and WHO EBPDC10/5) and *endorses* the recommendation contained therein, namely, that in the light of alternative collaborative arrangements that have been developed since its establishment in 1997, and the balance of costs and achievements, the CCH should be discontinued. The Board *recommends* that the secretariats of the three organizations continue to strengthen coordination among themselves in the area of health.

*First regular session
21 January 2004*

2004/2. Private Sector Division work plan and proposed budget for 2004

A. Private Sector Division budgeted expenditures for the 2004 season

The Executive Board

1. Approves for the fiscal year 1 January to 31 December 2004 budgeted expenditures of \$89.0 million as detailed below and summarized in column II of table 7 to document E/ICEF/2004/AB/L.1:

	<i>(In millions of United States dollars)</i>
Commissions – field offices	1.2
Cost of goods delivered	30.5
Marketing expenditures	22.3
Support services	18.6
Investment funds	16.4
Total expenditures, consolidated	<u>89.0</u>

2. *Authorizes* the Executive Director:

(a) To incur expenditures as summarized in column II of table 7 to document E/ICEF/2004/AB/L.1 and to increase expenditures up to the level indicated in column III of the same table should the apparent proceeds from card and gift sales and/or private sector fund-raising increase to the levels indicated in column III, and accordingly, to reduce expenditures below the level indicated in column II to the extent necessary, should the net proceeds decrease;

(b) To redeploy resources between the various budget lines (as detailed in paragraph 1 above) up to a maximum of 10 per cent of the amounts approved;

(c) To spend an additional amount between Executive Board sessions, when necessary, up to the amount caused by currency fluctuations, to implement the 2004 approved work plan.

B. Budgeted income for the 2004 season

The Executive Board

Notes that for the period 1 January to 31 December 2004, PSD net proceeds are budgeted at \$333.0 million (regular resources) as shown in column II of table 7 to document E/ICEF/2004/AB/L.1.

C. Policy issues

The Executive Board

1. *Renews* investment funds with \$16.4 million established for 2004;
2. *Authorizes* the Executive Director to incur expenditures in the 2004 fiscal period related to the cost of goods delivered (production/purchase of raw materials, cards and other products) for the 2005 fiscal year up to \$31.0 million as indicated in the PSD medium-term plan (see table 6 of document E/ICEF/2004/AB/L.1).

D. Medium-term plan

The Executive Board

Approves the PSD medium-term plan as reflected in table 6 to document E/ICEF/2004/AB/L.1.

*First regular session
21 January 2004*

2004/3. Annual report to the Economic and Social Council

The Executive Board,

1. *Takes note of* the “Report of the Executive Director: Annual Report to the Economic and Social Council” (E/2004/3-E/ICEF/2004/4), and requests the secretariat to transmit it, along with a summary of the comments made during the discussions at the first regular session of the Executive Board for 2004, to the Economic and Social Council;
2. *Attaches* great importance to the upcoming triennial comprehensive policy review, and to its contribution to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and follow-up to the General Assembly Special Session on Children;

3. *Encourages* UNICEF to participate actively in supporting that process, *inter alia* by sharing all relevant evaluative and other material with the United Nations Secretariat.

*First regular session
22 January 2004*

2004/4. Working methods of the Executive Board

The Executive Board,

Recalling its decision 2003/14 requesting the Bureau to explore approaches to further improving working methods and to report its finding,

1. *Takes note* of the oral report by the Secretary of the Executive Board and acknowledges the positive work done to date;
2. *Requests* the Bureau to continue its leading role on this issue, taking into account the views expressed by delegations at the current session, with a view to further enhancing the ability of the Board to discharge its duties and to provide strategic guidance;
3. *Further requests* the Bureau to submit specific recommendations for discussion at the Board's annual session in 2004, including the issues of:
 - (a) the timely submission, presentation and analytical content of documents, including draft decisions;
 - (b) the Executive Board's work planning process;
 - (c) the use and timing of informal briefings.

*First regular session
22 January 2004*

No decision 2004/5 issued due to technical error.

2004/6. Draft country programme documents

The Executive Board

(a) *Approves* the aggregate indicative budgets for the following country programmes of cooperation:

<i>Region/country</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Regular resources</i>	<i>Other resources</i>	<i>Document E/ICEF/2004/</i>
Eastern and Southern Africa				
Angola	2005-2008	22 584 000	68 000 000	P/L.1
Burundi	2005-2007	10 908 000	27 000 000	P/L.2
Madagascar	2005-2009	25 710 000	42 000 000	P/L.3
Zimbabwe	2005-2006	3 850 000	14 000 000	P/L.4
West and Central Africa				
Cape Verde	2005	611 000	450 000	P/L.5
Americas and Caribbean				
Southern Cone (Argentina, Chile and Uruguay)	2005-2009	5 900 000	18 800 000	P/L.6
East Asia and the Pacific				
Malaysia	2005-2007	1 500 000	1 500 000	P/L.8
Philippines	2005-2009	11 570 000	32 000 000	P/L.9
CEE, CIS and Baltic States				
Armenia	2005-2009	3 405 000	3 569 000	P/L.10
Azerbaijan	2005-2009	4 760 000	4 700 000	P/L.11
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2005-2008	2 468 000	13 000 000	P/L.12
Kazakhstan	2005-2009	4 920 000	2 216 000	P/L.13
Kyrgyzstan	2005-2010	5 562 000	3 000 000	P/L.14
Romania	2005-2009	3 385 000	11 615 000	P/L.15
Serbia and Montenegro	2005-2009	3 325 000	36 500 000	P/L.16
Tajikistan	2005-2009	6 405 000	20 000 000	P/L.17
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	2005-2009	3 060 000	10 000 000	P/L.18
Turkmenistan	2005-2009	4 680 000	1 300 000	P/L.19
Uzbekistan	2005-2009	9 260 000	8 560 000	P/L.20
Middle East and North Africa				
Islamic Republic of Iran	2005-2009	7 880 000	5 500 000	P/L.21
Iraq	2005-2006	3 872 000	196 700 000	P/L.22

(b) *Approves* an increase in the other resources ceiling for the Iraq country programme for 2004 in the amount of \$140,000,000 (E/ICEF/2004/P/L.23).

*Annual session
8-9 June 2004*

2004/7. Timing of the approval of the UNICEF biennial support budget

The Executive Board,

Affirming the principle that ‘the plan drives the budget’,

Agreeing that the biennial support budget should be formulated after the programme has been sufficiently articulated through the development of the

draft country programme document for country offices, and the office management plans for headquarters and regional offices;

Decides that:

1. The biennial support budget for 2006-2007 will be reviewed at the first regular session in January 2006;
2. At the second regular session of 2005, an advance allocation will be approved for spending for the month of January 2006, based upon the previous year's expenditures for January.

*Annual session
10 June 2004*

2004/8. Joint programming

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the report on the assessment of the UNICEF experience of joint programming contained in document E/ICEF/2004/10;
2. *Decides* to defer the consideration of a decision to the first regular session in 2005.

*Annual session
11 June 2004*

2004/9. The UNICEF evaluation function

The Executive Board,

1. *Commends* UNICEF for the quality of the report on the evaluation function contained in document E/ICEF/2004/11, the important progress that it reflects, and its thoroughness in identifying areas for improvement and future challenges;
2. *Welcomes* the progress made to date by the evaluation function in responding to new demands, particularly the increased emphasis on the achievement of results of programmes involving UNICEF, in the context of United Nations operational activities and inter-agency work at the country level;
3. *Notes* that much work remains to be done, including sharpening the strategic focus of evaluation work plans, improving efficiency and raising the overall standards of evaluation work;
4. *Emphasizes* that the evaluation function should be carried out in consultation with national authorities and in compliance with decision 2002/9 (E/ICEF/2002/8/Rev.1);

5. Bearing in mind the above, *encourages* the further strengthening of the evaluation function in UNICEF, with particular emphasis being given to progress in the following areas:

(a) Improving the efficiency and strategic value of the evaluation function by focusing on fewer, high-quality studies, with a strong emphasis on analyzing effectiveness and results;

(b) Continuing to improve the standards of evaluation at the country level, with the guidance of national authorities and building on United Nations system-wide norms and standards for evaluation, with the technical support of the Evaluation Office and regional offices;

(c) Accelerating progress towards joint evaluation work with national authorities, United Nations system and other partners, including with respect to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

(d) Continuing and expanding work with national authorities and other partners, and the United Nations country teams, to strengthen national capacity for evaluation work;

(e) Identifying best practices from evaluations for achieving the targets and objectives of the UNICEF medium-term strategic plan (MTSP), and ensuring that procedures are implemented to enable the findings from evaluations to be systematically fed into the organization to secure organizational learning;

6. *Requests* the Executive Director to prepare a further report on the work of the evaluation function for consideration by the Executive Board at its annual session in 2006;

7. *Further requests* that key findings from evaluations of the thematic areas of the MTSP be presented and discussed at the Executive Board as and when these become available.

*Annual session
11 June 2004*

2004/10. Draft country programme document for Guatemala

The Executive Board

Approves the aggregate indicative budget for the following country programme of cooperation:

<i>Country</i>	<i>Period</i>	<i>Regular resources</i>	<i>Other resources</i>	<i>Document E/ICEF/2004/</i>
Guatemala	2005-2008	3 648 000	18 478 000	P/L24

*Second regular session
15 September 2004*

2004/11. Additional regular resources for approved country programmes

The Executive Board

Approves the allocations of additional regular resources contained in document E/ICEF/2004/P/L.25 as follows:

(In United States dollars)

<i>Region/Country</i>	<i>Balance of approved RR 2004 (A)</i>	<i>RR planning level 2004 (B)</i>	<i>Amount to be approved (B-A)</i>
<i>Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States</i>			
Kazakhstan	978 000	984 000	6 000
Kyrgyzstan	922 000	927 000	5 000
Tajikistan	1 264 766	1 281 000	16 234
Uzbekistan	1 841 000	1 852 000	11 000
Subtotal	5 005 766	5 044 000	38 234
<i>East Asia and the Pacific</i>			
Philippines	2 098 000	2 214 000	116 000
Subtotal	2 098 000	2 214 000	116 000
<i>Eastern and Southern Africa</i>			
Madagascar	4 099 000	4 630 000	531 000
Subtotal	4 099 000	4 630 000	531 000
Total	11 202 766	11 888 000	685 234

*Second regular session
15 September 2004*

2004/12. Increased other resources ceilings for approved country programmes

The Executive Board

(a) *Approves* the recommendation to increase the other resources ceilings for approved country programmes contained in E/ICEF/2004/P/L.26 and Add.1 as follows:

(In thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Country programme</i>	<i>Programme cycle</i>	<i>Approved OR ceiling</i>	<i>Additional OR to be approved</i>	<i>Total OR ceiling</i>
Dominican Republic	2002-2006	5 000	8 400	13 400
Cambodia	2001-2005	52 200	11 800	64 000
Sri Lanka	2002-2006	10 000	10 000	20 000
Malawi	2002-2006	35 120	17 000	52 120
Total		102 300	47 200	149 520

*Second regular session
15 September 2004*

2004/13. Guidelines for Executive Board field visits

The Executive Board,

Adopts the guidelines for field visits by members of the UNICEF Executive Board as described in document E/ICEF/2004/19.

*Second regular session
15 September 2004*

2004/14. Medium-term strategic plan: financial plan and related recommendation for the period 2004-2007

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the medium-term financial plan (E/ICEF/2004/AB/L.4) as a flexible framework for supporting UNICEF programmes;

2. *Approves* the medium-term financial plan as a framework of projections for 2004-2007 (summarized in table 4 of document E/ICEF/2004/AB/L.4), including the preparation of up to \$492 million in programme expenditures from regular resources to be submitted to the Executive Board in 2005. This amount is subject to the availability of resources and to the condition that estimates of income and expenditure made in this plan continue to be valid.

*Second regular session
16 September 2004*

2004/15. The UNICEF recovery policy

The Executive Board,

1. *Recalling* Executive Board decision 2003/9 (E/ICEF/2003/9/Rev.1) on the UNICEF recovery policy,
2. *Notes* the positive trend in recovering indirect costs attributed the management of other resources contributions;
3. *Appreciates* the progress made with other United Nations organizations to harmonize the recovery methodology;
4. *Encourages* UNICEF to continue active involvement in the working group of the High-Level Committee on Management on cost recovery;
5. *Decides* that the 4-per-cent reduction in the recovery rate for contributions over \$40 million will be continued beyond 2004 so that a comprehensive proposal can be prepared for review by the Executive Board at the second regular session of 2005, taking into account the results of the discussions on harmonization and a review of the UNICEF experience in implementing decision 2003/9.

*Second regular session
16 September 2004*

2004/16. Report on the mid-term review of the UNICEF medium-term strategic plan (2002-2005)

The Executive Board,

1. *Welcomes* the report on the mid-term review of the UNICEF medium-term strategic plan (E/ICEF/2004/13) and commends the extensive consultations, performance analysis and evaluation work on which the review was based;
2. *Takes note of* the general conclusions of the review, including the implications identified for the preparation of the next plan, as well as the adjustments envisaged for the remaining period of the present medium-term strategic plan;
3. *Requests* the Executive Director to report on progress in effecting these adjustments as part of the next annual report on results achieved for children in support of the medium-term strategic plan, to be submitted to the Executive Board at its annual session in 2005;
4. *Requests* the Executive Director to reflect the Board's discussion of the review at the second regular session of 2004 in the formulation of a working draft of the next strategic plan, and to make the working draft available to members of the Executive Board in February 2005.

*Second regular session
16 September 2004*

2004/17. Programme of work for Executive Board sessions in 2005

The Executive Board

Adopts the following programme of work for Executive Board sessions in 2005:

<p>First regular session (17-21 January)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of officers of the UNICEF Executive Board for 2005 • Annual report of the Executive Director to the Economic and Social Council (1995/5, 1998/1, 1999/6) • Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit of relevance to UNICEF (2001/4) • Approval of revised country programme documents (CPDs) (2002/4) • Oral report on girls' education • Oral report on immunization "plus" • Oral update on staff security • Joint programming (2004/8) • Report on accountabilities within UNICEF • Private Sector Division (PSD) work plan and proposed budget for 2005 • UNICEF financial report and audited financial statements for the biennium 2002-2003 (deferred from second regular session 2004) • Pledging event • Joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UNDP/UNFPA, with the participation of WFP
<p>Annual session (6-10 June)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual report of the Executive Director: progress and achievements against the medium-term strategic plan (MTSP), including an update on emergencies • Review of draft MTSP for 2006-2009 • Progress report on implementation of decision 2002/4 on approval of country programmes • Draft CPDs (approx. 28) • Policy paper on UNICEF and post-conflict transition • Oral report on child protection • Oral report on HIV/AIDS • Presentation on maternal mortality • UNICEF Maurice Pate Leadership Award • Reports on field visits of Executive Board members (1992/32) • Statement by President of Global Staff Association

Second regular session (12-16 September)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MTSP for 2006-2009, including medium-term financial plan• Decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council: oral report (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1, para. 470)• Summaries of midterm reviews and major evaluations of country programmes (1995/8 and 2001/11)• Follow-up to UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board• Innocenti Research Centre: progress report and proposed activities for 2006-2008• Review of UNICEF recovery policy• Programme recommendations (additional resources for approved country programmes, other resources stand-alone, additional OR, etc.)• Advance support budget allocation for January 2006 (2004/7)• Interim financial statement for 2004, the first year of the biennium• PSD financial report and statements for the year ended 31 December 2004• Report to the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions• Report on internal audit activities in 2004• Programme of work for Executive Board sessions in 2006
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Second regular session
16 September 2004