

Agenda Item 14

Joint statement at the adoption of draft decisions

Thank you Mr. President for giving me the floor.

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of WEOG.

Mr. President. Let me begin by taking the opportunity to thank you for your leadership and steering us ably through this FRS.

We are pleased that the Executive Board has now taken the decision to establish the important position of ASG in UNICEF. We were however disappointed to see that the Executive Board was not able to reach consensus during negotiations and that a decision was put under silence procedure. This has only happened rarely in the Executive Boards history and we would be concerned if this becomes the new precedent.

WEOG is a strong proponent of One UN and the recently established Global COVID-19 Vaccine Delivery Inter-Agency Coordination Structure is an excellent example how the UN manage to pull together as one, and work with external partners. We are concerned that the deliberations around this decision could the wrong signal to UNICEF and the rest of the UN about Member States' support for these types of coordination structures.

As a UNICEF family, we represent many different views, cultures and backgrounds, but as a family, we usually also overcome these

differences to live up to our responsibility as a board to UNICEF to the benefit of children globally.

We would like to thank all delegations for showing flexibility, a flexibility which will allow UNICEF to do what they do best. Deliver for all children in need.

Thank you.