

## Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board

### Template for delegations commenting on the draft country programme documents

2022 annual session

*Draft country programme document commenting period: 22 March to 11 April 2022*

Delegations are kindly invited to use this to share their comments on the draft country programme document being presented to the Executive Board during the forthcoming session.

Delegation name: United States of America

Draft country programme document: Kenya

In accordance with Executive Board decision [2014/1](#), draft country programme documents are considered and approved in one session, on a no-objection basis. All comments received by the Office of the Secretary of the Executive Board before the deadline stated above will be posted on the Executive Board website, and considered by the requesting country, in close consultation with UNICEF.

	Delegation's comments	Response(s)
<b>General comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● We welcome UNICEF's approach to reduce multidimensional child poverty and strengthen household's resilience to shocks.</li><li>● We encourage UNICEF to ensure gender integration across programs including women's and girls' participation in decision-making at household and community levels.</li><li>● We note a surprising lack of programming to address the current historic drought occurring in the Horn of Africa, which is likely to have long-term impacts beyond humanitarian need. What does UNICEF plan to do to address the drought response and recovery in the plan?</li><li>●</li></ul>	<p>We take note of USA observation with appreciation.</p> <p>Gender integration across the programmes will be a key strategy to operationalise the CPD. Promoting gender equality and ensuring gender-transformative programming is a key element of UNICEF's new Country Programme. Indeed, UNICEF Kenya will ensure women's and girls' participation in all its programme areas.</p> <p>Emergency preparedness and response are key strategies and commitment in the proposed CPD, with particular focus on strengthening humanitarian -development nexus through UNICEF programming. UNICEF is responding significantly to the present drought through live-saving WASH, nutrition</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We support the focus of the CPD on the most underserved, vulnerable communities in rural and urban areas. How does UNICEF plan to deliberately address the significant equity gaps in several of the coverage and mortality measures cited?</li>   <li>● Given the high numbers of under-immunized and unimmunized children and outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases (including most recently, yellow fever), how does UNICEF plan to prioritize technical and financial support for strengthening routine immunization, at both national and subnational levels?</li>   <li>● We recommend further strengthening the focus on equity and minimizing missed opportunities for vaccination -- a key strategy for broadening access to immunization.</li>   <li>● We ask UNICEF to consider adding indicators for measles-containing-vaccine second dose (MCV2) and human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV) under the results and resources framework.</li> </ul>	<p>and health interventions and will be contributing to recovery efforts by working closely with the Government systems and bridging the critical gaps in these sectors. UNICEF’s programme puts a clear emphasis on strengthening resilience across all sectors.</p> <p>The UNSDCF and CPD focus on the approach of LNOB by targeting the most underserved, vulnerable communities in rural and urban areas. UNICEF will be focusing on the most marginalised counties (primarily ASAL), marginalised urban clusters and other specific groups to address the equity gaps. Programming approaches to reach the most marginalized and left-behind children and communities will be used across the programme components. Supporting devolution and building capacities of local governments and service providers in those areas, as well as community engagement and empowerment, is expected to deliberately address the equity gaps.</p> <p>As shown in the Results Matrix, the Country Programme has a dedicated Output specifically focussing on immunization in light of its importance and the programmatic value-addition from UNICEF. UNICEF’s role will be working on strengthening routine immunisation mechanisms both at national and county levels so that data-informed decisions are made and innovative approaches used to reach the yet unreached.</p> <p>UNICEF programming strategy – in collaboration with WHO under the UNSDCF – will ensure a focus on equity and minimizing missed opportunities for vaccination.</p> <p>UNICEF will monitor indicators on MCV2 and HPV within its interventions under the Immunization Output.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CPD has no mention of pneumonia and diarrhea which are major killers of children under five. Does UNICEF have a plan to focus explicit attention on the prevention and management of these concerns?</li> </ul>	<p>Pneumonia and diarrhoea remain major killers of young children in Kenya. UNICEF’s main plan in this regard is to continue supporting the Government of Kenya to implement the primary health care strategy through community health and nutrition services, access to safe water services as well as the promotion of sanitation and hygiene practices supported by social and behaviour strategies. Paragraph 31 has been adjusted accordingly.</p>
<p><b>Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme document</b></p>		