

Annual Session of the 2022 UNICEF Executive Board

Statement by Ambassador Hyunjoo OH,

Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the UN

10:00-13:00, Tuesday, 14 June 2022

Mr. President,

I would like to thank Executive Director Russell for her comprehensive briefing today. My sincere gratitude also goes to her team for their uninterrupted service and support rendered to children around the world despite the ongoing challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Before beginning my national statement, my delegation would like to align ourselves to the joint statement delivered earlier by Denmark.

Mr. President,

In this light, my delegation would like to briefly highlight the following three points.

First, the Republic of Korea commends UNICEF's role in the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Not only did UNICEF act as a key delivery partner of the COVAX Facility and ACT-A, but also effectively integrated public health emergency and socioeconomic responses into country-level plans and regional Humanitarian Action for Children Appeals. My Government is proud to have rendered its full support to the ACT-A, with commitments of more than 500 million dollars. We look forward to our continued strong partnership with UNICEF in this regard.

Second, enhanced coordination, coherence, and collaboration is at the heart of effective response to global humanitarian and development needs. As a staunch supporter of UNDS reform since the beginning of its process, Korea is pleased to note UNICEF's commitment to advancing the reform in a concerted aim to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals. We hope that UNICEF will continue its collaboration with other United Nations entities to accelerate results and impact for children at a larger scale.

Third, the COVID-19 pandemic was more severely felt by women and girls, while promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls remains our common responsibility. My delegation welcomes the achievements of the UNICEF Gender Action Plan 2018-2021, in advancing gender-responsiveness both in its programs and organizational system and work culture. We look forward to UNICEF's continued efforts in achieving the collective vision of gender equality for transformative results for girls and women under its next Gender Action Plan of 2022-2025.

In closing, we reaffirm our full support for the work of UNICEF and its Executive Director to make a difference for the world's children.

Thank you. /END/