

**Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board**

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

**2022 second regular session**

***Draft country programme document commenting period (except for the draft CPD for Gabon): 14 June to 5 July 2022 [18:00 EST]***

***Draft country programme document for Gabon commenting period: 17 June to 11 July 2022 [18:00 EST]***

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

Delegation name: **Canada**

Draft country programme document: **Pakistan**

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.

	<b>Delegation's comments</b>	<b>Response(s)</b>
<b>General comments</b>	Canada welcomes UNICEF's draft Country Programme Document for Pakistan and the opportunity to provide comments.	

<p><b>Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme document</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The programme rationale section is well developed, with sources on cited stats/numbers included as footnotes, and many paragraphs not only highlighting the issue or challenge, but also barriers to progress on addressing these issues. The section however could have benefitted from more information on gender disparities between the data cited (e.g. is there sex-disaggregated data on infant mortality (m/f), immunization rates between boys/girls, malnutrition rates, etc.).</li> <li>• The programme component on learning and skills includes a gender-responsive approach, including through programming to address the prevention of dropout especially for girls, and barriers to education or skills training access for women and girls. The component of child protection also stresses the importance of a targeted gender equality approach to address harmful practices to children that disproportionately affect girls. The component on social policy and social protection could expand a bit more on its planned gender-responsive approach, especially when it comes to the activities under researching the effectiveness and efficiency of shock-responsive social protection programmes and schemes – it would be crucial that such research goes beyond the provision of sex-disaggregated data and also measure the impact of social protection programmes on women’s agency and economic empowerment, and the ‘multiplier’ effect it may have, including on the health/education prospects of the beneficiary’s family but also the development of their communities.</li> <li>• On the programme component for health, we would appreciate clarification on the particular role that UNICEF plays in polio eradication, complementing the work of the WHO for instance in this sector. We would also appreciate clarification on the mention (in paragraph 23) of “cross-border collaboration to reach children on the move” – is UNICEF planning to collaborate with the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, with other</li> </ul>	
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	<p>NGOs or UN agencies in the country under the GPEI (Global Polio Eradication Initiative), or is UNICEF Pakistan going to collaborate with UNICEF Afghanistan, if still active in the country for immunization?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The importance of mainstreaming gender equality in the child protection sector is welcomed. Disaggregated data collection, gender and equity analytics, gender-responsive programming and prevention of child marriage are crucial. The CPD however does not illustrate how the programming will help enforce legislation against child marriage, child labour, or domestic violence. To prevent child marriage for instance, the programme will “strengthen linkages in priority districts between social protection schemes and education system”, but this does not specifically address the need to have accountability measures in place, and adequate implementation of laws, as well as mechanisms to enforce legislation of existing and accessible legal aid for girls.</li></ul>	
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