

**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: *USA*

Draft country programme document: *Moldova*

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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We welcome the UNICEF Country Program Document for Moldova.</li><li>• The United States commends UNICEF for its continued support and assistance to Ukrainian refugees and families, including providing protection services, and we encourage UNICEF's continued support to refugees and asylum-seekers entering the Republic of Moldova.</li></ul>	UNICEF Moldova welcomes the expression of appreciation from the Delegation of the United States of America to the UNICEF Executive Board and expresses gratitude for the partnership and support provided by the United States to UNICEF Moldova efforts to realize the rights of every child in the Republic of Moldova.

<p><b>Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme document</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We ask UNICEF to consider including the passage of the recently approved National Child Protection Program (NCPP). We appreciate the prominence of children with disabilities in the CPD (para. 1).</li> <li>● We ask UNICEF to consider referencing the large number of children in group homes and foster care are there long term and are often “stuck.” We applaud the reduced use of residential care, and we ask UNICEF to consider investments in family strengthening which would prevent placement into any kind of alternative care. (para. 11).</li> <li>● We ask that UNICEF consider incorporating identification and prevention of child protection concerns into the focus for new social workers (para. 26).</li> </ul>	<p>UNICEF Moldova expresses its appreciation the Delegation of the United States to the UNICEF Executive Board for the insightful comments and agrees that the suggested changes will further strengthen the Country Programme of Cooperation in the area of child protection. We therefore have made the following changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We have made a reference to the passage of the National Child Protection Program 2022-2025 in Paragraph 26.</li> <li>● To address the issue linked to the long-term placement of children in all types of care, including foster care and small group homes, we have included the need to conduct periodical reviews of children's situation in all types of alternative care, with focus on individual assistance plans, to ensure greater reintegration into the biological or extended family</li> <li>● We have revised paragraph 26 to include the strengthened capacities for identification and prevention of child protection concerns among the areas of focus for the new social workers.</li> </ul>