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 (<u>except for the draft CPD for Gabon</u>): <u>14 June to 5 July 2022 [18:00 EST]</u>
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: Yemen

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)
General comments	 Given the health situation of women and children as described in the document, we would welcome a more intentional approach to the integration of the health, nutrition, and WASH sectors, and ensure coordination across these clusters to increase the quality of and access to basic services. Further, we would recommend UNICEF to support the integrated Community Case Management approach plus nutrition to increase access to vital services in emergencies. We would appreciate more detail in the document regarding how UNICEF will support the humanitarian-development-peace nexus in its prioritized programs. 	Thank you for your valuable comments. The CPD is meant to provide a broad framework of UNICEF's programmatic priorities with strict word limit. This makes it difficult to elaborate all programmatic details. However, we would like to note in reply to your comment that, in support of the health outcomes, the UNICEF Yemen country programme will continue to support the multi-sectoral Minimum Services Package (MSP) that includes health, nutrition and WASH services (for reference see paragraph 26). UNICEF welcomes the recommendation to support the integrated community case management approach. This is included in CPD paragraph 31 and will include supporting social protection programmes to address financial barriers to accessing treatment for severe acute malnutrition.

		To address the comment on how UNICEF will support the humanitarian-development-peace nexus in its prioritized programmes, additional details have been added under paragraph 20. A combination of mutually reinforcing humanitarian and development assistance approaches will be developed to address both immediate needs and longer-term structural requirements, at national and local levels, including the need to build more resilient communities.
	We urge UNICEF to play a leadership role in system-wide collective Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) at the country level, to advocate for and to build capacity for AAP, even when UNICEF is not directly implementing.	In addition, and on the same subject, UNICEF will continue supporting the response to immediate live-saving needs while strengthening/ sustaining national systems in health, nutrition, water and sanitation, education and social services to ensure they continue providing essential services to the population. UNICEF will also seek to mobilize multi-year resources to support intervention over a longer timeframe.
	Further, we would appreciate hearing more about how UNICEF will, concretely, include AAP approaches as part of strengthening of service provider and community capacities to respond to crises and humanitarian needs.	With regard to the comment on UNICEF playing a leadership role in system-wide collective AAP at the country level, we would like to note that UNICEF will continue coleading, together with OCHA, the AAP Technical Working Group that is guiding the HCT system-wide approach. UNICEF has also established a Grievance Redressal Mechanism under the unconditional cash transfer programme, which is another way of ensuring Accountability to Affected Population. Under the new country programme UNICEF will, building on this experience, expand and support initiatives for Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms to other components of the programme. This has been reflected accordingly under CPD paragraph 24.
Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme document	(Delegations providing comments may wish to include details, such as the page number, paragraph number, or page of the annexed results and resources framework.	