

## Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board

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

#### 2023 first regular session

Delegation name: *Austria*

Draft country programme document: *Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine (area programme)*;

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.

	Delegation's comments	Response(s)
<b>General comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Austria appreciates the consultative process implemented by UNICEF in the preparation of the Country Programme Document;</li><li>➤ Austria notes and welcomes that the engagement of UNICEF in the preparation of the UNSDCF, as well as the important partnership of UNICEF with UNRWA, is reflected in the document;</li><li>➤ Austria particularly welcomes UNICEF's engagement regarding the protection of children's rights and corresponding information and advocacy efforts.</li></ul>	<p>UNICEF appreciates the comments made by the Austrian Delegation to the UN.</p> <p>UNICEF thanks the Government of Austria for its participation and support throughout the development of the new UNICEF APD as well as to the UNSDCF.</p>

<p><b>Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme document</b></p>	<p>On key change strategies (para 14):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Austria welcomes the strategic priorities reflected in the document, as they are aligned with existing needs as well as the priorities of the Palestinian government (NPA and sectoral strategies), UN and EU and reflect the strategic debates on humanitarian and development issues in Palestine</li> <li>➤ Austria particularly welcomes the focus on resilience-building and the operationalization of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus which correspond to strategic priorities of the Austrian Development Cooperation as well as the EU joint strategy.</li> </ul>	<p>UNICEF appreciates Austria institutional strengthening support to the Palestinian Water Authority in the Water Area and the reform of the sector at a national level as well as their particular engagement and advocacy on the Humanitarian, Development and Peace Nexus among key stakeholders.</p>
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