



UNICEF Executive Board – Annual Session

13 June 2023

Intervention on UNICEF by Nadia Krivetz, A/g Deputy Permanent Representative, Australian Mission to the United Nations

Check against delivery

Thank you for giving me the floor.

As we continue to experience the compounding effects of multiple crises, exacerbating the vulnerabilities of children, Australia commends UNICEF staff around the world for their continued commitment and delivery in 2022. We would also like to thank Acting Deputy Executive Director Hulshof [*HOOL-SHOF*] and look forward to working with incoming Deputy Executive Directors van der Heijden [*VAN-DER-HIGH-DUN*] and Chaiban [*CHAY-BUN*].

While we are proud to be doing our part by providing predictable and multi-year core funding to UNICEF, we acknowledge the challenging financial environment across the entire UN Development system.



In this regard, Australia commends UNICEF on diversifying its finance base and investing in innovative financing arrangements including concessional finance, blended finance and results-based finance. We look forward to hearing more about how UNICEF plans to expand and apply these new financing initiatives.

We also encourage UNICEF to continue to pursue scaled-up partnerships with other UN development partners and the private sector. We must build collective capability and join our resources to meet the vision of Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals.

We continue to see UNICEF as a key partner in protecting and promoting the rights of children, particularly in the Pacific, where we need to contend with the unique vulnerabilities of Small Island Developing States through increasing resilience and anticipatory action.

We urge UNICEF to continue to invest in the Pacific, while acknowledging the trust and influence UNICEF has with development partners.

Finally, Australia welcomes UNICEF's Disability Inclusion Policy and Strategy 2022–2030.

The prioritisation of a disability-inclusive approach is commendable, and we encourage UNICEF to share its experiences and expertise across the UN Development System.



UNICEF remains an important partner for Australia. We are pleased to see the organisation pivoting as it continues to support children to survive and thrive in a demanding global environment.

Thank you.

[Word count – 303]