

Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board
Template for delegations commenting on the draft country programme documents
2023 second regular session

Draft country programme document commenting period: 13 June to 3 July 2023 [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: Belgium

Draft country programme document: Senegal

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)
General comments	The delegation appreciates the regular contacts between the UNICEF country office and our Embassy in Dakar and welcomes all the consultations undertaken with the donors in the process of the formulation of the new country programme document.	

<p>Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme documents</p>	<p><i>We welcome the analysis by UNICEF to identify the main challenges to achieving the SDG, specifically related to the social sectors and in relation to children’s rights. We believe however that part of the responsibility lays with the government commitment and (financial) investment in these sectors. How will UNICEF take up this challenge, especially with the projections of increased economic growth as a result of the gas and oil exploitation?</i></p> <p><i>Belgium also welcomes the study undertaken to identify the risks of climate change for children, and we noted the high vulnerability of the country in this regard. Can UNICEF elaborate on the strategies that will be taken up to address this specific challenge?</i></p> <p><i>The document states that the coverage of vaccination is decreasing. At the same time Senegal is investing to develop his pharmaceutical industry for local vaccine production. What are the causes today of the decrease of vaccine coverage and what is UNICEF’s policy regarding potential purchase of locally produced vaccines in the future?</i></p> <p><i>UNICEF is already working with the Senegalese government to identify alternative ways for increasing the education level of the population, amongst others by integration of the daara educational system into the traditional system (with the necessary guarantees for quality and protection). Given the alarming and stagnating education indicators in the country, did UNICEF identify other innovative or alternative approaches to address this issue that has a major impact on the development of the country and the perspectives for the youth as a whole?</i></p> <p><i>Finally, we welcome the integration of social protection in the programme document. We are convinced that the present policy by the government of direct cash transfers to some vulnerable groups presents a punctual solution to mitigate the consequences of the recent shocks but are no sustainable solution for the population. The set up of a social security system for Senegal, adapted to the</i></p>	
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