

STATEMENT BY

H.E. AMBASSADOR FRANCISCO JOSÉ DA CRUZ PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

ATTHE

UNICEF EXECUTIVE BOARD Second Regular Session 2023

UNICEF PROGRAMME COOPERATION

Item 4 (a)

Wednesday, 6 September 2023 at 10 a.m. Conference Room 3

820 Second Avenue, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10017

STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR JOSÉ FRANCISCO DA CRUZ, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ANGOLA UNICEF COUNTRY PROGRAMMES

WEDNESDAY, 06 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 10 A.M. @ CONFERENCE ROOM 3

Mr. President; Excellencies;

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Angola, allow us, at the outset, to thank the UNICEF Executive Board for convening this meeting to discuss and approve the UNICEF Country Program Document for Angola. Let's also recognize the UNICEF Angola team for their longstanding commitment to the country. Since 1976, they have been working tireless to build a strong partnership and to make the country a safe, healthy, and harmonious place for the growth and development of its children.

Excellences,

The Angolan legislative framework defines rules and legal principles on the protection and integral development of the child, reinforces and harmonizes the legal and institutional instruments to guarantee the rights of the child as defined in the Constitution, in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and in the African Charter on Children's Rights and Welfare.

Being the child the absolute priority for the State and families, we value the work being done jointly with UNICEF to strengthen child-

friendly legislation, strategies and action plan. The first milestone was the signing, in 1990, of two key documents: the Universal Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of the Child, and its ten-year Plan of Action.

Mr. President,

The country program document under review is the result of a constructive and participatory process in which the Government and other key stakeholder played an active role. For this reason, we have a document anchored in the Angolan development priorities as reflected in the National Development Plan 2023-2027 that prioritizes the development of human capital, as well as the Agenda 2050 that supports the Angola's long-term objective to transform its young population into a "demographic dividend". The CPD also derives from, and is aligned with, the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2024–2028, contributing to all four outcomes: people, peace, prosperity and planet.

The success of the implementation of this country program document will require strong and coordinated partnership between the Government, UNICEF civil society, partners and private sector, among others to address the needs and the structural issues impacting the welfare of children in Angola.

Mr. President,

Excellences,

For the Government of the Republic of Angola, the young people, and children, in particular, are important drivers of Agenda 50 that provides a comprehensive framework for the design and development of national policies and strategies to address the challenges and opportunities for development, peaceful coexistence and welfare of all Angolans.

This Country Program is aligned with this strategic vision. Therefore, we would like to call on the Executive Board to approve it as presented and assure you of our full and continued commitment and support towards its successful implementation.

Thank you.