## Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board

## Template for delegations commenting on the draft country programme documents 2024 first regular session

**Draft country programme document commenting period:** 14 November to 4 December 2023 [18:00 hours Eastern Standard Time]

Delegations are kindly invited to use this template to share their comments on the draft country programme documents being presented to the Executive Board during the forthcoming session.

Delegation name: United States of America

Draft country programme document: Bhutan

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 United States supports the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center	
	(ADPC) through a regional award which includes Bhutan,	
	Maldives, and Sri Lanka with regional exchange & cooperation	
	with India, Pakistan, Nepal, and Bangladesh. How is this	
	considered in the CPD for Bhutan?	
	Due to its geological and environmental conditions, Bhutan is vulnerable to natural hazards such as earthquakes, storms, forest fires, landslides, Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF), drought, disease outbreaks, and urban fires. How is UNICEF planning to capacitate National Disaster Management Authorities (NDMAs) to meet all hazards?	

Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme documents	UNICEF's investment in maternal/child mortality/morbidity/malnutrition, early childhood education, and child protection is a welcome development.	
	UNICEF mentions in the CPD that it will be working in resilience and strengthening institutional capacities in climate-resilient programming and emergency preparedness and response; however these efforts are not explained in as much detail as other sectors. More information on UNICEF's resilience and disaster preparedness programming would be welcome to find synergies and form coherent inter-agency strategies.	