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: Guinea

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 strongly recommends that UNICEF ensure that efforts to accelerate progress on maternal, newborn and child survival and health in Guinea through integrated MNCH/nutrition services, and by strengthening primary health care delivery capacities are well-aligned to the needs of the country. Especially given that Guinea has experienced multiple infectious disease outbreaks and climate related crises in recent years, it is critically important that UNICEF prioritize efforts to strengthen primary health care delivery capacities, including at the community level. This should be explicitly identified as a key part of the Guinea CPD and a focus of ongoing UNICEF public health emergency preparedness efforts.	 UNICEF acknowledges and appreciates the comments on its draft country programme for 2024-28 from the Government of the USA and welcomes the opportunity to provide additional information that could not be adequately covered in a document of 6000 words. UNICEF agrees with the comment and this point is already included in draft CPD paragraph 32 and 34, page 7/16: Para#32 "UNICEF will seek to address neonatal, infant, child and maternal mortality and access to appropriate health and nutrition care and support, as well as vulnerabilities to diseases and the recurrence of epidemics in an unsafe and potentially unsustainable environment."

	Para#34 "Social and behavioural change interventions will enhance the demand for maternal, newborn, infant and adolescent health services by addressing social barriers, including during emergency contexts."
	Furthermore, UNICEF Guinea is committed to MNCH and continue to prioritize efforts to accelerate maternal, newborn and child survival, health and nutrition by strengthening primary health care delivery capacities, including at the community level.
	This implies:
	✓ Capacity development in health systems strengthening at national and decentralized levels. This includes local authorities and communities to formulate, design, plan, implement, and monitor key maternal, newborn and child survival/health and nutrition interventions.
	✓ Improve access to quality services for maternal, newborn and child survival/health and nutrition while addressing sociocultural barriers to reinforce demand at the community level, including during emergency context, under equity and gender principles.
	✓ Lastly, UNICEF is committed and will continue to develop strategies to strengthen immunization coverage of mothers, newborns and children in collaboration with immunization partners to reduce the epidemics that cause morbidity and mortality in children and their mothers.
Comments on specific aspects of the draft country	
programme documents	