Management response to the evaluation of UNICEF social protection responses towards universal child benefits

Natalia Winder-Rossi, Director, Social Policy and Social Protection

UNICEF Executive Board 2024 first regular session (6–8 February 2024)

Item 8: *Management response to the evaluation of UNICEF social protection responses towards universal child benefits* Reference document: E/ICEF/2024/4



Evaluation underscores relevance & effectiveness of UNICEF social protection work

"UNICEF has achieved remarkable progress" working effectively with Governments and other partners to progressively expand child benefit programmes

103.5 M

Households reached by UNICEF-supported cash programmes



Child benefits are critical to reducing child poverty and improving multiple child outcomes

Central to Strategic Plan Goal Area 5 and UNICEF contribution to SDG 1, as well as leaving no one behind across Goal Areas

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Overview of the management response



Agree with four overarching recommendations to further strengthen:

- Evidence-based advocacy
- Support enhancing national investments in social protection
- Expansion of UNICEF technical support to government capacity to implement child benefits and social protection delivery systems
- UNICEF's catalytic role in mobilizing partnerships to harmonize approaches among external partners in the sector



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Overview of the management response



- 13 management actions:
- -77% under way
- Majority to be completed by end 2025, 2 by end 2024



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Conclusions



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01.

Reconfirms strategic relevance and achievements of Goal Area 5 to reduce child poverty through social protection and influencing public financing

02.

Management actions commit to further strengthening social protection advocacy, national financing, capacity-building and partnerships

03.

Resource mobilization required to further leverage UNICEF's effective support to expanding national cash benefit programmes for children and families

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Thank you.

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