

**Template for delegations providing comments on the  
country programme documents**  
2020 First Regular Session

Delegation name: \_\_\_\_\_SWEDEN (Contribution from Embassy in Kinshasa\_\_\_\_\_

Draft country programme document: DRC CPD

Delegations are kindly invited to use this template to share their comments on any of the draft CPDs being presented during the forthcoming Board session.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, country programme documents (CPDs) 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 will be made public on the Executive Board website, and considered by the respective regional office, in close consultation with the country office and the concerned Government.

General comments	<p>The embassy provides a country programme support to UNICEF in DRC. This is because we are convinced that UNICEF’s mandate is more than relevant in the country, and we understood that only project specific supports will not help the agency reaching its efficiencies in this context.</p> <p>We are therefore supportive of the zone of convergence approach that UNICEF CPD is promoting. It is very useful to have several zones with as many integrated and comprehensive packages as possible in order to impact the areas and sustainably change children and communities living conditions.</p> <p>It is critical that the choice of zones of convergence be motivated by some objective criteria. There are many areas that are not currently selected but that should be on such a list. Areas with very few development actors (e.g. North and South Ubangi, Tshopo and Maniema...) should seriously be considered.</p> <p>The document does not expand on the need to reinforce communities’ resilience and on how UNICEF is working to reinforce linkages between development and humanitarian interventions. This is against the background that UNICEF is one of the key Swedish partners on both sides in DRC. This CPD should be more explicit on these linkages.</p>
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<p>Comments on specific aspects of the country programme document</p>	<p><i>(Delegations providing comments may wish to include details, such as the page number X, paragraph number X, or annex (results and resources framework).</i></p> <p>Paragraph 4, page 3.</p> <p>Low coverage of vaccination programmes needs to raise our attention on UNICEF work in DRC with regard to this particular topic. UNICEF should revisit/reassess their assistance to the national vaccination programme and act more proactively (by detecting and alerting on risks for epidemics due to low vaccination coverage).</p> <p>Vaccination levels are too low in some settings and it is unacceptable that key agencies like UNICEF are more acting on a reactive rather than proactive mode. (The number of children who have died due to measles epidemic this year are almost double the number of Ebola victims!)</p>
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