## **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**

Office of the Secretary of the Executive Board

## Template for delegations providing comments on the country programme documents

2020 First Regular Session

Delegation name: Sweden

Draft country programme document: Mali

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

- Sweden appreciates the participatory process that UNICEF has conducted to develop the Country Document Programme for Mali.
- The document appears to be adapted to the life cycle of children in Mali which gives more attention to the rights of children with respect to each stage of their life development and calls for intersectoral intervention. It is however unclear how UNICEF will transfer this approach into practice; the organization will likely remain sectoral in implementation.
- The programmatic approach has a focus on humanitarian and long-term development cooperation which allows maximizing operational flexibility, agility and the ability to adjust to needs on the ground.
- It is noticeable that the two cross-cutting priorities gender equality and humanitarian action are well integrated into all Goal Areas.
- However, there is a need to strengthen Government's leadership and ownership to reinforce collaboration with other key stakeholders including, community-based organizations, youth organizations and the private sector. This will enhance national capacities.
- Sweden would welcomes more collaboration with MINUSMA, and other UN agencies in order to strengthen the one UN approach I Mali
- Sweden would welcome a process to define baselines for each result areas before starting any implementation of programs, this will enable to measure change and monitor progress.
- There is a need to strengthen the integration of environmental aspects is the document.

Comments on specific aspects of the country programme document	(Delegations providing comments may wish to include details, such as the page number X, paragraph number X, or annex (results and resources framework).
	Page 2 point 2: The reflexion should be made on the whole country rather than limiting the armed conflict only in the northern and central parts of the country. The situation is volatile.  Page 3 point 10: The number of schools closing day by day because of fear of violence from extremist groups is increasing. If not mentioned here, it could be forgotten.