

Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UNICEF, UN Women
First Regular Session 2022
Agenda item 2: General Debate
8-11 February 2022, New York

Mr. President,

I deliver this statement on behalf of the following cross regional group of Member States: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Lithuania, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and my own country Switzerland.

The new Strategic Plans of the 4 Funds and Programmes provide each agency with a blueprint to contribute to a stronger and more impactful UNDS in line with our shared commitment to the UNSG's UN Development System reform agenda to recover and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The new plans position the 4 F+Ps well to lead the UNDS' efforts to deliver system-wide results for greater coherence, efficiency and effectiveness in contributing to the realization of the 2030 Agenda.

We commend the UNDS for your collective efforts and the important progress that has been delivered and look forward to working with you to advance reform further.

The challenges ahead in this Decade of Action underscore the need for a joined-up UNDS to collectively achieve long-term development results in building capacities and enabling environments to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs, including mainstreaming and advancing such cross-cutting priorities as gender equality and women's empowerment.

The drafting process of the Strategic Plans of the 4 F+Ps showcased that planning for collective, system-wide results is not an automated process and we encourage the UNDS entities to redouble their efforts to this end in joint planning, implementation and reporting and monitoring processes in the frame of the 2030 Agenda.

At country levels, the agencies' strategic plans must be translated into operational, programmatic documents informed by the common country analysis and in line with the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework to step up the UN's value proposition and joint impact for the SDGs. This requires a coherent and coordinated approach from the UN Country Team under the leadership of the empowered Resident Coordinator, with all UNDS entities' full support, including full adherence to a clear matrixed dual reporting model for mutual and collective performance appraisals as defined in resolutions 72/279 and 76/4. To this end, we endeavor to working with member states and UN development entities through the governing bodies to ensure alignment to the dual reporting model.

The 2020 QCPR reconfirmed the need for increased coherence and collaboration across the UNDS to respond and adapt to an evolving global context. This was echoed in the UNSG's report "Our Common Agenda". The QCPR highlights the importance of UNDS entities sharing knowledge and best practices in partnership approaches with a view to improving transparency, coherence, due diligence, accountability and impact. At the same time the QCPR Monitoring and Reporting Framework provides comprehensive guidance to the UNDS entities to deliver on commitments and to report on common indicators.

The common and complementary indicators identified in the 4 F+Ps new strategic plans will allow for the leveraging of comparative advantages for greater coherence, effectiveness, efficiency and mutual accountability of results and will enhance learning on system-wide action across the UN System. We look forward to learning how you

will report in a more harmonized manner on results jointly achieved with UNDS entities based on common and complementary indicators as requested in decision 2021/14; we are ready to support you in this process. Further, we hope that these indicators will demonstrate continued progress in implementing joint and collaborative programming at country levels.

The next Joint Meeting of the Board provides the entities of the UNDS with an opportunity to share their approaches for accelerated, system-wide, integrated and collective action towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. In order for the Joint Meeting of the Boards to be an effective platform for the UNDS to share a common understanding on individual agencies' contributions and closer alignment to achieve system-wide results and the areas that require continued progress, we encourage broad participation from the UNDS in the forthcoming JMB.

Looking ahead, we hope to see the UN Development System agencies developing programming based on collective outcomes shared across the UN system. We stress that these outcomes must be informed by analysis which is conflict-sensitive, gender and climate responsive, and must contribute to the achievement of Agenda 2030 at the country, regional and global level.

Let me close by re-iterating our commitment to support the UN development system's reform efforts including through the full integration of the humanitarian and political pillar of the UN. It is only with true cross-pillar collaboration that the UN will be able to work as One, and deliver the SDGs. We therefore call on the 4 Funds and Programmes to work towards delivering system-wide result and to continue to be strong team players at the country-level under the Resident Coordinator's strategic leadership.