



الجمهورية الجزائرية الديمقراطية الشعبية
REPUBLIQUE ALGERIENNE DEMOCRATIQUE ET POPULAIRE

Mission Permanente d'Algérie
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البعثة الجزائرية الدائمة
لدى الأمم المتحدة
نيويورك

First Regular session of UNICEF Executive Board

Statement of Algeria

By

Mr. Dahmane YAHIAOUI

First Secretary

Item 2 : General debate

New York, 08 February 2022

Mr. President,

I would like at the outset to congratulate you on your election as President of the Executive Board. We have every confidence that under your leadership we will be able to achieve progress in the UNICEF Agenda, for the sake of the promotion and the protection of child's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential.

Let me assure you of Algeria's full readiness to work, as a member of the UNICEF Executive Board, with you and with all partners, within the mandate of UNICEF.

I can't fail this opportunity to also congratulate Mrs. Catherine Russell for her recent appointment as Executive Director of UNICEF. I sincerely wish her every success in the fulfillment of her mission.

Mr. President,

The Board meets this year again in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic which has unveiled tremendous and alarming concerns about children's health and well-being. The situation of children around the world calls indeed for urgent and concrete steps to protect them, through coherent and coordinated actions, namely in the areas of health, education and social protection. Allow me here to underscore the critical role of UNICEF in providing access to the Covid-19 vaccine, especially to people living in vulnerable situations.

It is also clear that beyond the impact of the pandemic, a large number of children around the world continues to suffer from the devastating consequences of conflicts and poverty, amongst others, in many parts of the world. We must, therefore, act swiftly through innovative approaches to take collective and tangible actions, with the involvement of relevant stakeholders to ensure that every child is protected, healthy and well educated. Equally important is the necessity to address the root causes of these challenges.

The cost of today's inaction will be heavy to bear tomorrow, not only financially, but also in terms of human lives and the additional burden on countries already exposed to various socio-economic and security challenges. Acting means taking immediate and necessary measures to tackle to risk factors and optimize protective measures for children in a comprehensive and sustainable manner.

Beyond a better coordination of our actions, we must ensure the proper implementation of the key measures contained in the 2022-2025 strategic plan, to guarantee that no child is left behind.

Allow me also to stress the importance of the fundraising strategies for children, aiming at accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Mr. President

Algeria attaches a great importance to the protection of children, and their well-being. To this end, my country embarked on multi-sectoral reforms, focusing in particular on the areas of education, health and social protection.

Furthermore, Algeria has always been keen, within its national legislation, to fulfill its commitments under multiple international Conventions, including those relating to the rights of the child.

Algeria remains also deeply engaged to further strengthen a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to provide quality services to children, namely in the areas of education, health and social protection.

In this respect, let me express our appreciation to the UNICEF's support to the public policies put in place by my country, which will certainly open up new prospects for a better fulfillment of child's rights in Algeria. We look forward, in this regard, to the finalization of the new cooperation framework.

I thank you!