

**Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board**

**Template for delegations commenting on the draft country programme document**

**2023 annual session**

***Draft country programme document commenting period: 21 March to 10 April 2023 [18:00 EST]***

Delegations are kindly invited to use this template to share their comments on the draft country programme document being presented to the Executive Board during the forthcoming session.

Delegation name: **United States of America**

Draft country programme document: **Chile**

In accordance with Executive Board decision [2014/1](#), draft country programme documents 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 stated above will be posted on the Executive Board website.

	<b>Delegation's comments</b>	<b>Response(s)</b>
<b>General comments</b>	<p>The U.S. commends UNICEF's focus on historically marginalized children and youth, including girls in all their diversity, who face unique and disproportionate barriers across contexts.</p> <p>As members of the Global Partnership for Action on Gender-Based Online Harassment and Abuse, the governments of Chile and the U.S. have committed to address technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV), which disproportionately impacts girls and young women and gender non-conforming children and youth, as part of a shared global agenda to promote peace, security, and stability. The U.S. encourages UNICEF to consider ways to address TFGBV in its CPD.</p> <p>The United States likewise appreciates the focus on priority populations including children and adolescents on the move, indigenous peoples, and LGBTQI+ communities in addition to the vulnerable groups highlighted in the CPD.</p>	<p>UNICEF welcomes the U.S. appreciation of the strong focus the new CPD places on marginalized children and adolescents.</p> <p>UNICEF recognizes the devastating impact of gender-based violence on children and girls, including through technology facilitated means. This has been specifically mentioned in the CPD under paragraph 14 ('exposure of children and adolescents to the effects of violence, including gender-based and technology-facilitated violence, in educational establishments, and their homes and communities'). The section on education, Paragraph 39, also refers to 'learning environments free from violence'.</p>

<p><b>Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme document</b></p>	<p><i>(Delegations providing comments may wish to include details, such as the page number, paragraph number, or page of the annexed results and resources framework.</i></p> <p>The United States suggests the addition of “children on the move” on Page 15, Paragraph 41, in order to highlight this particular group’s educational needs as follows: “41. The capacities of the public education system and local educational services will be strengthened to offer quality education and protective environments, and to develop intersectoral work at the local level, especially for <b>children on the move</b> and for those students at greater risk of being discriminated against.”</p> <p>The United States recommends UNICEF incorporate information regarding recent changes and implementation of Chilean immigration law and include updated statistical data on the exponentially increased numbers of migrants since 2017 (in some ways triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic and by some estimates now representing approximately 10% of the total Chilean population) to characterize the social impacts to migrant children and unaccompanied minors (Referenced in Page 2, Programme rationale, Page 5 Program priorities and partnerships, Page 6 social protection, and Page 14 program outputs 3 and 4).</p>	<p>UNICEF appreciates the recognition of the strong focus placed on “children on the move”. The CPD refers to data and planned interventions related to children on the move:</p> <p>‘The increase in poverty was even greater among children on the move; the rate rose from 15 per cent in 2017 to 26 per cent in 2020’ (Paragraph 7). Paragraph 8 highlights the rate of multidimensional poverty (31.9 per cent) among children on the move.</p> <p>‘The office quickly adapted to the emergency response for children on the move by the end of 2021 and 2022, activating an internal cluster composed of staff from various divisions: programme, operations, communications and private fundraising and partnerships’ (Paragraph 22). ‘It will also support the Government to develop a framework for migration policies, programmes and procedures relevant to the protection needs of children on the move’ (Paragraph 43 and pp. 15-16, output 4).</p> <p>‘It will have a strong focus on non-discrimination, particularly for children on the move’ (Paragraph 45)</p> <p>‘UNICEF will support the strengthening of national and subnational capacities to generate and use timely, quality data disaggregated by sex and age, and by issues specific to girls and children on the move’ (Paragraph 53)</p> <p>Reference was added under paragraph 41: ‘to develop intersectoral work at the local level, including for students at risk of being discriminated against and children on the move’.</p> <p>More details will also appear in the annual workplans.</p> <p>The number of migrants crossing though unauthorized border crossings has multiplied by around 20 times between 2017 and 2021 (2,905 and 59,586 respectively). This information is limited and does not adequately account for children. According to police estimates, 40 per cent of these are children and adolescents. Information on the number of migrant children is not officially published.</p>
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	<p>The United States recommends that “gender inequality” be added to Paragraph 21, to read “...Reducing family and child vulnerability, <b>including through addressing gender inequalities</b>, should be at the centre of all protection policies and programmes...”</p> <p>The United States recommends including “girls and young women” within the priority populations listed in line Paragraph 26.</p> <p>The United States recommends the inclusion of gender-based violence in Paragraph 42, to read, “To ensure that children and adolescents live in protective environments that are free of violence, <b>including gender-based violence...</b>” and recommends that “girls and young women” are included in the list of most vulnerable groups.</p> <p>The United States is pleased to see the inclusion of the private sector, as there is a robust private sector presence in Chile. What are UNICEF’s plans to engage the private and public to strengthen community preparedness on climate change, energy, environment and disaster risk reduction?</p> <p>What specifically is UNICEF considering with regard to the South-to-South cooperation mentioned in the CPD?</p>	<p>The CPD states that ‘it will mainstream the gender approach to address inequalities (Paragraphs 23 and 26). UNICEF noted the recommendation to further emphasize gender inequalities. An additional reference was added under paragraph 21: ‘Reducing family and child vulnerability, including gender inequalities, should be at the centre of all protection policies and programmes’.</p> <p>As part of its mandate, UNICEF promotes child rights and gender equality for all children. The CPD refers to the barriers that adolescent girls face in realizing their rights. It includes an additional reference to gender-based violence (Paragraph 42).</p> <p>UNICEF in Chile works closely with the private sector, as outlined in paragraph 29. The office is currently promoting due diligence standards, child rights and business principles within extractive and energy sectors, with high social-environmental impact, to contribute to a fair social ecological transition. This includes a participatory approach with the active involvement of young people. Additionally, UNICEF has established a private sector council aimed at engaging and committing its members to such standards and principles.</p> <p>UNICEF in Chile has been championing South-South cooperation across the region, internally and through engagement with the Government. Such efforts will be pursued under the new Country Programme of Cooperation. The Country Office has consistently received requests from other countries in the region and outside Latin America to exchange on emblematic policies and programmes. Key areas include early childhood development (<i>Chile Cresce Contigo</i>) and the deinstitutionalization of children (Chile significantly reduced the number of children living in institutional care). In addition, UNICEF has been supporting the Government when asked to exchange with other countries (e.g. with Uruguay in relation to juvenile justice) and will continue to do so.</p>
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