

2007/6. Annual report of the Executive Director

The Executive Board,

1. *Takes note* of the “Annual report of the Executive Director: progress and achievements against the medium-term strategic plan” (MTSP) (E/ICEF/2007/9);
2. *Recognizes* that this is the first report on the MTSP 2006-2009;
3. *Welcomes* the progress that UNICEF has made to improve its strategic focus, the strong alignment of its activities with the MTSP and the recognition of the importance of results-based management;
4. *Welcomes* the progress made in countries supported by UNICEF in the five focus areas of the MTSP, but also recognizes that many countries, particularly countries in Africa, still face challenges in these areas, and in this regard urges UNICEF to continue to strengthen its support to these countries, with a view to tackling the remaining challenges;
5. *Appreciates* that the annual report gives an overview of the outcomes and results of the activities undertaken in the five focus areas of the UNICEF MTSP and of the linkages between results and resources, and further takes note of the accompanying data companion that defines key trends;
6. *Underlines* the importance of the annual report as a key part of the accountability framework to the Executive Board, particularly in reporting on results and outcomes in the implementation of the MTSP, while recognizing that the annual report should be complemented by analytical reports to the Board from the evaluation function on the contribution of UNICEF to development outcomes at the country level as well as on the aggregate level;
7. *Encourages* UNICEF to further institutionalize strengthening of data gathering to track progress against all MTSP results and indicators;
8. *Requests* UNICEF to include in the next annual report key challenges on the programmatic, organizational and financial level under each focus area, and to include a section reporting on specific results and resources related to major global partnerships, as well as an annually updated data companion.

*Annual session
7 June 2007*
