

2003/17. Biennial support budget for 2004-2005

The Executive Board,

Having considered the biennial support budget for 2004-2005, as contained in document E/ICEF/2003/AB/L.14,

1. *Notes* the rise in gross appropriations of 20.9 per cent in view of the need for programme implementation, and *appreciates* the improved transparency displayed in the budget documents, and in this context, *requests* UNICEF to continue to strengthen cost-effective management;

2. *Stresses* the importance of full UNICEF participation in United Nations harmonization and simplification efforts with a view to achieving efficiency in its programme implementation, and *requests* the Executive Director to report separately on any resulting cost efficiencies by the second regular session in 2004;

3. *Approves* gross appropriations in the amount of \$684,906,000 for purposes indicated below and *resolves* that the income estimates of \$156,400,000 shall be used to offset the gross appropriations, resulting in estimated net appropriations of \$528,506,000:

(In thousands of United States dollars)

Programme support:	
Country and regional offices	359 013.7
Headquarters	96 088.0
Subtotal	455 101.7
Management and administration of the organization	229 804.3
Total gross appropriations	684 906.0
Less: Estimated income to the budget	(156 400.0)
Estimated net appropriations	528 506.0

4. *Authorizes* the Executive Director to redeploy resources between appropriation lines up to a maximum of 5 per cent of the appropriation to which the resources are redeployed;

5. *Approves* an additional allocation of \$14 million for security-related provisions as described in paragraph 18 of document E/ICEF/2003/AB/L.14;

6. *Requests* the Executive Director to consult with the Executive Board should the level of resources available for programming fall significantly below the level projected in this budget;

7. *Welcomes* the continued improvement in results-based management which makes it

clear to what extent key results achieved contribute to the attainment of UNICEF objectives, and *requests* the Executive Director to continue to develop results-based budgeting for the biennium 2006-2007 in close collaboration with other funds and programmes;

8. *Requests* the Executive Director to explore options for the timing of the approval of the biennial support budget in the context of one of the existing regular board sessions and to report to the Board on this issue during the annual session of 2004.

Extraordinary budgetary session
2 December 2003