Extensions of ongoing country programmes

Note by the secretariat

Summary

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2009/11, this note informs the Executive Board of the one-year extensions of country programmes, approved by the Executive Director, for Algeria, Argentina, Lebanon, Libya and Uganda.

The note further presents the reasons for the proposed two-year extension of the country programme for Burundi, the third consecutive one-year extension for Guinea Bissau, the fourth one-year extension for Syria, and a two-month extension, following three one-year extensions, for Madagascar. The Executive Board is requested to approve these programme extensions.

Draft decision

The Executive Board

1. Takes note of the one-year extensions of the country programmes for Algeria, Argentina, Lebanon, Libya and Uganda, all of which were approved by the Executive Director, as indicated in table 1;

2. Approves the two-year extension of the country programme for Burundi, the third one-year extension for Guinea-Bissau, the fourth one-year extension for Syria, and a two-month extension, following three one-year extensions, for Madagascar, as presented in table 2.
Table 1
One-year extensions of ongoing country programmes for approval by the Executive Director

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNICEF-assisted country programme</th>
<th>Original programme period</th>
<th>Year approved for extension</th>
<th>Reasons for extension</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Algeria                         | 2012-2014                 | 2015                        | – To align with the extended United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) cycle as recommended by the United Nations country team (UNCT).  
– To allow the United Nations to align its work better with the priorities of the new national development plan (2015-2019), as well as the priorities that may be articulated following the presidential elections in April 2014. |
| Argentina                       | 2010-2014                 | 2015                        | – To align with the extended UNDAF cycle as recommended by the UNCT.  
– To align the country programmes of the United Nations system with the National Government’s planning cycle, ending in December 2015. |
| Lebanon                         | 2010-2014                 | 2015                        | – To allow the country office and partners to focus on scaling up response to the needs of Syria refugees and vulnerable host communities in Lebanon.  
– Following presidential elections in May 2014, development of the country programme document (CPD) will take into account the new leadership’s national priorities.  
– The UNCT has agreed to pursue a one-year extension to the UNDAF. |
| Libya                           | 2013-2014                 | 2015                        | – To align to the United Nations Strategic Framework as well as the Integrated Strategic Framework, which have both been extended to end of 2015.  
– The present state of flux and insecurity in the country negatively affects opportunities for medium-term and longer-term planning. |
| Uganda                          | 2010-2014                 | 2015                        | – To align the next UNDAF to the Government of Uganda’s planning cycle.  
– In view of adopting the One Programme consistent with standard operating procedures for countries adopting the Delivering as One approach. |
Table 2
Extensions of country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is requested

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNICEF-assisted country programme</th>
<th>Original programme period</th>
<th>Period proposed for extension</th>
<th>Reasons for extension</th>
<th>Implementation or other issues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>2010-2014</td>
<td>2015-2016</td>
<td>To align with the new national strategic objectives approved by the Government in its second poverty reduction strategy paper for 2012-2016.</td>
<td>The programme extension would allow strengthening interventions in nutrition, early child development, HIV and AIDS and adolescents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea Bissau</td>
<td>2008-2012</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>As 2014 is an election year, the United Nations agencies have recommended extending the current UNDAF, so that national authorities can focus on elections and allow the development of a new UNDAF with completion of the transition period.</td>
<td>UNICEF would consolidate its agenda for child rights, with a stronger equity focus, in line with the recently launched advocacy initiative aligned with A Promise Renewed and the post-2015 development agenda.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madagascar</td>
<td>2008-2011</td>
<td>1 January 2015-28 February 2015</td>
<td>The United Nations agencies are developing the UNDAF (2015-2019) with the newly installed government. The process will likely be completed during the third quarter of 2014.</td>
<td>The extension would ensure that implementation of the country programme can continue until approval of the new CPD.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>2007-2011</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Development of a new programme of cooperation is constrained due to continued conflict.</td>
<td>The extension would enable the continuation of support to children in Syria, with a particular focus on the most disadvantaged children.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"two-year extension"

"third one-year extension"

"one-year extension"

"fourth one-year extension"