United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
Office of the Secretary of the Executive Board

Template for delegations providing comments on the
country programme documents
2020 Annual Session

Delegation name: __________ USA ________________

Draft country programme document: Ethiopia

Delegations are kindly invited to use this template to share their comments on any of the draft CPDs being presented during the forthcoming Board session.

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, country programme documents (CPDs) 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 will be made public on the Executive Board website, and considered by the respective regional office, in close consultation with the country office and the concerned Government.

| General comments | Given the vulnerabilities in the region, disaster risk reduction (DRR) can be integrated in different levels of child/adolescence education (the program includes activities on primary, secondary and adolescence education) to reduce vulnerability to various disasters.

  As the CPD was prepared prior to the pandemic, it does not address how UNICEF's country strategy, programs, and budget will be affected by this development. USG suggests that UNICEF take this into consideration since the pandemic fundamentally increases and changes the nature of and prioritization of programming and provide an update to that effect. |
| Comments on specific aspects of the country programme document | The Program Rationale does not mention the rise in violent conflict, social tensions, and rapid increase in internal displacement since 2016 and the impact of this trend on equitable access to quality services and the cited social indicators.

  While we applaud the inclusion of insecurity and tensions in paragraph 48 (page 9/17), we urge UNICEF to ensure that a robust conflict sensitivity risk and opportunity analysis is completed as part of the risk-reduction plan and appropriate mitigation measures incorporated into the programme design, including proactive efforts to address deficiencies in trust and social cohesion throughout the course of the programme.

  Paragraphs 34/35/36/37 could include specific language on support to children with disabilities in their strategy as disability-inclusive education improves educational outcomes for all learners. |
| Paragraph 34 should note that “outputs” should also focus on improved learning outcomes, not just “increasing access”. Paragraph 30: The paragraph should be clarified and reworded. UNICEF should consider the following: What is the main message? Is it the coordination between the humanitarian cluster and national “One WASH” program or just listing various activities under “One WASH” program? Paragraph 30: Delete “change” from “climate change” or if we include change replace it with “changing climate” Paragraph 48: Replace “natural disasters aggravated by climate change” by “climate-related disasters”. Natural disasters by definition include both climate and non-climate related disasters, such as earthquakes and tsunamis; climate change may not have any impact on these disasters. If the intention is to focus on disasters caused by climate then “climate-related disasters” is more appropriate terminology. Noting the high rates of physical and sexual violence against children, we recommend UNICEF acknowledge and highlight supports and services specific to these areas of need. We take note that GBV services and PSS are not mentioned, and would urge that each area be specifically and strategically addressed. Paragraph 23. Delete references to individual organizations. Suggested revised text, “The development and humanitarian partners are the Government, bilateral and multilateral organizations, civil society, the private sector, research, and the media.” Paragraph 28. Delete references to individual organizations and members. Suggested revised text, “The nutrition programme’s development and humanitarian partners include the Government, bilateral and multilateral organizations, including those in the Scaling Up Nutrition movement, civil society, research and media organizations, and the private sector.” Paragraph 38. As noted, strengthening the capacities of children and families is essential. Paragraph could note types of strengthening such as “livelihood interventions, economic-strengthening, parenting and other social-protection programs”. Paragraph 45 states “The programme will support gender transformative and participatory approaches and strengthen duty-bearers’ capacity to understand, commit, monitor and take action
to bring Ethiopia into compliance with ratified international human rights conventions, treaties and charter.”

Asking for clarification on what the term “gender transformative” means.
CLEARANCE FOR Ethiopia UNICEF CPDs

**Drafter:** AFR/EA, Jaime Colman

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