Working methods of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP: Joint response of the Executive Board Secretariats

“To present to the Executive Board for deliberation and consideration at the first regular session 2020 an exemplary annual programme of work, including informal briefings, for each of the three options presented in the joint response, with corresponding explanatory narratives on the envisaged changes and their expected effect on Board oversight, effectiveness and efficiency, as well as further elaboration on the listed issues of joint relevance and interest to all Boards.”

(UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS 2019/22, paragraph 2, UNICEF 2019/20, paragraph 3, and UN-Women 2019/13, paragraph 2.)
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- **Blue**: Agenda items moved from the second regular session to the first regular session.
- **Green**: Agenda items moved from the second regular to the annual session.
- **Red**: Agenda items moved to an informal briefing or to the JMB

*For WFP, discussion points relates to the JMB
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Option 1:

“All the second regular sessions are accommodated within one week in late August/early September and consolidated with the joint meeting of the Executive Boards (JMB). As mentioned earlier in the document, this would entail a weeklong meeting that includes the JMB on the first day, subsequently followed by a two-day second regular session for UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, a one-day second regular session for UNICEF and a one-day second regular session for UN-Women.”*

*WFP as the WFP Second Regular Session takes place in November
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Joint Meeting of the Boards sample agenda of items common to the six entities

Morning session 10:00 – 1:00 p.m.
1. Report on the joint field visit of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS and the Executive Boards of UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP
2. Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

Afternoon session 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.
3. Implementation of UNDS Reform
4. Harassment, sexual harassment, abuse of authority and discrimination, and sexual exploitation and abuse
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Option 2:

“Convene the second regular session once every two years for the approval of the respective Strategic Plans and budgets.”*

*UN-Women and UNOPS have biennial budgets every two years, whereas UNDP, UNFPA, and UNICEF have budgets every four years. So, for the latter four agencies, they may only need formal agenda items every four years.
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Option 3:

“Convene the second regular session once every two years in October or November.”

This scenario is similar to option 2 with the only difference that the second regular session would take place in October or November.