Delegations are kindly invited to use this template to share their comments on any of the draft country programme documents being presented to the Executive Board during the second regular session.

Delegation name: **United States of America**

Draft country programme document: **Timor-Leste**

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, country programme documents 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>General comments</strong></th>
<th>The United States through USAID/Timor-Leste is pleased to be working with UNICEF on COVID-19 addressing critical WASH issues focused on health facilities and communities. The United States USAID/Timor-Leste also looks forward to working with UNICEF on child health issues, especially nutrition.</th>
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| **Comments on specific aspects of the country programme document** | Number 3 of “UNICEF outcomes” states: “By 2025, girls and boys increasingly benefit from a functioning child protection system, quality services, and practice positive behaviours that prevent and respond to violence and promote a protective environment.”

The indicators for this outcome related to violence against children, however, include only a reference to the DHS, with the indicator being “reduction of women who report violence ages 15 to 19 in the last 12 months.” The indicator does not cover boys or children under age 15. We recommend that the government initiate and use Violence Against Children (VAC) household survey in addition to DHS for more robust data on violence against children. CDC and USAID with other partners have worked with governments to sponsor VACs in other countries, and VAC survey is considered to be the leading household survey and methodology for measuring all forms of violence against children. |