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: **Australia**

Draft country programme document: **China**

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.

| **General comments** | The scale of the challenge to meet the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is significant – and exacerbated by COVID-19. Australia acknowledges the contribution infrastructure and development initiatives can make to regional development. Australia has demonstrated its willingness to work in partnership with the UN system for the benefit of developing nations, including through trilateral and multilateral partnerships, and we will continue to do so. Australia notes that Country Program Documents (CPDs) are usually confined to activities in the partner country, rather than activities in third party countries. CPDs are also factual, and avoid promoting or endorsing specific programs or signature foreign policy initiatives of any country, donor or recipient. Australia is keen to work with the UN system to further increase transparency, coordination and accountability of efforts toward SDGs attainment. In this context, Australia encourages the UN to continue to outline to Member States details of activities they undertake and how the UN intends to enhance coordination with, and regular reporting to, interested Member States/development partners. |

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UNICEF appreciates the comments made by Australia on the China draft country programme document (CPD) and welcomes Australia’s continued commitment to working in partnership with the UN toward SDG attainment.

The 2021-2025 UNICEF country programme for China has been designed to contribute to the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development agreed upon by 193 Member States of the United Nations. The CPD’s programme rationale stipulates how UNICEF China will contribute to SDG attainment. SDGs 1, 2, 4 and 16 are explicitly mentioned.

The goal of the UNICEF China draft country programme is to ensure that by 2025, more girls and boys - particularly the most disadvantaged, will have their rights realised so that they survive, develop to their full potential, and live in a safer and healthier environment.

This entails first and foremost, fulfilling the rights of children in China. It also entails informing the efforts of the Government of China in areas that could contribute to the attainment of the SDGs in other countries so as to maximize results for all children, leaving no one behind.

UNICEF working in partnership with China in other countries is consistent with the universality and the interconnectivity (between goals, between countries, and between global, regional and national levels) of the SDGs. It is also consistent with the global mandate of UNICEF to promote child rights, working in more than 190 countries and territories, to reach the most disadvantaged children.