2017/9
Evaluation reports, and management perspective and response

The Executive Board

1. Takes note of the annual report for 2016 on the evaluation function in UNICEF (E/ICEF/2017/11);

2. Encourages UNICEF to continue its ongoing internal capacity-building activities addressing gaps in the evaluation coverage of humanitarian assistance, in accordance with its mandate, and to take further steps to address shortcomings related to evaluation coverage of cross-cutting priorities, including gender equality, and also to strengthen impact-level evaluations;

3. Welcomes the focus of UNICEF on meeting the target to spend 1 per cent of resources allocated to evaluation, but is concerned that this goal was not met in 2015 or 2016, and therefore requests UNICEF to present plans towards meeting it;

4. Requests that updates on these issues be provided at the annual session of the UNICEF Executive Board in 2018;

5. Takes note of the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF): Review of development effectiveness, 2012-2015, looks forward to the implementation of the actions described in the management response and requests an update on the implementation of the recommendations of the review at the annual session of the UNICEF Executive Board in 2018;

6. Requests UNICEF to further advance collaboration and joint evaluation work with other United Nations entities, especially United Nations funds and programmes.

Annual session
15 June 2017

2017/17
Evaluation reports and management responses

The Executive Board

7. Recalls Executive Board decision 2015/10 and welcomes the United Nations Evaluation Group professional peer review of the evaluation function of UNICEF: Final report, including the main findings, recommendations and suggested actions;

8. Welcomes recent steps taken by UNICEF to strengthen its evaluation function, but notes with concern that the overall assessment of the peer review rated the UNICEF evaluation function either “short of being satisfactory” or “close to satisfactory” against the three core principles of independence, credibility and utility;

9. Also welcomes the commitment of UNICEF to develop a new evaluation policy incorporating actions to strengthen these core principles and, recalling decision 2017/9 in which the Executive Board requested further harmonization between United Nations agencies, to allocate a minimum of 1 per cent of resources to evaluation;

10. Takes note of the evaluation of UNICEF’s response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa 2014-2015, including the main findings, conclusions and recommendations;
11. Welcomes the commitment of UNICEF to implement and report on actions to strengthen key functions and programming approaches to better prepare for and respond to health emergencies, including the secondary consequences and specific effects on children.

Second regular session 15
September 2017

The full Compendium of decisions adopted by the Executive Board in 2017 is available here.