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United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

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Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda*

Extensions of ongoing country programmes

Note by the secretariat

Summary

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2009/11, this note informs the Executive Board of the first two-month extensions of the country programmes for Mauritania and Nepal; the first two-month extension of the common country programme for Cabo Verde; the first two-month extension of the area programme for Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine; and the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Angola; Guinea; Rwanda and Ukraine, all of which were approved by the Executive Director.

This note further informs the Executive Board of the reasons for the proposed two-month extensions of the country programmes for Brazil, the Central African Republic, the Gambia, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Sao Tome and Principe, following one-year extensions; the proposed two-month extension of the country programme for Lebanon, following two consecutive one-year extensions; the proposed two-month extension of the country programme for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, following three consecutive one-year extensions; the proposed one-year extensions of the country programmes for Chad and the Sudan, following previous one-year extensions; and the proposed one-year extension of the country programme for Burkina Faso, following a two-year extension. The Executive Board is requested to approve these extensions.

* [E/ICEF/2022/22](#).

Note: The present document was processed in its entirety by UNICEF.



Draft decision

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of* the first two-month extensions of the country programmes for Mauritania and Nepal; the first two-month extension of the common country programme for Cabo Verde; the first two-month extension of the area programme for Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine; and the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Angola; Guinea; Rwanda and Ukraine, all of which were approved by the Executive Director and are presented in table 1.

2. *Approves* the two-month extensions of the country programmes for Brazil, the Central African Republic, the Gambia, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Sao Tome and Principe, following one-year extensions; the two-month extension of the country programme for Lebanon, following two consecutive one-year extensions; the two-month extension of the country programme for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, following three consecutive one-year extensions; the one-year extensions of the country programmes for Chad and the Sudan, following previous one-year extensions; and the one-year extension of the country programme for Burkina Faso, following a two-year extension, all of which are presented in table 2.

Table 1
First extensions of one year (or less) of ongoing country programmes approved by the Executive Director

<i>UNICEF-supported country programme</i>	<i>Original programme period, including previous extensions</i>	<i>Year/period approved for extension</i>	<i>Reasons for the extension</i>
Angola	2020–2022	January–December 2023 <i>(one-year extension)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), 2020–2022 for Angola was extended until 31 December 2023 to better align its programming cycle with the Government’s five-year national development plan and to reflect the situation in the country. – The request to extend the UNICEF country programme document (CPD) for Angola is to align with the UNSDCF cycle and consequently to ensure alignment between the next UNICEF country programme cycle and the Government’s next national development plan.
Guinea	2018–2022	January–December 2023 <i>(one-year extension)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018–2022 was extended by one year to allow the United Nations country team (UNCT) to continue providing substantial support to the transitional Government, including on the national planning process, and to ensure that the UNSDCF is formulated in line with national priorities. – A one-year extension of the CPD is requested to align the UNICEF country programme 2018–2022 with the National Economic and Social Development Plan and the UNSDCF.
Mauritania	March 2018–2022	January–February 2023 <i>(two-month extension)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The initiation of the UNSDCF by the UNCT in Mauritania was postponed due to delays in finalization of the national plan. Thus UNICEF, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), in consultation with the Resident Coordinator and the UNCT, agreed to request the Government to endorse the UNCT letter for an extension of the UNDAF, 2018–2022. – The two-month extension of the CPD will allow for finalization of the new CPD for 2023–2027 in full alignment with the new UNSDCF.

<i>UNICEF-supported country programme</i>	<i>Original programme period, including previous extensions</i>	<i>Year/period approved for extension</i>	<i>Reasons for the extension</i>
Nepal	2018–2022	January–February 2023 <i>(two-month extension)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The UNSDCF is expected to be completed by the end of 2022 and to be aligned with the sixteenth national development plan, which is currently under development. – The extension of the CPD will allow for its finalization in full alignment with and derivation from the new UNSDCF. The timing of submission to the first regular session of the Executive Board has been synchronized with UNDP and UNFPA.
Rwanda	July 2018–June 2023	July 2023–June 2024 <i>(one-year extension)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To ensure the alignment of the planned UNSDCF with government priorities, a one-year extension of the UNSDCF until 30 June 2024 was approved by the Government in December 2021. – Following the extension of the UNSDCF and to align the new UNICEF country programme with the Government’s National Strategy for Transformation, a one-year extension of the current CPD is being requested.
Ukraine	2018–2022	January–December 2023 <i>(one-year extension)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In light of the fluid and uncertain context of the ongoing humanitarian crisis and in agreement with the Government of Ukraine, a one-year extension of the current CPD is being requested. This extension will enable the country office to remain focused on the scale up of its humanitarian response and the staffing and operational structure required for its delivery. – The UNCT is currently developing an 18-month transitional framework, 2022–2023 to guide strategic inter-agency cooperation. – Extending the UNICEF CPD by one year until the end of 2023 will ensure future alignment of the next country programme with the new United Nations cooperation framework.

<i>UNICEF-supported country programme</i>	<i>Original programme period, including previous extensions</i>	<i>Year/period approved for extension</i>	<i>Reasons for the extension</i>
Cabo Verde common country programme	2018–2022	January–February 2023 <i>(two-month extension)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The new UNSDCF for Cabo Verde has been delayed and will not be finalized in time for the common country programme document to be presented at the second regular session of 2022 of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS and UNICEF. – To ensure its derivation from the UNSDCF, the new common country programme document is to be presented at the first regular session of 2023 of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS and UNICEF.
Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine (area programme)	2018–2022	January–February 2023 <i>(two-month extension)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A two-month extension of the current area programme document, 2018–2022 is being requested to align the new programme with the UNSDCF for the State of Palestine, which is currently under development. – There have been delays in the UNSDCF process. The draft outcomes were expected to be finalized by the end of June 2022, and signature of the new UNSDCF is expected by September. As a result and in order to align with the inter-agency process, UNICEF is aiming to submit its new area programme document at the first regular session of 2023.

Table 2
Extensions of ongoing country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is requested

<i>UNICEF-supported country programme</i>	<i>Original programme period, including previous extensions</i>	<i>Year/period proposed for extension</i>	<i>Reasons for the extension</i>
Brazil	2017–2022 <i>(including a one-year extension)</i>	January–February 2023 <i>(two-month extension)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The UNSDCF process has been delayed. Final outcome statements are expected to be available by September 2022 with the aim of the UNSDCF being signed in the third quarter of 2022. – A two-month extension is being requested for the Brazil CPD to align with the UNSDCF timeline. – In the same manner as UNDP and UNFPA, UNICEF Brazil will present its CPD at the first regular session of the Executive Board in February 2023.
Burkina Faso	2018–2022 <i>(including a two-year extension)</i>	January–December 2023 <i>(one-year extension)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The consultative process of developing the new UNSDCF was disrupted by a January 2022 military coup, which profoundly changed the country’s political context. – Uncertainties remain regarding the timeline for development of the second National Economic and Social Development Plan. Consequently, the current UNDAF was extended by one year to allow for a proper consultative process towards the new UNSDCF that adequately responds to the country’s evolving context. – The CPD extension will ensure the continuation of the work of UNICEF under the current country context and continued alignment within the preparation of the new UNSDCF.
Central African Republic	2018–2022 <i>(including a one-year extension)</i>	January–February 2023 <i>(two-month extension)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The development of the new UNSDCF has been delayed due to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, as well as volatile and deteriorating security conditions since December 2020. The final UNSDCF document is expected to be completed by September 2022. – In order to be fully aligned with the new UNSDCF, UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA are aiming to submit their respective CPDs to the first regular session of their Executive Boards in 2023.

<i>UNICEF-supported country programme</i>	<i>Original programme period, including previous extensions</i>	<i>Year/period proposed for extension</i>	<i>Reasons for the extension</i>
Chad	2017–2022 (including a one-year extension)	January–December 2023 (one-year extension)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The current UNDAF 2017–2021/22 has been extended by another year to facilitate alignment of the next UNSDCF 2024–2028 with the new national development plan, which has still not been finalized. – An extension of the current UNICEF CPD has become necessary to ensure alignment with and derivation from the new UNSDCF, 2024–2028.
Gambia	2017–2022 (including a one-year extension)	January–February 2023 (two-month extension)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Due to delayed finalization of the national development plan, it is expected that the new UNSDCF will only be finalized by the end of July 2022, at the earliest. – UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA are aiming to present their CPDs at the first regular session of their respective Executive Boards in 2023.
Islamic Republic of Iran	2017–2022 (including a one-year extension)	January–February 2023 (two-month extension)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The extension will allow for full alignment of the programming cycle of the new CPD and the UNSDCF, which is still under finalization and would require additional time for consultations and refinement of the Cooperation Framework, including on the Results Framework. – The presentation of the UNICEF CPD at the February 2023 Executive Board is aligned with UNDP and UNFPA submission at their first regular session of 2023.
Lebanon	2017–2022 (including two one-year extensions)	January–February 2023 (two-month extension)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The new UNSDCF 2023–2025 has been signed with the Government of Lebanon, effectively commencing in January 2023. – In order to be fully aligned with the new UNSDCF, UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA are aiming to present their respective CPDs at the first regular session of their Executive Boards in 2023.
Sao Tome and Principe	2017–2022	January–February 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The development of the new UNSDCF, 2023–2027, has been delayed and is expected to be finalized by the end of 2022.

<i>UNICEF-supported country programme</i>	<i>Original programme period, including previous extensions</i>	<i>Year/period proposed for extension</i>	<i>Reasons for the extension</i>
	<i>(including a one-year extension)</i>	<i>(two-month extension)</i>	– In order to be fully aligned with the new UNSDCF, UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA are aiming to present their respective CPDs at the first regular session of their Executive Boards in 2023.
Sudan	2018–2022 <i>(including a one-year extension)</i>	January–December 2023 <i>(one-year extension)</i>	<p>– Given the recent political crisis, a collective decision has been reached by the Resident Coordinator’s office and the United Nations agencies to extend the current UNDAF for one year (2023) until the situation is more conducive to meaningful consultations with partners.</p> <p>– A one-year extension of the current CPD will enable UNICEF to develop a new CPD that is aligned with and derived from the new UNSDCF.</p>
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	2015–2022 <i>(including three one-year extensions)</i>	January–February 2023 <i>(two-month extension)</i>	<p>– The new UNSDF 2023–2026 is currently under development and is expected to be finalized during the second half of 2022.</p> <p>– In order to be fully aligned with the new UNSDCF, UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA are aiming to submit their respective CPDs at the first regular session of their Executive Boards in 2023.</p>