Second Regular Session of the UNICEF Executive Board 6 – 9 September 2022

Check against delivery

Intervention by the Chair of the Standing Group of National Committees to Item 5: Structured dialogue on financing the results of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021

Mr President, Executive Director Catherine Russell, distinguished delegates, National Committee colleagues,

There are several insights we can draw from this Structured Dialogue on Financing the Results of the UNICEF Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021.

Even in the midst of a pandemic, with fierce competition for funds, National Committees continue to prove themselves as the most reliable source of funds to UNICEF.

Of the total UNICEF income of \$27.8 billion reached between 2018 and 2021, National Committees are responsible for \$5.6 billion.

In 2021, UNICEF income surpassed the 8 billion mark for the first time. Private sector income hit its highest-ever milestone or \$2,077 million of total income, an increase of 29 per cent compared to 2020. 33 National Committees raised an unprecedented \$1.8 billion in revenue, representing 85% of UNICEF's total Private Sector income. This was an overall 28% growth in income compared to 2020, exceeding the year's ambitious fundraising targets.

National Committees are strong believers in the power of unrestricted funds, which are the life-blood of the organization. Even though UNICEF total Regular Resources

decreased by 4% in 2021, National Committees steadily increased such resources,

going from \$684 million in 2020 to \$717 million in 2021, which represents 46% of

the global revenue. This reaffirms National Committees as the largest source of

unrestricted funds to UNICEF.

National Committees also made solid contributions in Thematic Funding. Between

2018 and 2021, National Committees were responsible for over \$2.8 billion in Other

Resources. In 2021, of the top 10 contributors of such funds, 7 were National

Committees.

Such results speak to the reliability of National Committees and their proven

commitment to surpass results. It is with these lenses that National Committees

invite UNICEF and the Executive Board to examine item 9 on the agenda of this

session, and the planned financial estimates for the period 2022-2025. How can the

entire UNICEF ecosystem further strengthen its operating environment in order to

enable National Committees to continue to beat financial records and deliver results

for every child?

Thank you!

Suzanne Laszlo

Chair of the Standing Group of National Committees

Executive Director of UNICEF Netherlands