

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Rwanda to the United Nations

Statement of Rwanda at

Second regular session of the Executive Board of the United Nations

Children's Fund

September 6, 2022

Madam President,

Thank you for giving me the floor

My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by Ethiopia on behalf of the African Group.

Madam President,

First, let me take this opportunity to congratulate you on assuming the Presidency of the Executive Board. We look forward to working with you.

Executive Director Russell, thank you for your remarks, vision, and leadership.

As we work together to address challenges faced by children, you can count on Rwanda and its strong partnership with UNICEF.

And to the UNICEF staff around the world, especially in Rwanda, thank you for your invaluable and crucial work in aiding the world's children and supporting nations in their individual goals.

Madam President,

For Rwanda, Sustainable Development Goal 4 remains critical to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Rwanda is pleased to have partnered with UNICEF to set up remedial learning clubs in selected schools across the country to help students to live up to their potential and equip them with the skills they need to achieve their dream careers. Rwanda

encourages UNICEF to scale up such partnerships, which help primary school children in developing countries to close the gap between what they do know and what they are expected to know.

Madam President,

In two weeks, the UNSG will convene HLM on the Transforming Education Summit. We will discuss challenges and ways to resolve them. We do not have to go far; we have seen UNICEF's commitment to resolving the learning challenges. With more investments into UNICEF today, we have a unique opportunity to recover pandemic-related learning setbacks and sow the seeds to transform education in a rapidly changing world.

Madam President,

Let me take this opportunity to highlight the need to invest in technology infrastructure for education. Building back to the same level as before the pandemic will not get us to our 2030 goals.

Access to technology deserves greater attention now than ever before. Creating digital learning resources needs more funding. We believe digital learning is essential, and access to all must be ensured as it will play a key role in ensuring equal opportunities for children and help close the digital gap. In Rwanda, we have been working with UNICEF on the Giga initiative to connect every school to the Internet, and we have seen the impact it's having on our community.

The digital revolution is shaping children's lives profoundly, and We applaud UNICEF for embracing technology, especially through UNICEF's Office of Innovation. We believe that with more investment, UNICEF can continue to deliver innovative and impactful solutions.

Madam President,

Lastly, we look forward to hearing more during this session about the Update on the progress achieved through the COVID-19 Vaccine Delivery Partnership and UNICEF Strategic Plan: updated financial estimates, 2022–2025.

As conclusion,

We encourage UNICEF to continue focusing on strengthening integrated actions with the rest of the UN System to be efficient and effective and to leverage the private sector more.

Let us work together to create an environment where every child will be supported to make the most of their potential.

Thank you.