

**Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board**

**Template for delegations commenting on the draft country programme documents**

**2023 first regular session**

***Draft country programme document commenting period for Cabo Verde common country programme document: 7 to 25 November 2022 [18:00 EST]***

***Draft country programme document commenting period for Algeria; Bolivia (Plurinational State of); Central African Republic; Costa Rica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Haiti; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Lebanon; Nepal; Pacific Islands (multi-country programme); Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine (area programme); Sao Tome and Principe: 15 November to 5 December 2022 [18:00 EST]***

***Draft country programme for Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): 18 November to 8 December 2022 [18:00 EST]***

Delegations are kindly invited to use this template to share their comments on the draft country programme document being presented to the Executive Board during the forthcoming session.

Delegation name: *United Kingdom*

Draft country programme document: *Venezuela*

In accordance with Executive Board decision [2014/1](#), draft 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 stated above will be posted on the Executive Board website.

	<b>Delegation's comments</b>	<b>Response(s)</b>
<b>General comments</b>	1. Data used in the initial programme rationale is insufficient, selective and outdated. In particular, it fails to reflect the wider humanitarian crisis under which the programme would be delivered (in particular to child malnutrition, maternal mortality and access to essential services including health). It notably omits the social and demographic impact of	

	<p>Venezuela’s migration outflows, assuming old official population projections as a valid representation of the situation (UNICEF). In addition, it only mentions positive GDP growth in 2022 but does not refer to the erosion of nearly 80% of GDP from previous years. It is unlikely that this year’s GDP growth rate will be sustained. There is also no mention of domestic drivers affecting macro-economic performance.</p> <p>2. Proposed work includes improving State capacity to generate evidence and data, in partnership with ministries and other Government agencies such as the National Statistics Institute (INE) and the National Nutrition Institute. However, efforts should include increasing transparency and access to reliable data in order to support improved diagnostics and evidence-based policy-making. Baseline figures used by UNICEF date back to 2016, 2017 and 2019, when available, which may not be an accurate representation of the current situation and could affect an appropriate monitoring and evaluation of its interventions.</p>	
<p><b>Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme document</b></p>	<p><i>(Delegations providing comments may wish to include details, such as the page number, paragraph number, or page of the annexed results and resources framework.</i></p>	