

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; and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): 15 November to 5 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: EU

Draft country programme document: Bolivarian Republic of 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, and considered by the requesting country, in close consultation with UNICEF.

	Delegation's comments	Response(s)
General comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The CPD is in line with UNICEF's mission in VE, covering all its traditional areas of intervention.• The CPD is coherent with the government's development programme and aligned with the Government's priorities.• In general, the CPD programme should include a central focus of attention on programmes providing assistance and	<p>UNICEF welcomes the EU appreciation that the CPD is in line with UNICEF mandate and in alignment with national priorities.</p> <p>Protection of children against all forms of violence is a central pillar of UNICEF intervention. Aligned with strategic priority three of the United Nations Sustainable Development Framework (UNSDCF), Outcome three of the CPD -</p>

	<p>support to abused children and children victims of violence in general, to migrants' children and to pregnant girls. The CPD could better cover these areas of intervention and explain how these will be addressed.</p>	<p>every child and adolescent is protected - focuses on strengthening child protection systems. UNICEF will adopt a systemic approach to strengthen prevention and capacity for provision of services for children victims of all forms of violence. As indicated in paragraph 19, pregnant girls and children on the move are a priority. Some key interventions include strengthening of services, capacities and programs for the prevention and response to violence, family reunification, birth registration and identification, and promotion of social and behavior change to address harmful practices and prevent violence against children in all contexts and settings.</p>
<p>Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme document</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> <p>Point 12. of the CPD mentions that children and adolescents benefit from a system of social protection and inclusive policies with access to comprehensive practices and policies, could you explain and be more explicit about what kind of programme you intend to implement in this framework for action, the approach and action is very general.</p> <p>In the 18. point of the education component with the gender component should be much stronger and explicit, given than many of the difficulties experiences by women start in education and school. Components of sexual education should be included explicitly into the school programme.</p>	<p>Aligned with the UNSDCF direct effect 1.3, UNICEF considers that social protection systems are catalysts for expanding and enhancing equitable access to services – to leave no child behind. The framework for action entails focalizing social protection policies and advocating for a public financing and social protection systems that address the most pressing needs of the children and adolescents. Key interventions include high-level dialogue and advocacy; technical support to strengthen social protection programs; strengthen capacity for data generation and programming to generate livelihoods for most vulnerable women and adolescents through innovative partnerships, including with the private sector.</p> <p>UNICEF recognize the importance of a gender-transformative agenda in education, whereby the CPD includes that “the legal framework will be reviewed and updated to reinforce education with a gender-focused approach”. In this regard, UNICEF will work to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Education to exercise the principles of a gender transformative education, under the model of Child-Friendly Schools.</p> <p>The components of “sexual education” are embedded in the UNFPA CPD, aligned with the agreements of the UNSDCF. UNICEF works in coordination and complementarity with UNFPA to support the “PRETA Plan”, which includes Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) strategy as one of its main strategic pillars.</p>

	<p>The CPD 19. point, one side mentions identity, and other side violence. The latter issues is also an issue at schools, and a justice issue. Special protection should be considered explicitly for all children</p>	<p>The comment is well received and will be taken into account during the implementation of the CPD to improve children’s access to child-friendly justice and delivery of legal services.</p> <p>Prevention and response to violence against children will also be addressed in schools (paragraphs 18 and 19) and at all layers within the formal and informal education systems. UNICEF is committed to work closely with national authorities to ensure schools are safe spaces for children and platforms to promote children’s rights. Stronger and more efficient articulation between the education and national child protection system will be pursued.</p>
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