



**International Federation
for Family Development**

Oral Statement

First Regular Session February 2023

UNICEF Executive Board

Agenda item 2

Distinguished President,

The International Federation for Family Development is a non-governmental organization present in 70 countries on all continents and our main activity is focused on parenting support with skill-building programmes for parents as the first layer of protection and support of children.

I take the opportunity of this First Regular Session to share some recommendations on the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2022-2025 and how to reflect the commitment and collaboration with civil society organizations contained in the areas of change.

We are aware and appreciate that parents are being considered as a key tool in achieving the Plan's goal areas and as a One Goal Area itself dedicated to family-friendly policies and parenting support.

For this reason, we would like to share some recommendations from our experience in dealing with parents worldwide that can contribute to the better achievement of the goals contained in the Strategic Plan 2022-2025:

1- Increase parenting support programmes to expand the promotion of positive parenting practices, improve mental health and strengthen parent-child relationships.

2- Continue to support caregivers by preparing policies that address family risks related to children's costs and may prevent parents from providing their children with the best possible care.

3- Emphasis on strengthening the systems and structures that are in place to protect children and support families by upholding children's rights and child safety, as well as preventing and addressing child abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

4- Promote family-friendly policies that advocate parental leave, affordable child care, and other family-friendly policies.

With the Strategic Plan 2022-2025, UNICEF strives to give children around the world a brighter future by putting family needs first and investing in children's welfare. We are ready to assume our responsibility to help achieve the goals in the Strategic Plan and contribute to creating a better world for children.

Thank you, madam/mr. President