

**UNICEF Executive Board 13-16 June 2023 – Item 4 Annual Report on Humanitarian Action**

Thank you for the excellent and thorough annual report on humanitarian action – we appreciate the clear explanation of the humanitarian situation, challenges, actions and outcomes, backed up by evidence and data. And we thank all the staff of UNICEF at HQ and in the field for their efforts to reduce suffering.

Let me start by endorsing the strategic priorities set out in section VIII climate change, famine prevention, gender equality, disability inclusion, cluster leadership, the nexus and anticipatory action – and we fully support the focus on these issues.

On **organisational performance** I have 3 questions: i) it's good to hear about Accountability to Affected Populations specialist support to a number of country offices, but what steps does UNICEF need to take to ensure AAP is systematic in programming? ii) We note organisational benchmarks of conflict sensitive programming and contributions to social cohesions and peace are at very low levels, 23% and 29% - what is UNICEF doing to rectify this? iii) When can we expect the next update on the implementation of the UNICEF Humanitarian Review.

It is good to hear in 2022 country offices are required to consider the **humanitarian-development-peace nexus**, and that nexus programming has been demonstrated in Somalia, Sahel and others – what is the future rolling out of this? We would also be interested in how systematic UNICEF are being in engaging with the World Bank and International Financial Instruments at the country level?

In the same spirit of partnership working, we think it is vital that UNICEF is a full, engaged and enthusiastic participant in the systemwide work on the Joint Inter-sectoral Analysis Framework JIAF. In a world where there is simply not enough resources to meet humanitarian needs, directing what there is to where it can have greatest impact is absolutely vital. UNICEF can help the whole humanitarian sector, and itself here by sharing its sector/cluster specific methodologies and related data with OCHA/HCT to support the JIAF process, supporting the facilitation of the JIAF at the country-level, contributing to joint needs assessments and analytical workshops. On a similar note, we are interested to know how UNICEF how is planning to engage with the ERC Flagship initiatives at country and global levels?

We note and share UNICEF's appeal for quality funding. Many Member States have their funding challenges, but I am pleased that despite the challenges the UK have face, we have maintained our multi-year unearmarked funding for UNICEF's Humanitarian Work. We echo the Dutch intervention point here on quality reporting and visibility.

Thank you.