

## UNICEF Executive Board, Annual Session 13-16 June 2023

Remarks from the floor  
Delivered by Ms Tove Wennergren, MFA, Sweden

### Agenda Item 15 – Private fundraising and partnerships

Madam/Mr President,

Thank you for giving me the floor and for an excellent presentation. Please allow me to make a few comments and ask some additional questions on behalf of Sweden. First, let me express our appreciation for UNICEF's forward-leaning work when it comes to increasing financing from, and engagement with, the private sector. Not least the extensive work of the National Committees, including the Swedish NatCom, have contributed greatly to these developments and good results.

Sweden believes that innovation is key if we are to reach the sustainable development goals. We therefore commend the important work of PFP within this area, including the contributions of the Office of Innovation, which we are proud to host in Stockholm.

To quote the statement of our State Secretary, delivered at the Joint Meeting of the Boards recently, Sweden would like to see a UN system which strengthens its capacity to tap into the resources of the IFIs, a UN system that finds new resources, such as private capital, and a UN system which uses technologies and innovation to leap into a better future. When we plan for aid, we also need to look at what comes next: investments and trade. This is ultimately what will lift people out of poverty. Our development cooperation funds can help in order to create the conditions.

On this note, I would like to ask UNICEF to expand a bit on ongoing work and new possibilities to collaborate with the private sector and its investors, not least to catalyse external and private investments for children's rights and girl's empowerment. How can this work be strengthened to reach children, and to reach the poorest and most marginalised?

Thank you!