U.S. Statement during Agenda Item #5 - Oral Update on UNICEF humanitarian action at the UNICEF Executive Board Meeting

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AS DELIVERED

- The United States welcomes the update and the inclusion of UNICEF’s transformative approach to localization, local capacity development, flexibility of funding, cluster coordination, and its support to local economies through the procurement of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) using local markets.

- We commend UNICEF for its commitment to localization and would welcome an update on your plans to share the technical note on localization.

- Can you provide specific examples and lessons learned from this engagement with local partners?

- Acknowledging the unique and disproportionate needs that adolescent girls face in humanitarian crises and conflict-affected contexts, the United States commends UNICEF for launching its Adolescent Girl Programme Strategy intended to guide and support girls’ rights and empowerment in both humanitarian and development contexts.

- We recognize UNICEF for its commitment to provide life-saving interventions to children suffering from severe acute malnutrition.
• We applaud UNICEF for the increased close coordination with WHO and WFP to implement the WHO Guideline on the Prevention and Management of Wasting. Last year, the United States provided more than $200 million to address the increased needs for RUTF, and UNICEF and partners raised an additional $369.3 million. Can you elaborate on the plans to use these resources?

• With regard to your last slide for the procurement of RUTF and management of children with wasting, can you provide an update on the latest work with WHO and WFP in this area? Could you please share details about how UNICEF will continue coordinating with WFP on the implementation of the guideline, particularly in relation to prevention of wasting and ensuring the delivery of a comprehensive child health package in crises?

• To enhance the efficacy of program implementation; how can donors optimize their support for coordination between UNICEF and WFP?

• We thank UNICEF for your drive to facilitate quality, principled, and efficient humanitarian responses. As such, we ask you for an update on progress in implementing the recommendations of the Humanitarian Review and funding needs.