

**Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board**  
**Template for delegations commenting on the draft country programme documents**  
**2024 first regular session**

*Draft country programme document commenting period: 14 November to 4 December 2023 [18:00 hours Eastern Standard Time]*

Delegations are kindly invited to use this template to share their comments on the draft country programme documents being presented to the Executive Board during the forthcoming session.

Delegation name: *United States of America*

Draft country programme document: *Brazil*

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.

	<b>Delegation's comments</b>	<b>Response(s)</b>
<b>General comments</b>	<p>The United States welcomes the new draft CPD for Brazil.</p> <p>The Country Program is appropriately focused to address identified development challenges in the country.</p>	<p>UNICEF would like to acknowledge with appreciation the comments received from the United States, emphasising UNICEF's commitment to addressing the inequalities that affect the lives of children and adolescents in Brazil and the development challenges in the country.</p>
<b>Comments on specific aspects of the draft country programme documents</b>	<p><i>The recently created Ministry of Racial Equality was not listed among the major partners. To what extent is UNICEF engaged with the new Ministry?</i></p> <p><i>We recommend UNICEF include children with disabilities among the targeted groups in addition to those related to gender, race, and ethnicity.</i></p>	<p>UNICEF has been actively engaging with the Ministry of Racial Equality to mitigate the impacts of racism on the most vulnerable children, including afro descendant, indigenous peoples, ribeirinhos and quilombolas. Important to highlight that in 2023 UNICEF innovative strategy, called PIA – Primeira Infância Antirracista (“Early childhood free of racism”), was taken up by the Ministry of Racial Equality for nation-wide scaling with UNICEF support. To formalize this commitment, on November 20 (National Black Awareness Day), UNICEF formalized a technical cooperation agreement with the Ministries of Racial Equality (MIR), Health (MS), Education (MEC), Human Rights and Citizenship (MDHC) and Development and</p>

		<p>Social Assistance, Family and Fight against Hunger (MDS), which will enable the implementation of capacity building initiatives for health, social assistance and education professionals, the promotion of anti-racist practices in these services and the promotion of positive parenting programmes for mothers, fathers and caregivers. More on the event can be found here: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/Cz4NLJWvSZb/?img_index=3">https://www.instagram.com/p/Cz4NLJWvSZb/?img_index=3</a>.</p> <p>In relation to the second comment, UNICEF reaffirms its commitment to support the Government of Brazil in delivering equitable and sustainable policies and programmes focused on reaching and engaging the most vulnerable children and adolescents, so that their rights and well-being can be fulfilled. As part of this commitment, UNICEF will continue maintaining a targeted and explicit focus on promoting the rights of children living with disabilities, who often represent one of the most vulnerable groups of children in the country. UNICEF's support will combine policy advice, evidence generation, system strengthening and other operational strategies to reach the most vulnerable children and reduce inequalities of gender, race and ethnicity and geographical disparities, including disabilities. Furthermore, UNICEF will promote positive parenting practices to foster comprehensive nurturing care and protective family environments to address physical and domestic violence in early childhood and against children with disabilities, through gender-transformative and non-discriminatory approaches, as referenced under paragraph 33 of the CPD document.</p>
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