U.S. STATEMENT ON ITEM 6:

As Delivered February 7, 2024 Mr. Luis Figueroa

Humanitarian Affairs Advisor for Global Policy, Partnerships, Programs and Communications, USAID

- The United States welcomes the update on UNICEF humanitarian action and reiterates its support for the five key areas included in the report.
- We also welcome the midterm assessment of the Humanitarian Review and ask UNICEF to share the midterm assessment with Board Members before the Annual Session. We request an update on the timeline of the outstanding recommendations, 46 of which are ongoing and 8 have not yet started.
- We are pleased to know that the Anticipatory Action Framework is being implemented in 13 countries and projects are being developed in another 7. We welcome information on the criteria used to select these 20 countries and future rollout updates.
- With regards to the Emergency Preparedness Platform, can you tell us how UNICEF will measure preparedness capacity at the country-level?
- We commend the Organization's efforts to strengthen the analysis and use of monitoring data for decision-making. How is evidence from equity mapping and analysis tools being fed into humanitarian response activities and monitoring results?
- We recognize the continued commitment of UNICEF to localization, but we have questions: Can you explain why the reported proportion of funding going to local partners has not changed, or provide a more up-to-date proportion of funding? Can UNICEF expand on what efforts it is taking to increase partnerships with organizations that represent particularly marginalized groups?
- We note the global evaluation of efforts to localize humanitarian action will be completed during the first quarter of 2024, we ask UNICEF to disseminate its findings to this forum.
- To conclude, we ask UNICEF to continue working with WFP and WHO at the country level to ensure the implementation of the new WHO guidelines to address wasting.