

**Annual Session of the UNICEF Executive Board  
11 - 14 June 2024**

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**Intervention by the Chair of the Standing Group of National  
Committees to Item 16: Private Fundraising and Partnerships:  
financial report for the year ended 31 December 2023**

Mr President, Executive Director Russell, distinguished delegates,

In both our influence and income activities, the National Committees had another year of significant success in 2023. Our work begins by creating broad public support in our countries for the rights of children and the work of UNICEF to deliver for them.

In 2023, that public support, and our advocacy with governments, supported UNICEF's Public Partnership Division in its successful efforts to raise significant funds from our governments—a critical source of resources for UNICEF.

In addition, by influencing the private sector, the 33 National Committees raised US\$1.63 billion in income, representing 78% of UNICEF's total Private Sector income. We saw increases in regular resources, from US\$684 million in 2022 to US\$703 million in 2023, and in other resources, from US\$520 million in 2022 to US\$540 million in 2023. At the same time, we note a significant decline in emergency resources raised by the National Committees, from just over \$1 billion to \$384 million. This resulted from the extraordinary fundraising success in 2022 in

response to the Ukraine emergency, which was not repeatable at that scale in 2023. Even with that decline in emergency funding, two National Committees were ranked among UNICEF's top 10 partners for emergency funding in 2023. Among the top 10 global humanitarian thematic funding partners, 6 are National Committees.

Our work in influence not only delivered resources to support programs, but important policy changes that advanced the rights of children. For instance:

- 21 National Committees reported having influenced their governments to make policy changes for children, with many of them focused on mental health and climate change.
- National Committees played an instrumental role in their capitals ahead of COP28. Commitments to include children and youth in climate planning and discussions were secured thanks to the advocacy of National Committees in Australia, Austria, Belgium, Finland, Japan, New Zealand, and the UK.
- National Committees Child Rights Education activities reached over 6 million children in 2023. Additionally, 14 National Committees are implementing or planning high-impact Child Rights Schools models or similar initiatives, involving more than 6,000 schools and almost 2 million children.
- The Child Friendly Cities Initiative was implemented by 22 National Committees, with around 1,140 cities and municipalities earning the UNICEF Child Friendly City recognition. In Spain, the Republic of Korea, and Finland, over half of the children reside in child-friendly cities.

Let me take this opportunity to also welcome the findings related to advocacy of the evaluation office of UNICEF. National Committees very much look forward to engaging with our UNICEF colleagues in DGCA, PG and PFP in capacity building and in sharing expertise.

The National Committees are proud of our work in 2023, our contribution to UNICEF's overall mission, and our collective pursuit of a world where every child is healthy, educated, protected and respected.

Thank you.

Michael Nyenhuis

Chair of the Standing Group of National Committees

Executive Director of UNICEF USA