

Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board

Template for delegations commenting on the country programme documents

2021 First Regular Session

Country programme document posting period: 17 November to 7 December 2020

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

Delegation name: *Norway*

Draft country programme document: *China*

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, 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 will be made public on the Executive Board website, and considered by the requesting country, in close consultation with UNICEF.

General comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We acknowledge the efforts being made to consult stakeholders including other member states, who in capacity of being core donors, members of the Executive Board, partners or donors to other developing countries, relevant for the south-south cooperation, have stakes in this CPD.• We are happy to see that the current version of the CPD has improved considerably from the first draft. An inclusive and consultative process is time and resource demanding but will, in our opinion, lead to a better end-result.• The CPD is in line with Chinese development priorities while indisputably being founded on, and actively promoting, the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals and the Child Rights Convention as overarching principles.• The principle of leaving no one behind is referred to throughout the CPD, with a general focus on vulnerable groups of children. Children living with disabilities and children of migrant parents are among these groups. The CPD clearly states that the challenges facing children living in poverty or belonging to other vulnerable groups are systemic and structural and require political solutions. The CPD is based on the Convention of the rights of the child and with a clear gender perspective.• To Norway, access to and knowledge about sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights are important to fulfil the health and wellbeing of adolescent, youth, girls and women.• To achieve its goals the CPD balances UNICEF's operational activities with its normative mandate well. It is clearly stated that UNICEF will work at the national level on legislation, policy and fiscal analysis.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CPD takes into account China’s transition from a developing country to also being a global development actor. The language in the section on south-south cooperation however, could ideally state the correlation with achieving common global goals even clearer. We would therefore like to see an emphasis on UNICEF seeking to inform and influence China’s international development cooperation in line with the 2030 Agenda, to improve its effectiveness, increase its development impact, and ensure that it meets international norms and standards on environmental protection, social aspects, transparency and debt sustainability.
<p>Comments on specific aspects of the country programme document</p>	<p><i>(Delegations providing comments may wish to include details, such as the page number, paragraph number, or page of the annexed results and resources framework.)</i></p>