

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: Somalia

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">• The program document is well linked with the newly approved UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for Somalia and the National Development Plan 9 for Somalia.• To reduce the reliance on service provision through NGOs UNICEFs continued focus on strengthening the government at central, federal and local level is highly relevant. Building on experiences from the previous period it would be interesting to know more about when UNICEF has experienced most success in capacity building, particularly given the highly political context and the building of a federal state.• When supporting government institutions, it is imperative that economic support is not given directly the respective institution, but through the government system/single treasury account. The PMF capacity in the various institutions is very weak and the risk of mismanagement is big. UNICEF should consider PFM components to be included in their capacity building efforts based on needs.• Bridging the gap between humanitarian and development assistance and building resilience is a much needed approach.• On education, UNICEFs focus on early childhood is very relevant. The needs in the education sector are substantial in Somalia and stronger lead from UNICEF in the sector could be considered. The focus on teacher training is welcome, and it is imperative that the <i>quality</i> of teacher training is considered.• UNICEF is one of GPE's grant agents in Somalia. There is no mention of UNICEF's engagement in the development and implementation of a new education sector plan. Unicef has in the past played a central role in this and could play an important role
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	<p>in ensuring a context sensitive and feasible plan , with clear priorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNICEF is seen as a strong partner in a local governance program supported by the government. UNICEF is one of many UN organisations cooperating in the program. • To Norway, access to and knowledge about sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights are important to fulfill the health and wellbeing of adolescent, youth, girls and women.
<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>