

## 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: *United Kingdom*

Draft country programme document: *Panama*

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.

<b>General comments</b>	
<b>Comments on specific aspects of the country programme document</b>	<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> <p>Para 39. Could the Bicentennial Pact on Closing the Inequality Gap launched on 26 November be noted in this para as it is an important mechanism for dialogue and citizen participation in government?</p> <p>Para 46. It would be good to include civic education as one of the model programmes to increase youth awareness on what their role is to ensure government accountability, push for transparency as well as to increase their knowledge on the electoral process and constitutional guarantees.</p> <p>Para 52. It would be useful to include here how UNICEF might engage Las Justicias de Paz or courts at the local level as a key stakeholders for ensuring access to justice.</p> <p>Para 54. Again it would be good to reference the judicial system here as their role is fundamental to guarantee justice for survivors of abuse. The Office of the Ombudsperson should be highlighted as well, and in particular the National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture which</p>

	<p>as the remit to guarantee proper treatment and to prevent human rights abuses in migrant shelters, child shelters, orphanages, prisons and other institutional settings.</p> <p>Para 61. The emphasis here on disaggregated data is very much welcome.</p> <p>Para 63. It would be good to address how best practices in data collection might be utilised in support of this activity in order to strengthen the government's ability to implement evidenced-based policies and to properly monitor and evaluate progress.</p> <p>Annex, Outcome 3. Suggest to include Ministry of Government, Ombudsperson's Office, Ministry of Security and the Judicial System as key partners given their role as key guarantors of protection and justice.</p>
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