

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: *Netherlands*

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.

	Member state comments	UNICEF response
General comments	The Netherlands welcomes the inclusion of key lessons from the 2016-2020 Country Programme Document (CPD), including relevant reviews and evaluations, in the design of the new CPD. Moreover, we welcome that the CPD is closely aligned with the priority areas for acceleration of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018 – 2021.	UNICEF appreciates the comments made by the Netherlands on the China draft country programme document (CPD).
Comments on specific aspects of the country programme document	The Netherlands appreciates the cross-cutting elements that underpin the CPD, such as gender responsiveness, disability inclusiveness and urbanization. We believe these are important approaches, which are embedded across programmes to address norms, behaviours and inequalities. The normative norms of the UN, such as human rights, should always be an integral part of development programmes.	The UNICEF China CPD aims first and foremost to uphold and protect the rights of all children in China. Discussion of child rights is prominent in the CPD related to all children in China including vulnerable groups. The overarching focus on rights provides the framework for UNICEF's support to child development efforts in China.

	<p>The Netherlands, furthermore, welcomes UNICEF’s support for South-South cooperation, noting that in the case of the CPD for China, the CPD should demonstrate how South-South cooperation contributes to sustainable development in China. We would welcome more information on how South-South cooperation will contribute to the sustainable development in China.</p>	<p>UNICEF aims to influence and inform the efforts of the Government of China in line with international norms and standards, through specific institutions such as the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA), as they invest in other countries towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) so as to maximize results for all children, leaving no one behind.</p> <p>Under the framework of South-South cooperation UNICEF will share transparently best practices in child development - that are in line with international norms and standards – to China, and from China to other countries. This aims to support sustainable development in both China and other countries.</p>
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