

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.

	Member state comments	UNICEF response
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.	<p>UNICEF appreciates the comments made by Norway on the China draft country programme document (CPD). We have taken note of and replied to points raised and have amended the text of the CPD in discussion with the Government of China.</p> <p>As noted, the 2021-2025 UNICEF country programme for China has been designed to contribute to the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development agreed upon by 193 Member States of the United Nations, and is guided by the Convention of the Rights of the Child.</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>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 on environmental protection, social aspects, transparency and debt sustainability. 	<p>Adolescent health and nutrition is a component of the country programme. This includes enhancing adolescent physical and mental health, understanding adolescent needs, and adopting gender-responsive approaches to address norms, behaviours and inequalities.</p> <p>With regards to South-South cooperation, UNICEF China’s role as a neutral facilitator to influence and inform China’s investments in other countries towards SDG attainment is consistent with the universality and the interconnectivity (between goals, between countries, and between global, regional and national levels) of the SDGs. It is also consistent with the global mandate of UNICEF to promote child rights, working in more than 190 countries and territories, to reach the most disadvantaged children.</p> <p>UNICEF will continue to engage with stakeholders and donors in the implementation of the CPD through its programme reviews and other forums.</p>
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