



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
5 February 2026

Original: English

For decision

United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

First regular session 2026

10–13 February 2026

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Provisional annotated agenda, timetable and organization of work

Contents

<i>Item</i>	<i>Page</i>
1. Adoption of the provisional annotated agenda, timetable and organization of work	3
2. Opening statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director of UNICEF	3
Organizational and procedural matters	
3. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Executive Board	3
Programme and policy matters	
4. UNICEF programme cooperation	3
(a) Country programme documents	3
(b) Extensions of ongoing country programmes	4
5. Report on UNICEF follow-up to the recommendations and decisions of the fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth meetings of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS Programme Coordinating Board	5
6. Update on UNICEF humanitarian action	5
7. Update on the UN80 Initiative and implementation by UNICEF	5
8. Update on UNICEF efforts to address racism and racial discrimination	5
Evaluation, audit and oversight matters	
9. Evaluation of UNICEF work in early childhood development and early childhood education, 2018–2023, and management response	6



10.	Plan for global evaluations, 2026–2029.....	6
11.	Progress on the consideration of the review of governance and oversight of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women by the Joint Inspection Unit.....	7
	Resource, financial and budgetary matters	
12.	UNICEF financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 and report of the Board of Auditors, and management response	7
13.	Private Fundraising and Partnerships: 2026 workplan and proposed budget	7
	Other matters and adoption of draft decisions	
14.	Report of the joint field visit to Egypt by members of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP, 26–30 October 2025	8
15.	Other matters	8
16.	Adoption of draft decisions	8
17.	Closing statements by the Executive Director of UNICEF and the President of the Executive Board.....	8
	Provisional timetable and organization of work for the 2026 first regular session of the UNICEF Executive Board	9

Provisional annotated agenda

1. Adoption of the provisional annotated agenda, timetable and organization of work *For decision (E/ICEF/2026/1/Rev.1)*

The provisional agenda is prepared in consultation with the Bureau of the Executive Board and is based on the proposed programme of work for 2026 presented to the Board at its second regular session of 2025. The Board will adopt the agenda for the session, making any amendments that it considers necessary.

UNICEF focal point:
Mr. Andrés Franco
Secretary of the Executive Board
afranco@unicef.org / 212 326 7663

2. Opening statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director of UNICEF

The Executive Board will hear opening statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director of UNICEF.

UNICEF focal point:
Mr. Andrés Franco
Secretary of the Executive Board
afranco@unicef.org / 212 326 7663

Organizational and procedural matters

3. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Executive Board *(E/ICEF/2026/2)*

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2011/11 and rule 11 of the rules of procedure of the Executive Board of UNICEF, the Board will elect a new Bureau consisting of a President and four Vice-Presidents. The President and Vice-Presidents of the Executive Board represent the regional groups of the United Nations Member States. In accordance with the rotation scheme established by the Board in its decision 1992/7, the President for 2026 will be nominated from among the Eastern European States that are members of the Board. The election will take place on 12 January 2026.

UNICEF focal point:
Mr. Andrés Franco
Secretary of the Executive Board
afranco@unicef.org / 212 326 7663

Programme and policy matters

4. UNICEF programme cooperation

(a) Country programme documents

For decision

The programme documents listed below are presented to the Executive Board for approval on a no-objection basis, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1. The theme for the segment is “A Turning Point for Children’s Health: reclaiming progress to deliver a world where every child survives – and thrives”. Costed evaluation plans for each country programme are posted on the UNICEF Executive Board website alongside the documents, as is a link to the United Nations Sustainable Development Group website, where the relevant United Nations

Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks have been made available, as appropriate. The eight programme documents are presented by region:

East Asia and the Pacific

Malaysia ([E/ICEF/2026/P/L.1](#))

Eastern and Southern Africa

Somalia ([E/ICEF/2026/P/L.2](#))

South Africa ([E/ICEF/2026/P/L.3](#))

Europe and Central Asia

Georgia ([E/ICEF/2026/P/L.4](#))

Latin America and Caribbean

Argentina ([E/ICEF/2026/P/L.5](#))

Cuba ([E/ICEF/2026/P/L.6](#))

Mexico ([E/ICEF/2026/P/L.7](#))

Middle East and North Africa

Sudan ([E/ICEF/2026/P/L.8](#))

UNICEF focal points:

Mr. Bo Viktor Nylund

Director a.i., Office of Strategy and Evidence – Innocenti

bvnylund@unicef.org / +39 055 203 3358

Mr. George Laryea-Adjei

Director, Global Programme Division

glaryeaadjei@unicef.org / 212 326 1080

(b) Extensions of ongoing country programmes

For decision ([E/ICEF/2026/P/L.9/Rev.1](#))

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2009/11, the Executive Board will be (i) informed of the 10-month extension of the country programme for Eswatini, following a two-month extension, and of the first one-year extension of the country programme for Kenya; and (ii) requested to approve the 10-month extension of the Gulf Area subregional programme, following a two-year extension and a two-month extension.

UNICEF focal points:

Mr. Bo Viktor Nylund

Director a.i., Office of Strategy and Evidence – Innocenti

bvnylund@unicef.org / +39 055 203 3358

Mr. George Laryea-Adjei

Director, Global Programme Division

glaryeaadjei@unicef.org / 212 326 1080

5. Report on UNICEF follow-up to recommendations and decisions of the fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth meetings of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS Programme Coordinating Board

For information (UNICEF/2026/EB/2)

The Executive Board will hear an update on the implementation of the recommendations and decisions of the fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth meetings of the United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) Programme Coordinating Board, held in December 2024 and June 2025, respectively.

UNICEF focal point:
Ms. Anurita Bains
Associate Director, HIV/AIDS
abains@unicef.org / 212 326 7228

6. Update on UNICEF humanitarian action

For information (UNICEF/2026/EB/3)

The Executive Board will hear an update on UNICEF humanitarian action in the context of global reform initiatives, such as the Humanitarian Reset and UN80, with a focus on prioritizing the most vulnerable children and engaging with national authorities and other partners to build resilience and tackle the drivers of vulnerability.

UNICEF focal point:
Ms. Lucia Elmi
Director, Office of Emergency Programmes
lelmi@unicef.org / 212 326 7448

7. Update on the UN80 Initiative and implementation by UNICEF

For decision

The Executive Board will hear an update on UNICEF engagement in the UN80 Initiative pursuant to a decision taken by the Bureau of the Executive Board during the second regular session of 2025 to add an agenda item on the matter at the first regular session of 2026.

UNICEF focal point:
Ms. Mandeep O'Brien
Director, Public Partnerships Division
mobrien@unicef.org / 212 326 7118

8. Update on UNICEF efforts to address racism and racial discrimination

For decision (E/ICEF/2026/6)

The Executive Board will be provided with an update on the ongoing efforts of UNICEF to address racism and racial discrimination, in accordance with decision 2025/21 and based on document [E/ICEF/2025/18/Rev.1](#) presented at the second regular session of 2025. The report details all actions taken in this regard, including on metrics to measure progress, to ensure that the issue receives sufficient visibility.

UNICEF focal point:
Mr. Sajid Ali
Principal Adviser, Division of People and Culture
sajidali@unicef.org / 212 824 6065

Evaluation, audit and oversight matters

9. Evaluation of UNICEF work in early childhood development and early childhood education, 2018–2023, and management response

For decision ([E/ICEF/2026/3](#), [E/ICEF/2026/4](#))

The evaluation assesses UNICEF contributions to early childhood development (ECD) and early childhood education (ECE) during the period 2018–2023, including the organization’s support for national policy development, financing mechanisms and integrated service delivery. The findings of the evaluation are expected to inform and enhance ECD and ECE programme delivery during the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2026–2029 and contribute towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The report is accompanied by a management response.

UNICEF focal point for the evaluation report:

Mr. Robert McCouch
Director of Evaluation
rmccouch@unicef.org / 212 303 7952

UNICEF focal points for the management response:

Mr. George Laryea-Adjei
Director, Global Programme Division
glaryeaadjei@unicef.org / 212 326 1080

Ms. Chemba Raghavan
Global Lead, Early Childhood Development, Global Programme Division
craghavan@unicef.org / 212 824 6291

10. Plan for global evaluations, 2026–2029

For decision ([E/ICEF/2026/5](#))

Costed annual workplan for evaluation for 2026

For information (UNICEF/2026/EB/5)

The Plan for global evaluations, 2026–2029 has been prepared in accordance with the Revised evaluation policy of UNICEF ([E/ICEF/2023/27](#) and [E/ICEF/2023/27/Corr.1](#)) and relevant Executive Board decisions. It sets out the highest-priority corporate evaluations identified through a risk-based planning process and extensive consultation, aligned with the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2026–2029. The Plan provides a strategic road map, with key shifts in focus, implementation modalities, risks and reporting. Also, in accordance with Executive Board decision 2025/14, UNICEF will begin to present costed annual workplans for evaluation at the first regular session each year, starting in 2026. The workplan for 2026 will set out the resource requirements for implementing the Plan for global evaluations, 2026–2029 in its first year, including priority evaluations, thematic coverage and measures to strengthen decentralized evaluation capacity, as well as additional evaluative activities corresponding to commitments made in the Plan for global evaluations, 2026–2029, the Revised evaluation policy of UNICEF (2023) and the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2026–2029.

UNICEF focal point:

Mr. Robert McCouch
Director of Evaluation
rmccouch@unicef.org / 212 303 7952

11. Progress on the consideration of the review of governance and oversight of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women by the Joint Inspection Unit

For decision

The Executive Board will be provided with an update on the implementation of its decision 2024/15, on the assessment of how the Executive Board executes its governance and oversight functions.

UNICEF focal point:

Mr. Andrés Franco

Secretary of the Executive Board

afranco@unicef.org / 212 326 7663

Resource, financial and budgetary matters

12. UNICEF financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 and report of the Board of Auditors, and management response

For decision (A/80/5/Add.3); for information (E/ICEF/2026/AB/L.2)

The UNICEF financial report and audited financial statements and report of the Board of Auditors are presented to the Executive Board annually, with the presentation taking place at the first regular session so that the Board can take into account any comments on the report made by the Fifth Committee during the current session of the General Assembly.¹ In addition, the following related reports are available to the Executive Board for information: (a) report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its reports on the United Nations funds and programmes for the year ended 31 December 2024 (A/80/353/Add.1) and (b) financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors for the period ended 31 December 2024: report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/80/485).

UNICEF focal point:

Ms. Diane Kepler

Comptroller and Director, Division of Financial and Administrative Management

dkepler@unicef.org / 212 824 6386

United Nations Board of Auditors focal point:

Mr. Maurício de Albuquerque Wanderley, Brazil

mauricio.wanderley@un.org / 212 963 9630

13. Private Fundraising and Partnerships: 2026 workplan and proposed budget

For decision (E/ICEF/2026/AB/L.1)

Update on the World Bank instrument to facilitate sustained investment in private sector fundraising

For information (UNICEF/2026/EB/4)

The document covers the workplan and proposed budget for 2026 for private fundraising and partnership activities. The Executive Board will also be presented with updates on the World Bank instrument to facilitate sustained investment in private sector fundraising. In addition, the Executive Board will receive an oral update on the work of the National Committees for UNICEF.

¹ The Fifth Committee of the General Assembly considered the report on 8 December 2025.

UNICEF focal point:
Ms. Carla Haddad Mardini
Director, Private Fundraising and Partnerships Division
chaddadmardini@unicef.org / +41 22 909 5702

Other matters and adoption of draft decisions

14. Report of the joint field visit to Egypt by members of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP, 26–30 October 2025
For information (DP/FPA/OPS-ICEF-UNW-WFP/2026/CRP.1)

Presented for information is the report of the joint field visit to Egypt of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP, from 26 October to 30 October 2025. The report is presented in accordance with Executive Board decisions 2004/13 and 2020/1, and with the Revised guidelines for the field visits of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women, and for the joint field visits of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP.

15. Other matters

The Executive Board has before it the provisional list of agenda items for its annual session of 2026 and may consider any other matters under this agenda item.

16. Adoption of draft decisions

17. Closing statements by the Executive Director of UNICEF and the President of the Executive Board

Provisional timetable and organization of work for the 2026 first regular session of the UNICEF Executive Board

10–13 February 2026²

Monday 12 January	10–11.30 a.m.	Item 3	Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Executive Board
Tuesday 10 February	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.	Item 1	Adoption of the provisional annotated agenda, timetable and organization of work
		Item 2	Opening statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director of UNICEF
			General statements
	1.15–2.45 p.m.		<i>Informal consultations</i>
	3–5 p.m.	Item 12	UNICEF financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 and report of the Board of Auditors, and management response
		Item 13	Private Fundraising and Partnerships: 2026 workplan and proposed budget
	5–6 p.m.		<i>Informal consultations</i>
Wednesday 11 February	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.	Item 4	UNICEF programme cooperation
			(a) Country programme documents
			(a) Extensions of ongoing country programmes
		Item 8	Update on UNICEF efforts to address racism and racial discrimination
		Item 7	Update on the UN80 Initiative and implementation by UNICEF
	1.15–2.45 p.m.		<i>Informal consultations</i>
	3–5 p.m.	Item 9	Evaluation of UNICEF work in early childhood development and early childhood education, 2018–2023, and management response
		Item 10	Plan for global evaluations, 2026–2029
			Costed annual workplan for evaluation for 2026
		Item 11	Progress on the consideration of the review of governance and oversight of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF and UN-Women by the Joint Inspection Unit
	5–6 p.m.		<i>Informal consultations</i>

² When consideration of an agenda item concludes ahead of the allocated time, the next item will be taken up for consideration and the timetable adjusted accordingly.

Thursday 12 February	10 a.m.– 1 p.m.	Item 5	Report on UNICEF follow-up to recommendations and decisions of the fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth meetings of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS Programme Coordinating Board
		Item 6	Update on UNICEF humanitarian action
		Item 14	Report of the joint field visit to Egypt by members of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP, 26–30 October 2025
		Item 15	Other matters
		Item 16	Adoption of draft decisions
		Item 17	Closing statements of the Executive Director and the President of the Executive Board

3–5 p.m.
