

UNICEF Executive Board
Second Regular Session 2026
Item 05 – Structured dialogue on financing
the results of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2022–2025
03 September 2026, New York

– CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY –

Mr/Ms President of the Executive Board,
Madam Executive Director,
Distinguished Members of the Executive Board,

We would like to thank UNICEF for the report and presentation shared with us for this Structured Funding Dialogue, which closes the Strategic Plan 2022-2025.

We highly appreciate the transparent presentation of UNICEF's financial situation and commend the progress made on the entity-specific Funding Compact commitments.

We take note of the historic shift in the composition of core resources. We share UNICEF's assessment that private sector support cannot replace the foundational role of Member States in preserving the legitimacy and multilateral character of the organization. Addressing the erosion of public sector core funding therefore remains a shared responsibility.

In this difficult context regarding both the availability of funding and increasing humanitarian and development needs, we commend UNICEF for its demonstrated ability to mobilise diversified funding sources, including private funding and thus creating a broad and comparatively stable funding basis to address the needs of children and their communities worldwide.

We notably welcome the increased contributions from non-OECD/DAC partners and international financial institutions, as well as global programme partnerships, including UNICEF's accreditation by the Green Climate Fund.

We encourage UNICEF to sustain this diversification while continuing to make the case for flexible and predictable core funding. Against this background, we would be interested to hear:

- What measures does UNICEF see as most effective in reversing the decline in public sector core funding and increasing the flexibility of earmarked contributions?

- In this context: How can the UN80 work package on funding mechanisms best contribute to a more balanced and predictable funding base for the 2026-2029 Strategic Plan?
- We would also be interested in UNICEF's assessment of the reasons behind the decline of thematic funding and how this is being addressed as part of the discussions on the UN80 work package on funding mechanisms?

Thank you very much.