United States Remarks for the
UNICEF Executive Board Annual Session
June 1-4, 2021

Item 12: Update on the implementation of GA resolution 72/279 and QCPR

We note UNICEF’s progress in the implementation of the new UN Development System in five areas as outlined in the information note: supporting the Resident Coordinator (RC) system; working together with sister agencies through joint funding and programming mechanisms; contributing to system-wide efforts to support the implementation of the SDGs; achieving greater efficiency with shared business operations and common premises; and delivering results in a new UN Development System.

As noted in our national statement, the rollout of the new RC system is an important step towards making the UN Development System agencies better coordinated to achieve a common mission on the ground with a focus on effectiveness, efficiency, and results of their work. We appreciate that UNICEF will be nominating staff for the RC/HC Talent Pipeline and encourage UNICEF to put forward candidates with strong humanitarian backgrounds to strengthen and diversify the RC/HC pool.

We believe the success of the new RC system and country teams will depend on striking the right balance between RC authority and agencies’ flexibility and accountabilities in responding to the needs on the ground and delivering results. UN Development System Agencies are accountable ultimately to their respective governing bodies. As such, UNICEF remains accountable to this Executive Board.

To this end, we would particularly like to acknowledge UNICEF’s contributions at headquarters and country-level to the completion and fine-tuning of the Management Accountability Framework and RC performance appraisal feedback mechanism.

We encourage UNICEF management to continue to update member states on this work and to consult the Board on issues related to the organization’s operations, programs, and budget and resources.