STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. ENKHBOID VORSHILOV,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MONGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
(on the agenda item 2, 3)

Mr. President,
Madam Executive Director,
Distinguished Members and Observers of the Executive Board,

I’d like to thank Ms. Henrieta H.Fore, the UNICEF Executive Director, for her comprehensive statement.

At the outset, let me, on behalf of my Government, express gratitude to you Madam Executive Director, my dear Henrietta, for your continued leadership throughout your tenure and UNICEF’s leadership in protecting and promoting children’s rights and for being a formidable player in delivering COVID vaccines to the most remote locations in the world, including my own country. You will be dearly missed and I wish you and your family all the best.

As you rightly highlighted in you statement, the children and youth of the world are facing considerable challenges like hunger, poverty, violence, inequality and discrimination combined with health and learning challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Humanitarian crises in places like Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Yemen as well as climate disasters in Haiti and elsewhere put many children in a dire situation. I would like to commend UNICEF teams’ efforts on the ground to deliver best of assistance to children and “leave no one behind” by providing health care, vaccines, clean water, nutrition and educational support. I would also like to highlight that all of this works was possible thanks to the generosity of UNICEF’s donors.

This second resumed session is the last one for Mongolia as a member of the Executive Board and I hope that the Board will adopt the UNICEF Strategic Plan 2022-2025. Most of the clauses of the UNICEF Strategic plan are in line with UNICEF’s commitment to deliver on SDGs as well as Mongolia’s long-term development policy “Vision-2050” and the Government Action Program 2020-2024.

My delegation appreciates that, in its implementation, UNICEF will continue its long-standing practice of agreeing on priorities with national governments, and fully
respecting national priorities and ownership. The plan reflects UNICEF’s universal mandate to reach all children and as a country that supports UNICEF’s double humanitarian and development mandate, my delegation stands ready to endorse the new Strategic Plan.

One of the priorities of the Government of Mongolia is digital transition and youth employment and empowerment and leave no one behind, especially people with disabilities and youth not in employment, education or training. In this regard, I agree with the Executive Director’s conviction that UNICEF’s new Strategic plan will serve as a necessary accelerator of the progress for children, young people and their communities.

The World Bank estimates a loss of US$10 trillion in earnings over the lifetime of this generation of children and young people if urgent action is not taken to address the learning crisis. Connecting every child to world-class digital solutions that offer personalized learning is important for my Government. I am confident that UNICEF’s flagship initiatives GIGA, Generation Unlimited and its component Reimagine Education, will contribute to tackling the learning crisis.

Mr. President,

I would like to reassure you that although Mongolia will no longer be in the Executive Board of UNICEF, my delegation will continue supporting UNICEF’s efforts in protecting and promoting the rights of children and youth and continue the fruitful cooperation with UNICEF.

I thank you.