UNICEF experience in high-income countries
Progress update

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Item 9: Progress update on UNICEF experience in high-income countries and in countries transitioning from upper-middle-income to high-income status within the framework of the UNICEF universal agenda for child rights.

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Background

Building on the review presented to the Executive Board in 2016, which:

- Recognized that inequities among children exist in all countries
- Reiterated the focus of UNICEF support to the least developed countries
- Emphasized the value added by UNICEF in a variety of contexts working through different operational modalities
Since 2016, UNICEF has increased its experience in high-income countries (HICs) by:

- Investing in preparedness for sudden-onset emergencies
- Analysing case studies and synthesizing lessons learned
- Defining scope and strategies for programmatic engagement and financing
Core functions and strategies

UNICEF has demonstrated a significant capacity to contribute to the fulfilment of child rights in high-income countries, particularly through four main strategies:

- Evidence generation
- Advocacy for better policies and programmes
- Social and behaviour change
- Technical assistance for system strengthening
Modalities of engagement

- Country programmes
- Multi-country programmes
- National Committees
- No National Committee or country programme
Financial sustainability

- No regular resources programme expenditure in HICs (exceptions are multi-country programmes and transitioning countries)
- Income from HICs significantly exceeds expenditure in HICs
- Fundraising investment expenditure in HICs is approved by the Executive Board
Conclusions

- Programming for children in low-income countries remains our top priority.

- Deliberate cross-country learning equips UNICEF to achieve better results for every child, in the spirit of our universal agenda.

- UNICEF will enhance programming in high-income countries within agreed and existing priority settings and current policies, rules and regulations.

- Enhanced fundraising capability and leveraging opportunities will be realized and tracked in high-income countries.
Thank you