

CF/EXD/2013-003

24 January 2013

Enhancing UNICEF's response to Level 2 emergencies

This Executive Directive announces further steps to enhance UNICEF's response to emergencies. This decision is in line with previous directives concerning large-scale, or Level 3 (L3), emergencies (CF/EXD/2011-01 of 21 March 2011, CF/EXD/2012-01 of 6 March 2012) as well as with the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action (CF/EXD/2010-02 of 19 April 2010).

Through this Executive Directive, clearer procedures for designating and responding to such emergencies are put in place. They are based on and consistent with the current responsibilities of Regional Directors and Headquarters (HQ) Divisions with regards to the coordination of support and oversight of response to emergencies, with Country Office (CO) leadership remaining accountable for the response in a Level 2 (L2) emergency. The L2 procedure identifies some simplifications and fast-tracking mechanisms applicable to designated L2 emergencies. These are listed in the Annex. They include fast-track procedures for human resources, simplified operational procedures including those related to Programme Cooperation Agreements, and an automatic Emergency Programme Fund allocation of \$2 million. These simplifications are in some cases different from those that apply to L3 emergencies, but build on many of the same lessons and simplification efforts. As always, attention must be paid to risk mitigation when implementing fast track procedures.

This L2 emergency procedure will be the object of a review led by EMOPS in 2014.

(signed) Anthony Lake
Executive Director