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Office of the Secretary of the Executive Board

DECISION MONITORING TABLE 2018

The following matrix keeps track of the implementation of specific and time-bound requests contained in Executive Board decisions. The matrix is revised on a regular basis to keep the information relevant and up to date.

The full text of each decision is available by clicking on the decision number. For more details on other aspects of these decisions or for the full compendium of Executive Board decisions, please visit: https://www.unicef.org/executiveboard/decisions.

The status of a decision is indicated as follows: (1) GREEN signifies that an action has been "completed"; and (2) YELLOW signifies that an action is "in progress" or "partially completed" (action in progress, with a due date, if relevant).

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
2018/2 Evaluation report and management response, road map to a revision of the evaluation policy of UNICEF and plan for global evaluations, 2018-2021	Para 3 (on the management response to evaluation report: Towards improved emergency responses: synthesis of UNICEF evaluations of humanitarian action, 2010–2016): Requests UNICEF to provide an update to the Executive Board at its first regular session of 2019 on the implementation of the actions to which UNICEF committed in its management response to the evaluation synthesis report;	The updated management response to evaluation report: Towards improved emergency responses: synthesis of UNICEF evaluations of humanitarian action, 2010–2016 is available from: https://documents-dds- ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N18/006/16/pdf/N1800616.pdf?OpenElement	Completed (first regular session 2019)
	Para 5 (on the plan for global evaluations, 2018- 2021):	A summary of findings from completed corporate evaluations was also included in the annual report on the evaluation function, presented at the annual session of 2018. Similar information was also included in the annual report that was presented to the Executive Board at the annual session of 2019.	Completed (annual session 2018)

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	Requests UNICEF to continue to draw on lessons learned from previous reviews, evaluation reports and management responses to ensure the effectiveness of planned evaluations;		
	Para 6: Also requests UNICEF to present with each evaluation report a formal management response setting out actions and a timetable for implementation;	UNICEF took note of the request by the Executive Board and consistently presented a formal management response with each evaluation report.	Completed
	Para 7: Further requests UNICEF to include in the annual report on the evaluation function in UNICEF the details of the implementation of recommendations set out in evaluation reports and agreed to in management responses, in order to monitor progress, including any implementation issues;	Progress on the implementation of recommendations set out in evaluation reports and agreed to in management responses is being monitored and published on the Evaluation Office website in the form of updated management responses available from: www.unicef.org/evaluation/executive-board	Completed (annual session 2018)
	Para 8: Requests UNICEF to seek out opportunities with other United Nations agencies for joint evaluations of joint programming as well as the common chapter of the Strategic Plan, 2018–2021;	UNICEF worked with UNFPA to commence an evaluation of the Joint Programme on the Abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation and an evaluation of the Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage. Both evaluations were expected to be published by mid-2019. The joint evaluation of the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on the Abandonment of FGM: Accelerating Change (Phase III, 2018-2021) and the Joint Assessment of the COVID-19 Pivoting of the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage are expected to start in 2021. UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women commenced preparations for the joint evaluation of the common chapter of their strategic plans, 2018–2021. An evaluability assessment was finalized and presented for information in a joint informal briefing to the UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women Executive Boards in May 2020. The key conclusion from the evaluability assessment was that the common chapter was not accompanied by a clear conceptual framework for implementation, limiting the ability to keep track of outputs and	Completed

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Decision	Request	UNICEF action outcomes jointly achieved and to define the contribution of the common chapter to enhanced collaboration among agencies. In support of the 2019 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, UNICEF and UNESCO commenced a joint evaluation synthesis of the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 4. UNICEF is also part of two inter-agency humanitarian evaluations on resilience in Ethiopia and on gender equality programming.	Status/Deadline
	Para 10: Welcomes the preparation of the revised evaluation policy of UNICEF, including plans for consultation with Member States; requests UNICEF to take on-board guidance from previous decisions, evaluations, reports and reviews to improve the independence, credibility, effectiveness, resources and utility of the evaluation function; and also requests UNICEF to present the policy for consideration and decision at the annual session of 2018.		Completed (annual session 2018)
2018/3 UNICEF financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016 and report of the Board of Auditors	Para 4: Encourages UNICEF to prioritize the implementation of the seven main audit recommendations identified by the Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2016;	Two of the main audit recommendations have been implemented and were confirmed as implemented by the Board of Auditors during the 2017 audit. The five remaining recommendations are implemented and awaiting review by the Board of Auditors during the 2018 audit taking place in April 2019. An update on actions taken by management has been provided in the management response to the report of the Board of Auditors presented to the Executive Board at the first regular session of 2019.	Completed (first regular session 2019)
	Para 5: Also encourages UNICEF to fully address outstanding recommendations from previous reports of the Board of Auditors, and in	UNICEF has taken action to implement outstanding recommendations. The implementation of the recommendations was reviewed by the Board of Auditors, which provided the status of the implementation on the recommendations in its 2017 long-form report under annex 1. Twenty-nine recommendations from 2016 and prior year periods are outstanding, with implementation activities at various stages of completion. An update on the status of	Completed (first regular session 2019)

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	particular to strengthen efforts to tackle areas of recurring audit recommendations;	implementation has been provided in the management response to the long-form audit report of the Board of Auditors at the first regular session of 2019.	
	Para 6: Requests UNICEF to continue its efforts to prevent and detect instances of fraud, to thoroughly review the underlying circumstances that led to the cases of fraud in order to minimize future risks and to take steps to improve actions for the recovery of funds;	UNICEF has rolled out an enhanced anti-fraud strategy in 2018 that includes, among other, anti-fraud actions and a specific mechanism for fraud recovery. During Q2, a training-of-trainers course was carried out in Budapest and Dakar, with over 80 staff trained in anti-fraud awareness and the components of the anti-fraud strategy. Feedback on the practical aspects of the implementation of the anti-fraud strategy was provided by participants, who brought a field perspective to the issues. In Q3, communication activities to raise awareness of the anti-fraud strategy across UNICEF have been rolled out, including a global broadcast message on the anti-fraud strategy. The over 80 staff who were trained will roll out the training in their offices and regions from 1 September to 31 December 2018. In Q4, a face-to-face anti-fraud awareness training was held with Operations and DFAM staff members at NYHQ. A dedicated SharePoint website and Yammer group has been setup to communicate messages, best practices and awareness on anti-fraud. An update on the anti-fraud strategy was included in the management response to the long-form audit report of the Board of Auditors at the first regular session of 2019.	Completed (first regular session 2019)
	Para 7: Also requests the Executive Director to provide a separate management response to the key findings and recommendations of the annual report of the Board of Auditors, and to submit this report to the Executive Board, along with the annual report of the Board of Auditors, starting with the first regular session of 2019.	A separate management response was prepared in November 2018, after the long-form report on the audit was signed by the Board of Auditors. Both the management response and the annual report of the Board of Auditors were submitted to the Executive Board at the 2019 first regular session.	Completed (first regular session 2019)
2018/4 Private Fundraising and Partnerships: 2018 workplan	Para 3: Encourages the Executive Director to identify and respond to new market opportunities, should they arise, between Executive Board sessions	The Private Fundraising and Partnerships division monitors market trends together with National Committees and country offices on a regular basis to be responsive to new opportunities as they emerge. The Private Fundraising and Partnerships: 2019 workplan and proposed budget presented to the Board at the first regular session is responsive to emerging trends. In 2019, UNICEF is placing increased emphasis on growing individual donors in emerging markets, testing innovative approaches and engaging in shared value partnerships to augment results for children.	Completed

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
and proposed budget	and to notify the Board accordingly;		
	Para 4: Requests UNICEF to present, as part of the midterm review of the	Activities and results of both financial and non-financial actives to be achieved in 2020 are described in the Private Fundraising and Partnerships: 2020 workplan and proposed budget.	Completed (first regular session 2020)
	Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, a review of the impact of its non-financial engagement with the private sector and, in 2021, a review of the	The impact of the UNICEF financial and non-financial activities and engagement with the private sector were reported as part of the Private Fundraising and Partnerships: financial report for the year ended 31 December 2019, that was presented to the Board at the second regular session of 2020.	Completed (second regular session 2020)
	impact of the investment funds.	The review of the impact of the investment funds will be reported on as part of the Private Fundraising and Partnerships: financial report for the year ended 31 December 2020, that will be presented to the Executive Board at the second regular session of 2021.	Completed
2018/7 Annual report for 2017 of the Executive Director of UNICEF	Para 4: [] requests UNICEF to continue consultations with the United Nations funds and programmes on the harmonized format for common chapter reporting; Para 5: [] asks UNICEF to report on the status of the implementation of the common chapter, starting with the annual report for 2018 of the Executive Director, and to present the findings at the joint meeting of the Executive Boards and at the annual session;	A joint briefing on the implementation of the common chapter of the strategic plans of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women took place on 22 August 2018. UNICEF, in collaboration with UNDP, UNFPA and UN-Women, submitted to the attention of the Executive Board, at its 2019 annual session, a collective update on the implementation of the common chapter in the joint annex titled "Working together to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Joint annex on implementation of the common chapter of the Strategic Plans 2018–2021 of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women".	Completed (annual session 2019)
	Para 6: Requests UNICEF to continue to engage with the Secretary-General, other United Nations development system entities and Member States with a view to supporting	UNICEF is closely and frequently engaging with the Secretary-General, the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG), the transition team and Member States on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 71/243 and 72/279. UNICEF is regularly engaging and consulting with its Executive Board on steps taken towards the implementation of the resolutions by UNICEF as a separate entity and as a UNSDG member, at the global, regional and country levels. A comprehensive background	Completed

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	the full implementation of General Assembly resolutions 71/243 and 72/279, including its contribution to a smooth transition and business continuity of the resident coordinator system;	note detailing implementation measures was submitted to the Executive Board at its first regular, annual and second regular sessions in 2019.	
	Para 7: Also requests UNICEF, as a United Nations development system entity, to engage closely with the Secretary- General and Member States to support the preparation of a well-thought-out implementation plan for the inception of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, including on the operationalization of its funding arrangements, to be presented to the General Assembly;	UNICEF engaged closely with the Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary-General and the United Nations development system transition team, providing four rounds of comments on different drafts of the Secretary-General's resident coordinator implementation plan. The plan, which included several comments by UNICEF, was shared with Member States and United Nations entities in mid-September of 2018. UNICEF will continue engaging with the UNDS Transition Team on the operationalization of the plan's funding arrangements.	Completed
	Para 8: Further requests UNICEF to present a preliminary analysis of the financial and other implications of resolution 72/279 for UNICEF to the Executive Board at its second regular session in 2018;	A preliminary analysis of the financial implications of resolution 72/279 was presented at the second regular session of 2018 under agenda item 9, UNICEF Strategic Plan: updated financial estimates, 2018–2021. UNICEF has also undertaken a preliminary analysis of the non-financial implications of resolution 72/279. The analysis, which was presented in an informal session to the Executive Board on 14 September 2018, will be regularly monitored and updated as the process moves forward.	Completed (second regular session 2018)
	Para 9: Requests UNICEF, in accordance with resolution 72/279, to provide its contribution to the adequate, predictable	UNICEF provided its 2019 contribution to the doubled UNSDG cost-sharing in November 2018. The cost-sharing formula for the UNSDG was revised in 2019. UNICEF will aim to continue making its 2020 payment as early as possible, in accordance with the agreed formula.	Completed

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	and sustainable funding of the resident coordinator system, in line with the forthcoming implementation plan for the inception of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system to be presented to the General Assembly, on an annual basis starting 1 January 2019;		
	Para 10: Recalls Executive Board decision 2017/14 to improve future structured dialogues on financing and to present a proposal to the Executive Board no later than the second regular session of 2018 on how it plans to use the structured dialogue on financing as a tool to improve the quality and transparency of funding and to better match resources to the outcomes of the Strategic Plan, 2018- 2021, and encourages UNICEF to provide in advance an overview of funding gaps in relation to the implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, taking into account both regular and other resources;	UNICEF provided an update on the financing of the Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, in line with General Assembly resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the QCPR. In consultation with resource partners and the New York-based United Nations funds and programmes, and mindful of the ongoing discussions and negotiations on the Secretary-General's Funding Compact, UNICEF presented a proposal on how to improve the annual structured dialogue on financing, building on the various partner engagement events and platforms already in place as well as existing and systematized information tools. The proposal was presented at the second regular session of 2018 under agenda item 5, structured dialogue on financing the results of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021.	Completed (second regular session 2018)
	Para 11: [] encourages the secretariat of the Executive Board of UNICEF to work together	Joint briefing on working methods of the Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women, and WFP (31 August 2018). A joint response to the joint meeting of	Completed (second regular session 2018)

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	 with the secretariats of the Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UN-Women and WFP to produce a joint response to the joint meeting of the Executive Boards segment on working methods by no later than four weeks before the second regular session 2018, allowing for a consultation process among Member States ahead of that session of 2018; 	the Executive Boards segment on working methods was prepared and was posted to the Executive Board website four weeks ahead of the second regular session of 2018.	
	Para 12: Encourages the secretariat of the Executive Board of UNICEF to continue pursuing ways to improve the working methods of the Executive Board and to generate additional cost savings, including in the preparation of formal Executive Board documents in compliance with the rules on the official and working languages of UNICEF, and decides to consider the number of yearly field visits of the Executive Board of UNICEF at the September Board session 2018.		Completed (second regular session 2018)
2018/8 Update on UNICEF actions on	Para 2: Also takes note with appreciation of the independent evaluation that UNICEF is undertaking of	The independent evaluation of UNICEF policies and processes on tackling sexual exploitation and abuse, and management response, were presented at the 2019 first regular session under the agenda item "Evaluation reports and management responses".	Completed (first regular session 2019)

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
strengthening protections (a)its policies and processes on tackling sexual exploitation and abuse and the Independent Task Force on workplace gender discrimination and harassment, and requests UNICEF to present the evaluation and Task Force reports and associated management responses to the Executive Board;	The report of the Independent Task Force on Workplace Gender Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, Harassment and Abuse of Authority and its management response was presented at the second regular session of 2019.	Completed (second regular session 2019)	
	Para 3: Requests UNICEF management, as required	UNICEF complies with the annual certification on sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) and presents it to the Executive Board ahead of its annual sessions.	Completed (recurring)
	under the Secretary- General's report on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation	In 2020, along with the annual certification, UNICEF submitted the final report of Executive Director Fore's PSEA/SH championship within the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) covering the period 2018–2019. The report highlights results achieved during the championship.	Completed
	and abuse, to present its annual certification to the Executive Board at each annual session, to cover sexual exploitation and	In addition to the annual certification, UNICEF also complies with the United Nations system wide requirement to submit a yearly PSEA corporate Action Plan. The 2020 one was submitted in July. The PSEA Action Plan covers all the IASC PSEA Minimum Operating Standards and related indicators.	Completed
	abuse, and sexual harassment, as appropriate, complementing and strengthening its existing reporting, and to provide updates on progress made in that regard, including working with the office of the Victims' Rights Advocate for the United Nations, and further urges UNICEF to consider how to	UNICEF continues to work very closely with other agencies on SEA/SH matters with several joint initiatives being undertaken, namely in relation to managing risks with implementing partners and training and learning. In 2019, a joint paper on SEA/SH and workplace abuse was presented at the joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP. Discussions are ongoing with other agencies on how to align formats and content for Executive Board reporting on SEA/SH as of 2021. UNICEF collaborates closely with the Office of the Victims' Rights Advocate (O/VRA). In 2019, the collaboration focused on the finalization of the UN Victim Assistance Protocol. In 2020, UNICEF leads the process of developing a technical operational guidance to support the implementation of the Protocol. UNICEF, the O/VRA and OHCHR convened a joint consultation on legal aid for SEA survivors.	Completed (recurring)
align reporting format	align reporting formats and content with other agencies,	Since the 2018 annual session, UNICEF rolled out a revised programme cooperation agreement template for partners that is in line with the United Nations protocol on SEA allegations involving implementing partners and accompanying guidance. The new Partner Cooperation Agreement template with protection from sexual exploitation and abuse clauses	Completed

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
		is being used in all UNICEF offices. UNICEF management issued a new procedure for managing sexual exploitation and abuse risks with implementing partners in February 2020. The procedure is currently being rolled out with some adaptations/simplifications in response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.	
	Para 4: Encourages the Bureau of the Executive Board of UNICEF to consider the possibility of discussing the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse of beneficiaries and sexual harassment in the workplace at the joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UN-Women and WFP in order to increase the efficiency of the Boards and avoid duplication.	The topic of harassment, sexual harassment, abuse of authority and discrimination, and sexual exploitation and abuse has been included for discussion at the 2019 joint meeting of the Boards.	Completed (joint meeting of the Boards 2019)
2018/9 Annual report on UNICEF humanitarian action	Para 3: Requests that future annual reports on UNICEF humanitarian action reflect the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, where humanitarian action is mainstreamed in each Goal Area and is a cross-cutting theme, and the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, and also requests UNICEF to reflect progress achieved in all geographic regions in a more inclusive manner in subsequent reports.	The recommendations were well noted, and the future annual reports will cover all geographic regions where an emergency is occurring.	Completed (annual session 2019)
2018/10 Evaluation reports and management	Para 2: [] notes with concern that spending on evaluation as a percentage of total programme	Evaluation spending is getting closer to the 1 per cent evaluation policy target. For the 2021 evaluation cycle, evaluation expenditure was at 0.91 per cent of overall programme expenditure. Significant increases in spending were recorded in the North Africa and Middle East region, which invested 0.80 per cent of its programme spend on evaluations, while the	Completed

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responses and revised policy of UNICEF	expenditure decreased in 2017 and has consistently failed over recent years to reach the target of 1 per cent of programme expenditure [] and therefore requests UNICEF to reach the target by the end of 2019;	South Asia region also saw a surge in evaluation spending. The Evaluation Pooled Fund has been useful in ensuring that offices, particularly at the decentralized level, have adequate financial resources to conduct evaluations.	
	Para 3: Notes that the thematic distribution of evaluations in the period 2014–2016 shows a sharp drop in the number of sector-specific evaluations for education and child protection, and calls on UNICEF to ensure a stable delivery rate;	As described in table 4 of the annual report for 2018 on the evaluation function, UNICEF presented a more balanced distribution of evaluations according to the structure of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021.	Completed
	Para 4: [] requests UNICEF to include gender equality as a cross-cutting theme in all evaluations and to increase the coverage rate of humanitarian action to one that better reflects the current overall spending of UNICEF in contexts of conflicts and crises;	As described in table 7 of the annual report for 2018 on the evaluation function, UNICEF presented a significant increase in the number of evaluations covering gender equality and humanitarian action.	Completed
	Para 5: [] requests UNICEF, for especially those regions with the largest programme expenses, to significantly increase evaluation coverage;	Improvements continue to be witnessed in regions with largest expenditure. Regions that have large budgets have been steadily working on improving evaluation geographical coverage. ESAR, WCAR and MENA have improved coverage in their regions. Evaluation Geographical Coverage is currently at 95 per cent, 92 per cent and 76 per cent, respectively. Geographical coverage will be fully ascertained once the evaluation cycle closes at the end of January 2021 and reported in the annual report for 2020 on the evaluation function.	Completed

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	Para 6: Requests that future annual reports be structured around the Strategic Plan, 2018–2021 (policy areas and spending) and the revised evaluation policy of UNICEF;	The annual report for 2018 on the evaluation function in UNICEF presented at the 2019 annual session has been significantly redesigned to reflect the theory of change of the revised evaluation policy.	Completed (annual session 2019)
	Para 7: [] calls on the Evaluation Office and UNICEF to brief the Executive Board at its second regular session of 2018 on planning for [the joint evaluation of the common chapter of the strategic plans of the funds and programmes] as part of its contribution to broader collaboration on joint evaluations of system-wide activities and to the function of system-wide independent evaluation measures;	UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women commenced preparations for the joint evaluation of the common chapter of their strategic plans, 2018–2021. An evaluability assessment was finalized and presented for information in a joint informal briefing to the UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women Executive Boards in May 2020. The key conclusion from the evaluability assessment was that the common chapter was not accompanied by a clear conceptual framework for implementation, limiting the ability to keep track of outputs and outcomes jointly achieved and to define the contribution of the common chapter to enhanced collaboration among agencies.	Completed (second regular session 2018)
	Para 8: Takes note of the evaluation of UNICEF strategies and programmes to reduce stunting in children under 5 years of age [] and looks forward to the implementation of the actions described in the management response, and requests an update on the implementation of the recommendations of the evaluation at the annual session of the Executive Board in 2019;	An update on the implementation of the recommendations of the evaluation is available at: www.unicef.org/evaluation/executive-board.	Completed (annual session 2019)

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	Para 11: Requests UNICEF to fully implement consistently the revised evaluation policy across all areas of the organization, including different policy areas at headquarters and at the field level, including capacity-building at the country and programme levels;	UNICEF, in collaboration with the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC), commenced the development of the evaluation training programme for staff and partners. The programme engages participants in real-world experience based on ongoing evaluative work with Governments. To date, the online six-week training course has been piloted and is being refined for roll-out. Advanced training in evaluation methods is also being planned with the UNSSC for roll-out in 2021.	Completed
2018/11Para 3: Requests the EthicsFReport of the Ethics OfficeOffice to engage proactively in theWof UNICEF for 2017implementation and coordination of actions against sexual exploitation and abuse of beneficiaries and sexual harassment in the workplace, in accordance with its mandate, and also requests the Ethics Office to provide dedicated and more- detailed reporting on its activities against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment in its future reports;FPara 4: Recalls that theS	Office to engage proactively in the implementation and coordination of actions against sexual exploitation and abuse of beneficiaries and sexual harassment in the workplace, in accordance with its mandate, and also requests the Ethics Office to provide dedicated and more- detailed reporting on its activities against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment in its	Following the appointment of the Senior Coordinator, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Workplace Abuse, reporting to the Executive Director, there has been a shift in the mandate of the Ethics Office with regard to this topic towards that of the Senior Coordinator. The Ethics Office considers the creation of the role of the Senior Coordinator helpful, although it takes note that the Senior Coordinator does not report to, nor is part of, an independent office. The Ethics Office looks forward to observing how the work on this topic will evolve going forward. More-detailed reporting on Ethics Office activities against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment have been included in the report of the Ethics Office of UNICEF for 2018.	Completed (annual session 2019)
	Significant progress has been made in respect to the operationalization of the UNICEF Child Safeguarding Policy, as detailed in the report for 2018.	Completed (annual session 2019)	

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	challenges and recommendations for improvements;		
	Para 5: Also recalls that the Ethics Office views that there is an absence of an established policy of when, how and in what format it should be consulted on matters of ethics standard- setting and policy support, and in this regard requests the Ethics Office and management to formalize this policy, to be set out in the 2019 annual report of the Ethics Office of UNICEF;	The issue has been addressed and set out in the report for 2018.	Completed (annual session 2019)
	Para 7: Also requests UNICEF to provide a separate management response to the key findings and recommendations of the annual report of the Ethics Office, and to submit this report to the Executive Board, along with the annual report of the Ethics Office, starting with the annual session of 2019;	The management response to the report of the Ethics Office of UNICEF for 2018 has been submitted to the Executive Board.	Completed (annual session 2019)
	Para 8: Further requests UNICEF to share a summary of the results and recommendations of the Global Staff Survey 2017 with the Executive Board, and calls upon UNICEF to take appropriate and effective steps to further	A summary report of the results and recommendations of the Global Staff Survey 2017 was included in the oral presentation on item 9, management response to the annual report of the Ethics Office for 2018, at the annual session of 2019. Further details will be provided in future sessions, as detailed in decision 2019/15, para 4.	Completed

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	improve the speak-up culture within the organization.		
2018/12Para 2: WelcomesOffice ofsupporting analysInternal Auditassurance opinionandOffice of InternalInvestigationsInvestigations, and2017 annualwelcomes the propreport to themade to develop aExecutiveimplement the OfficBoardstrategic road maprequests the Officinclude reportingfurther key perforindicators relatedwork in future amreport to be preserannual session ofExecutive Board ifPara 3: Requests toof Internal Audit aInvestigations to pmore-detailed anacases of sexual exand abuse of beneand sexual harassthe workplace inaccordance with imandate, includinallegations, investand actions taken,2018 annual reporExecutive Board;Para 4: Recalls theOffice of InternalInvestigations, in	Para 2: Welcomes the supporting analysis for the assurance opinion of the Office of Internal Audit and Investigations, and also welcomes the progress made to develop and implement the Office's strategic road map, and requests the Office to include reporting against further key performance indicators related to their work in future annual reports, starting with the report to be presented at the annual session of the Executive Board in 2019;	The Office of Internal Audit and Investigations 2018 annual report to the Executive Board includes reporting against further key performance indicators (KPIs). These include KPIs for delivery of its workplan, public disclosure, value added of its internal audit services, compliance with professional standards and timely reporting. The Office is constantly considering more KPIs that can be used to objectively assess its work.	Completed (annual session 2019)
	accordance with its mandate, including allegations, investigations and actions taken, in its 2018 annual report to the	OIAI will provide additional information (subject to the need to preserve the confidentiality of specific information) in its 2018 annual report on cases of sexual exploitation and abuse of beneficiaries and sexual harassment in the workplace in accordance with its mandate, including allegations, investigations and actions taken.	Completed (annual session 2019)
	Para 4: Recalls that the Office of Internal Audit and Investigations, in its annual report, confirms that it will	In 2018, OIAI assessed the feasibility of conducting work to provide assurance that a coherent and effective approach to child protection and safeguarding was successfully embedded in and mainstreamed across UNICEF. The assessment noted a considerable number of new initiatives under way and measures being put in place by UNICEF with	Completed (first regular session 2020)

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	conduct work in 2018 to provide assurance that a coherent and effective approach to child protection and safeguarding is successfully embedded in and mainstreamed across UNICEF, and in this regard, requests that (a) the Office, in its assessment and assurance, make specific recommendations for improvements in the approach and policies of UNICEF, as appropriate; and (b) the Office and management develop a system for monitoring progress against key performance indicators, to be reported on in future annual reports of the Office;	regard to child protection and safeguarding. These included, among others, the establishment of a Child Safeguarding Unit that is mandated to develop a safeguarding framework. Overall, the assessment concluded that UNICEF was on track to develop an approach for embedding and mainstreaming child safeguarding and protection across UNICEF. OIAI issued an advisory report on child safeguarding in 2019 (2019/31), thus addressing the Executive Board request.	
	Para 6: Takes note of the Office's plans to undertake an external quality assessment of its audit and investigation teams, and asks the Office to include a summary of its findings and details of progress in implementing its recommendations in its next annual report;	The Office underwent an external quality assessment in October 2019, having completed a previous assessment in 2013. During the first quarter of 2019, OIAI completed the competitive process for the sourcing of an external quality assessor of the internal audit services. OIAI decided against including investigation services in the 2018 assessment since an external review of investigations in relation to sexual harassment and abuse was conducted in the same year and the Office was in the process of implementing the recommendations from the review. The report on the external quality assessment of the internal audit function (available here) was issued in November 2019 and has been published in the UNICEF website, thus addressing the Executive Board request.	Completed (first regular session 2020)
	Para 8: [] requests an update on the implementation of actions in response to the Office's 2017 annual report at the		Completed (annual session 2019)

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	annual session of the UNICEF Executive Board in 2019;		
	Para 9: [] encourages UNICEF management to implement outstanding audit recommendations and to ensure appropriate follow-up of key improvement areas, such as risk management, the management of implementing partners, fraud risk management and safeguarding, and to update the Executive Board at its annual session in June 2019;		Completed (annual session 2019)
	Para 12: Welcomes the implementation of an anti- fraud strategy, and requests the Office to include in future annual reports an analysis of the channels by which allegations of fraud and other misconduct are detected or reported to the Office;	OIAI included in its 2018 annual report the applicable channels by which allegations of fraud and other misconduct are detected or reported to the Office.	Completed (annual session 2019)
	Para 13: [] requests UNICEF management to provide, in future management responses, details, broken down by calendar year, of aggregate losses over prior years and cumulative recoveries to date against each year's losses;		Completed (annual session 2019)

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	Para 15: Requests UNICEF to continue to focus efforts on improving investigation timelines, noting the increasing number of cases pending for investigation from year to year.	The launch of the UNICEF management support programme that includes OIAI contributions to the training modules on managing conflicts, and the ongoing pilots on the use of options letters and expanded use of direct referrals to the Deputy Executive Director, Management, are expected to reduce the matters reported to OIAI and/or the use of an extensive investigative intervention.	Completed
2018/14 Working methods	Para 3: Requests the secretariat of the UNICEF Executive Board to circulate draft decisions at least two weeks prior to each session so that the draft decisions are available at the pre-session, and strongly encourages the Bureau to appoint, at that time, the facilitators for the respective draft decisions, in full respect to equitable regional representation, and in this regard strongly encourages Member States to provide their comments on draft decisions, if possible, prior to the start of the session, with a view to starting informal consultations on the draft decisions on the first day of the session;	The circulation of draft decisions prior to each session is a standard practice at UNICEF. OSEB circulates the compilation of draft decisions at least two weeks in advance of each session and encourages Bureau members (through the facilitators of draft decisions) to provide comments and start negotiations well in advance of the session. In early 2019, the UNICEF Bureau decided that each regional group would nominate, prior to each session and through the Bureau representatives, volunteers to facilitate the draft decisions. In accordance with standard practice, the UNICEF secretariat briefs the facilitators immediately after the last Bureau meeting prior to each session. UNICEF took note of the request by the Executive Board to hold informal consultations of draft decisions in medium-sized rooms at the United Nations Headquarters and will book those rooms for future sessions, pending availability. UNICEF also took note of the request by the Executive Board to provide on-screen, real-time editing of draft decisions and took the necessary measures to implement such request starting with the 2019 annual session.	Completed
	Para 4: Also requests UNICEF and the members of the Executive Board to make efforts to start all meetings, informal briefings and informal consultations on time and ensure that meetings,	It is standard practice at UNICEF to schedule Executive Board meetings during working hours and, to the extent possible, to avoid parallel consultations. Starting meetings, including sessions, briefings and informal consultations, on time is subject to the presence and participation of Member States. For instance, according to rule 24 of the Rules of Procedure of the UNICEF Executive Board (E/ICEF/177/Rev.6), " <i>representatives of a majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum</i> ". The schedule of the informal consultations is set by the facilitators of draft decisions. The UNICEF secretariat provides support by booking the rooms on the basis of their availability for the requested date and time. It is	Completed

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	informal briefings and informal consultations are planned during United Nations working hours and avoid parallel consultations, to better facilitate the effective and constructive participation of all Member States in the work of the Board;	standard practice to hold the informal consultations immediately after the end of the morning and afternoon formal sessions, within the official working hours. It is the prerogative of the facilitators to convene additional informal consultations and set a different timetable as needed.	
	Para 5: Further requests that the secretariat of the Executive Board of UNICEF identify a set of common agenda items, together with UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UN- Women and WFP, with a view to harmonizing the consideration of those agenda items with these agencies, beginning from the first regular session of 2019 onwards;	A "common agenda item" is understood as a statutory agenda item, separately prepared and presented by each secretariat to its respective Executive Board (e.g.: financial report; programme of work), as opposed to a "joint agenda item" (e.g.: cost recovery), for which the same documentation, prepared jointly and collaboratively by all the secretariats, is presented to all the Boards. It should be noted that joint agenda items are considered separately by each Executive Board in their respective sessions. On the basis of the above-mentioned definitions, the Executive Board secretariats have identified a set of common agenda items labelled with the same (or similar) titles. Overall, the four Executive Boards are aligned on key agenda items presented in formal sessions, with minor variations specific to each fund or programme.	Completed (first regular session 2019)
	Para 6: Requests the secretariat of the Executive Board of UNICEF to develop, in consultation with UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS and UN-Women, a joint online calendar of all Board meetings, to be updated in real time and made available to the Executive Board;	In October 2018, UNICEF, in consultation with all the secretariats, developed an online joint calendar of the Executive Boards, to be updated in real time. The calendar went live on 7 January 2019. While constant efforts are made to avoid the overlapping of meetings, important United Nations meetings that are beyond the control of the secretariats occasionally hamper this effort.	Completed
	Para 7: Also requests UNICEF management to provide a written response to questions raised at	UNICEF will provide a written response to questions raised at informal briefings, upon written request by Member States, before the start of formal sessions.	Completed

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	informal briefings, upon written request by Member States, before the start of the following formal session;		
	Para 8: Further requests UNICEF to continue to enhance documentation in order to make it more strategic and analytical, and to include best practices, actions being taken to address lessons learned, challenges and risks, building on the interactions with the Board, as appropriate;	UNICEF relevant divisions are working towards meeting the request by the Board on documentation enhancement, including through open and ongoing dialogue with interested Board members who wish to provide more detailed feedback.	Completed
	Para 9: Requests UNICEF to further enhance accessibility and ensure that the file names of Executive Board documents are clearly spelled out and indicate the content of the documents, that these documents can be downloaded in their entirety by agency and that they include full text searchability;	The standard practice for UNICEF Executive Board documents is to use clear file names and include text searchability.	Completed
	Para 10: Also requests UNICEF to engage with the Executive Board and with UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UN-Women and WFP on the efficient and effective implementation of the guidelines for Executive	UNICEF has engaged with the relevant stakeholders to follow up on the efficient and effective implementation of the guidelines for Executive Board field visits and reporting requirements.	Completed

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	Board field visits and reporting requirements;		
	Para 11: Further requests UNICEF and its Bureau to give due consideration to gender balance in panels for all meetings;	OSEB will continue to encourage the UNICEF secretariat and the Bureau to improve gender balance in panels for all meetings.	Completed
	Para 12: Requests the Bureau of UNICEF, in collaboration with the Bureaux of UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UN- Women and WFP, to launch a joint consultative process with Member States starting at the first regular session of 2019, with a view to examining the efficiency and quality of its current sessions, as well as the functions of the joint meeting of the Boards, building on the joint response prepared by the secretariats;	The Presidents of the UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP Executive Boards met on 5 November 2018 to follow up on the implementation of the Boards decisions and agreed to form a Core Group to efficiently lead the discussion forward in consultation with respective regional groups. For the composition of the Core Group, two Member States were designated from each regional group representing the Bureaux and Boards of the relevant funds and programmes. The Core Group met twice in January, once in February, twice in March and three times in April. The first briefing to the wider membership with the participation of WFP via videoconference was held on 10 April and the second briefing was held on 15 May 2019. The written account of the Core Group was presented at the joint meeting of the Boards in May 2019, for subsequent consideration of its findings and recommendations by the members and observers of the respective Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UNICEF, UN- Women and WFP. The written account is accompanied by an annex compiled by the secretariats of the funds and programmes containing the information requested by the Core Group.	Completed (first regular session 2019)
	Para 13: [] recommends that UNICEF considers to improve country programme document presentation;	Internal consultations are taking place with the relevant UNICEF divisions to improve country programme document presentations. Discussion on this topic is also taking place in the context of the Core Group on working methods.	Completed
	Para 14: Decides to eliminate the yearly field visit of the Bureau of the Executive Board of UNICEF, so as to harmonize with the practice of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS,	In line with the decision, the yearly field visit of the Bureau of the Executive Board of UNICEF has been eliminated, starting from 2019.	Completed

Decision	Dequest	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
Decision	RequestUN-Women and WFP, and encourages Bureau members to seek to participate in one of the two other field visits that are available for their participation: the Executive Board field visit and the joint field visit of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP.		
2018/15 Structured dialogue on financing the results of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021	Para 2:Requests UNICEF to review the format and content of the report on the structured dialogue on financing, in order to further improve the quality of the structured dialogue on financing, including by providing an overview of the funding in relation to the funding requirements for the implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018– 2021, taking into account both regular and other resources;	The structured dialogue on financing is strengthened by linking the structured dialogue discussion to the consultations on the Strategic Plan that are held throughout the year and that include a diverse range of stakeholders. Strategic consultations took place in November and December 2018 and presented an opportunity to provide an update on plans and progress.	Completed (second regular session 2019)
	Para 3: Encourages UNICEF to continue working jointly with [UNDP, UNFPA and UN-Women] to improve collaboration on structured funding dialogues;	UNICEF is actively engaged with UNDP, UNFPA and UN-Women to improve collaboration on structured funding dialogues and, pursuant to the Executive Board decision, the agencies held a joint briefing on options to improve the structured funding dialogues on 23 January 2020.	Completed (first regular session 2020)

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	Para 4: [] requests UNICEF to continue to engage with the Executive Board in [] regard [to General Assembly resolution 72/279], providing regular updates as of 2019;	Updates on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 have been included as agenda items for decision at the first regular, annual and second regular sessions of 2019 and 2020.	Completed
	Para 5: Recalls decision 2018/5 and requests UNICEF to double its contribution to the existing United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) cost- sharing arrangement, in accordance with resolution 72/279, to deposit its 2019 contribution as soon as possible, taking into account the Secretary- General's implementation plan, in order to operationalize the new resident coordinator system as of 1 January 2019, and to report on progress in this regard to the Executive Board at the annual session of 2019;	In September 2018, UNICEF signed the cost-share agreement and in November 2018 deposited its 2019 contribution.	Completed (annual session 2019)
	Para 6: Requests that UNICEF present clear, transparent information on its contribution to resident coordinator funding modalities to the	UNICEF provided the relevant information on this request at the annual session of 2019 under item 12: update on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system.	Completed (annual session 2019)

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	Executive Board at the annual session of 2019;		
	Para 7: Also requests that UNICEF, as part of the UNSDG, collaborate with the Secretary-General's transition team to support the establishment of a system-wide approach to implementing all the funding modalities set out in resolution 72/279, including the levy, and to report to the Executive Board at the first regular session of 2019;	 UNICEF has been in close contact with the transition team and has shared formal as well as informal inputs for a system-wide approach to implement funding modalities for the resident coordinator system. In particular, UNICEF is co-chairing the UNSDG Fiduciary Management and Oversight Group (FMOG) whose co-chairs have developed detailed guidance for the implementation of the levy and shared several iterations of this document with the transition team. UNICEF has also shared written updates on how it implements General Assembly resolution 72/279 with Member States at informal briefings before the Board sessions in September 2018 and February 2019. UNICEF will also engage on this subject at every Board session of 2019. 	Completed (first regular session 2019)
	Para 8: Calls on UNICEF to review its planning, financing and results reporting processes to ensure effective joint collaboration in the context of the revitalized United Nations Development Assistance Framework and to provide an update at the next session of the Executive Board on adjustments required.	UNICEF has participated in the development of the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) (previously UNDAF) guidance, contributing to the high-level strategic character of the new UNSDCF on the one hand, and enabling efficiency gains on the way to the realization of children's rights through enhanced and meaningful inter-agency collaboration on the other. The UNSDCF guidance was agreed by the UNSDG in May 2019. UNICEF is currently reviewing the programme strategy note and country programme document development guidance and procedures to seamlessly match the requirements of the new UNSDCF and to provide country offices with the necessary knowledge on an enhanced engagement with United Nations agencies and government and non-government partners along the lines stipulated in the UNSDCF. UNICEF is also working with United Nations partners through the Business Innovations Group to ensure the clear and common tracking of efficiencies and savings as a result of shared business operations and common premises. Drawing on a solid base of knowledge and lessons learned from developing and operating an advanced results assessment and reporting system, UNICEF is playing a leadership role in the further enhancement of UN INFO, which is featured as the new standard reporting system within the UNSDCF. Finally, UNICEF has developed internal business processes to manage the collection of the 1 per cent coordination levy on behalf of donors. UNICEF will aim to track the transaction costs incurred in a manner that is harmonized with other United Nations agencies. UNICEF will provide an update on progress made at the 2019 annual session under agenda item 12: Update on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system.	Completed

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
2018/19 UNICEF Strategic Plan: updated financial estimates, 2018–2021	Para 3: Encourages future financial planning documents to continue to include a separate budget item for both the Office of Internal Audit and Investigations and the Evaluation Office, in line with Executive Board decisions 2017/10, paragraph 14 and 2017/14, paragraph 9 (d);	UNICEF has included the requested information in the UNICEF Strategic Plan: updated financial estimates, 2019–2022, that was presented to the Board at the second regular session of 2019.	Completed (second regular session 2019)
	Para 4: Requests UNICEF to provide annual updates to the Executive Board on the progress of funding its reserves for staff liabilities.	UNICEF has included the requested information in the UNICEF Strategic Plan: updated financial estimates, 2019–2022, that was presented to the Board at the second regular session of 2019.	Completed (second regular session 2019)
2018/20 Private Fundraising and Partnerships: financial report for the year ended 31 December 2017	Para 3: Requests UNICEF to present the performance of the National Committees and field offices separately, both with and without structured fundraising activities, in future financial reports;	The performance of the National Committees and field offices were presented separately in the Private Fundraising and Partnerships: financial report as at September 2019.	Completed (second regular session 2019)
	Para 4: Also requests UNICEF to provide in its report presented at the 2019	Non-financial engagement with the business sector was reported on in the Private Fundraising and Partnerships: financial report for the year ended 31 December 2018.	Completed (second regular session 2019)
	second regular session, and in regard to its non- financial engagement with the business sector, its strategy for scaling up current results and the result of its collaboration with the other United Nations agencies;	Future scale-up and plans will be reported in the Private Fundraising and Partnerships: financial report for the year ended 31 December 2019.	Completed (second regular session 2020)

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	Para 5: Encourages UNICEF to allocate adequate resources to provide robust support to its regional and country offices for its non-financial engagement with the business sector.	The Strategic Plan and the Private Sector IMPACT Plan, 2018–2021 recognize the critical role of the business sector in achieving results for children beyond fundraising. As such, UNICEF is coordinating a whole-of-UNICEF approach to maximize the power of the business sector to achieve results for children, including by allocating additional resources at the regional and country levels in 2018 and 2019.	Completed
2018/21 Joint report on cost recovery	Para 5: Requests UNICEF, together with UNDP, UNFPA and UN- Women, to jointly review existing cost definitions and classifications of activities and associated costs, with a view to further harmonize their approaches by determining common definitions of cost categories and corresponding activities and functions at a granular level, while taking into account the different business models of the individual agencies, which allows for a full understanding of each categories' composition, options for possible alignment of similar functions to the same cost classifications across agencies, and continues to provide a basis for comparisons among organizations as well as alignment with	UNICEF worked with UNDP, UNFPA and UN-Women to review existing cost definitions and classifications of activities and associated costs with a view to further harmonizing approaches. Joint work commenced in Q4 2018 and continued in the first half of 2019. A joint Executive Board informal briefing was held in May and a briefing is planned for 28 August 2019. At the second regular session, under agenda item 12, the Board was presented with the report titled: cost recovery: joint review of the existing cost definitions and classifications of activities and associated costs.	Completed (second regular session 2019)

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	the strategic plans of the organizations, to be presented to the Executive Board for decision at its second regular session in 2019;		
	Para 6: [] requests UNICEF, together with UNDP, UNFPA and UN- Women, to present a preliminary comprehensive proposal on the cost-recovery policy for consideration by the Executive Board at	UNICEF worked with UNDP, UNFPA and UN-Women to prepare and present a preliminary comprehensive proposal on the cost-recovery policy for consideration by the Executive Board at its first regular session in 2020, with a view to present a final comprehensive proposal for decision of the Executive Board at its second regular session in 2020. Joint work commenced in Q4 2018 and continued in the first half of 2019. Joint Executive Board informal briefings were held in May and August 2019. At the second regular session in 2019, under agenda item 12, the Board was presented with the report titled: cost recovery: joint review of the existing cost definitions and classifications of activities and associated costs. A preliminary comprehensive proposal was presented at the first regular session of 2020.	Completed (first regular session 2020)
	its first regular session in 2020, with a view to present a final comprehensive proposal for decision of the Executive Board at its second regular session in 2020;	This request has been addressed in the joint comprehensive proposal on the cost-recovery policy (DP/FPA-ICEF-UNW/2020/1), presented at the second regular session of 2020.	Completed (second regular session 2020)
	Para 7: Requests UNICEF, together with UNDP, UNFPA and UN- Women, to reduce the granting of waivers lowering the agreed cost- recovery rates and to provide an update on the steps taken in this regard, including on the application of waivers across their organizations, to the Executive Board at its annual session in 2019;	UNICEF presently issues only a minimum number of waivers and has regularly briefed the Executive Board on the use of waivers. UNICEF provided a further update at the annual session in 2019 under item 4: annual report for 2018 of the Executive Director of UNICEF. The joint comprehensive proposal on the cost-recovery policy and the report on the implementation of the Integrated Results and Resources Framework of the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021 (www.unicef.org/about/execboard/files/2020-EB5-IRRF-2020.05.13.pdf) address this issue.	Completed (annual session 2019)

Decision	Request	UNICEF action	Status/Deadline
	Para 8: Also requests UNICEF, together with UNDP, UNFPA and UN- Women, to review in a comprehensive manner cost-recovery rates, as part of the comprehensive proposal;	This request has been addressed in the joint comprehensive proposal on the cost-recovery policy, presented at the second regular session of 2020.	Completed (second regular session 2020)
	Para 9: Further requests UNICEF, together with UNDP, UNFPA and UN- Women, to present an assessment of the reasons why full cost recovery is not currently being achieved, as part of the comprehensive proposal.	This request has been addressed in the joint comprehensive proposal on the cost-recovery policy, presented at the second regular session of 2020.	Completed (second regular session 2020)