

Office of the Secretary of the UNICEF Executive Board

Template for delegations commenting on the country programme documents

2021 second regular session

Country programme document posting period: 16 June to 6 July 2021

Delegations are kindly invited to use this template to share their comments on the draft country programme document being presented to the Executive Board during the forthcoming session.

Delegation name: **United States of America**

Draft country programme document: **Zimbabwe**

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2014/1, country programme documents are considered and approved in one session, on a no-objection basis. All comments received by the Office of the Secretary of the Executive Board before the deadline will be made public on the Executive Board website, and considered by the requesting country, in close consultation with UNICEF.

General comments	Delegations' comments	Country response
<p>The United States strongly encourages UNICEF country office to engage stakeholders on the ground to discuss and address:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The measures to reverse the 72 to 63 per cent and 46 to 36 per cent decline of basic drinking water and sanitation.2. The difference between climate resilient WASH and standard WASH operations, as well as the steps to deal with them, for example in the use of sustainability/integration language in page 7 to provide additional detail to illustrate that the program will clearly incorporate climate resiliency in meaningful terms.		

<p>The United States and other Executive Board members - in formal and informal meetings of the Executive Board and with UN leadership, including the Development Coordination Office (DCO) – as well as OP74 of A/Res/75/233 have set clear expectations that the UN development system do a better job to sequence entity-specific country program documents and their underlying Frameworks and/or outcome matrices. We note that only a draft outcome matrix was provided, without indication that it had been agreed by the Government and UNCT. In the future, we encourage UNICEF to ensure that finalized UNSDCFs and/or clearly marked ‘final’ or ‘approved’ outcome matrices are provided along with the draft Country Program Documents during the designated commenting period.</p>		
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