



**United Nations**

**Executive Board of the  
United Nations Development  
Programme/United Nations  
Population Fund**

**Report of the Executive Board on its work  
during 2009**

**Economic and Social Council  
Official Records, 2009  
Supplement No. 15**

**Economic and Social Council**  
Official Records, 2009  
Supplement No. 15

**Executive Board of the United Nations  
Development Programme/United Nations  
Population Fund**

**Report of the Executive Board on its work during 2009**



United Nations • New York, 2009



*Note*

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.

## Contents

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Page</i>
<b>Part one. First regular session 2009</b>	
I. Organizational matters . . . . .	2
<i>UNDP segment</i>	
Statement by the Administrator . . . . .	2
II. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters . . . . .	3
III. Country programmes and related matters . . . . .	5
IV. United Nations Office for Project Services . . . . .	7
V. United Nations Capital Development Fund . . . . .	8
VI. Gender in UNDP . . . . .	9
<i>Joint UNDP/UNFPA segment</i>	
VII. Recommendations of the Board of Auditors . . . . .	10
VIII. Report to the Economic and Social Council . . . . .	12
<i>UNFPA segment</i>	
Statement by the Executive Director . . . . .	13
Oral briefing on the development of the UNFPA evaluation policy . . . . .	16
IX. Country programmes and related matters . . . . .	16
X. Other matters . . . . .	17
<b>Annex</b>	
Joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme . . . . .	18
<b>Part two. Annual session 2009</b>	
I. Organizational matters . . . . .	24
<i>UNDP segment</i>	
II. Statement by the Administrator and annual report of the Administrator . . . . .	24
III. Funding commitments to UNDP . . . . .	27
IV. Evaluation . . . . .	28
V. Human Development Report . . . . .	29
VI. UNDP country programmes and related matters . . . . .	29
VII. United Nations Capital Development Fund . . . . .	30

VIII.	United Nations Development Fund for Women . . . . .	30
IX.	United Nations Office for Project Services . . . . .	31
	<i>Joint UNDP/UNFPA segment</i>	
X.	Internal audit and oversight . . . . .	32
XI.	Field visits . . . . .	35
	<i>UNFPA segment</i>	
XII.	Statement by the Executive Director and annual report of the Executive Director . . . . .	36
XIII.	Funding commitments to UNFPA . . . . .	40
XIV.	UNFPA country programmes and related matters . . . . .	40
XV.	Evaluation . . . . .	41
XVI.	Other matters . . . . .	43
<b>Part three. Second regular session 2009</b>		
I.	Organizational matters . . . . .	45
	<i>UNFPA segment</i>	
II.	Statement of the Executive Director and financial, budgetary and administrative matters . . .	45
III.	Country programmes and related matters . . . . .	48
	<i>UNDP segment</i>	
IV.	Statement by the Administrator and financial, budgetary and administrative matters . . . . .	49
V.	United Nations Development Fund for Women . . . . .	53
VI.	Evaluation . . . . .	54
VII.	Country programmes and related matters . . . . .	55
VIII.	United Nations Capital Development Fund . . . . .	56
IX.	United Nations Office for Project Services . . . . .	56
	<i>Joint UNDP/UNFPA segment</i>	
X.	Follow-up to the meeting of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board . . . . .	57
XI.	Internal audit and oversight . . . . .	58
XII.	Other matters . . . . .	59
<b>Annex</b>		
	Statement made by one delegation regarding the adoption of decision 2009/22 — Item 2c: UNDP financial, budgetary and administrative matters . . . . .	61
<b>Annexes to the report of the Executive Board on its work during 2009</b>		
I.	Decisions adopted by the Executive Board in 2009 . . . . .	62
II.	Membership of the Executive Board in 2009 . . . . .	95

**Part one**  
**First regular session 2009**

**Held at United Nations Headquarters in New York  
from 19 to 22 January 2009**

## I. Organizational matters

1. The first regular session 2009 of the Executive Board of UNDP and UNFPA was held at United Nations Headquarters, New York, from 19 to 22 January.

2. In accordance with article 49 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, the Executive Board elected the following members of the Bureau for 2009:

President:	H.E. Mr. Mohammad Khazaei	(Islamic Republic of Iran)
Vice-President:	Mr. William Exantus	(Republic of Haiti)
Vice-President:	Mr. Jeroen Steeghs	(Kingdom of the Netherlands)
Vice-President:	Mr. Dragan Mičić	(Republic of Serbia)
Vice-President:	Mr. Omary Mjenga	(United Republic of Tanzania)

3. Upon his election, the new President made an introductory statement. He also announced that the UNDP Administrator had decided not to seek a second term, and that the current Executive Board session would be his last.

4. At the session, the Executive Board approved the agenda and work plan for its first regular session 2009 (DP/2009/L.1) and the report of the second regular session 2008 (DP/2009/1) and its associated corrigendum (DP/2009/1/Corr.1). The Executive Board adopted the tentative annual work plan 2009 (DP/2009/CRP.1) and approved the tentative work plan for the annual session 2009.

5. Decisions adopted by the Executive Board in 2008 appeared in document DP/2009/2; those adopted at the first regular session 2009 were included in document DP/2009/8, which can be accessed on the web site of the Executive Board secretariat at [www.undp.org/execbrd](http://www.undp.org/execbrd).

6. The Executive Board agreed in decision 2009/8 to the following schedule of future sessions of the Executive Board in 2009:

Annual session 2009:	26 May to 5 June 2009 (New York)
Second regular session 2009:	8 to 11 September 2009

## UNDP segment

### *Statement by the Administrator*

7. The Administrator thanked delegations for their support of UNDP during his time with the organization. He highlighted some of the difficult decisions made by the Executive Board and elaborated on the global economic crisis and its potential impacts on economic growth in the context of an increasingly globalized and interconnected financial system. Continued development efforts, he said, were the only way to mitigate harm to the world's poorest people.

8. In providing a snapshot of UNDP to Executive Board members, he touched upon:

(a) *Making the United Nations more coherent, effective and efficient*, through continued harmonization;

(b) *UNDP in an interdependent world*, and the need to link country-level and global issues more closely;

(c) *The security challenge faced by UNDP*, and efforts to upgrade and reinforce premises in the most vulnerable locations;

(d) UNDP resource mobilization and resource management, including 2008 regular core resource contributions reaching close to \$1.1 billion;



(e) Accountability and transparency measures, including improvements in the publication of information on programmes, finance, procurement, human resources and legal issues, on 90 per cent of UNDP country office websites;

(f) Successful UNDP activities around the globe, including support to elections, human development work, enhancing capacities to deal with climate change, and assistance to countries wishing to use the 'Millennium Development Goal (MDG) carbon facility.'

9. The Administrator called for continued efforts to find common ground; for the Executive Board and UNDP to seek out opportunities in times of crisis; and for continued efforts on the part of UNDP staff around the world.

10. Delegations expressed thanks and admiration for the Administrator of UNDP and for his hard work at the helm of the organization during challenging times. Several delegations called for a need to maintain — or increase — funding and development assistance in the face of economic turmoil. They argued that UNDP must have long-term, stable funding for its development activities, and industrialized countries must strive to reach the official development assistance target of 0.7 per cent of gross domestic product for aid and development. Some delegations asked UNDP to begin realigning and repositioning its plans in the context of the global economic crisis. Others asked UNDP to continue stocktaking and monitoring progress towards the MDGs.

11. Delegations called upon UNDP to continue its focus on crisis and post-crisis recovery, effectiveness in delivering aid, strengthening capacity-building and increasing coherence and harmonization to ensure that the United Nations is more than the sum of its parts. Several delegations highlighted the opportunity to harmonize the strategic plan and the triennial comprehensive policy review and asked UNDP to work to improve coordination between the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), country programmes and national development plans.

12. Delegations recognized that the accountability framework of UNDP has improved transparency and efficiency and asked that further progress be made. One delegation took note of UNDP advances in addressing the findings of the Board of Auditors and indicated that additional effort is required. Several delegations requested UNDP to undertake a more sustained effort to mainstream gender throughout the organization and further prioritize gender balance. Many delegations stressed that the Executive Board must avoid politicizing the work of UNDP and, instead, help it maintain impartiality and neutrality in delivering development assistance. Those delegations also requested a fair, transparent search for a new UNDP Administrator, taking into account the views and opinions of developing and donor countries alike.

## **II. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters**

### *Report on cost classification*

13. The Associate Administrator of UNDP introduced the report and reminded delegations that the document responded directly to decisions 2007/33 and 2008/1 by providing a high-level conceptual framework and broad 'road map' to realign cost classifications for greater transparency and results orientation.

14. In outlining the conceptual framework, the Associate Administrator touched upon the role of UNDP to support programme countries in fulfilling their national development strategies. Current cost classification categories, he said, restricted the ability of UNDP to

respond flexibly to evolving country level demands for broader operational, knowledge-transfer capacity and advisory support services.

15. The Associate Administrator presented a cost classification ‘road map’ for consideration by Executive Board members, featuring:

(a) *Three guiding principles*: transparent identification and attribution of costs; rationalization and simplification of cost classification groupings; and alignment among the UNDP business model, the strategic plan, and the cost classification and funding frameworks;

(b) *Three broad cost classification grouping*: ‘development’, ‘management’, and ‘special purpose’ categories. The ‘development’ category will have three streams — programmes, programme effectiveness activities, and United Nations development coordination activities;

(c) *Cost neutrality*, whereby the total of costs classified within the current biennial support budget format would decrease, while the total classified within the current programming arrangements would increase, based on the introduction of the ‘programme effectiveness’ subgroup.

16. The Associate Administrator reiterated a commitment by UNDP to engage in consultations at the annual session 2009, leading up to formal consideration of the biennial support budget, 2010-2011; and the mid-term review of the programming arrangements, 2008-2011, at the second regular session 2009. He recalled guidance provided by the Executive Board, including comments on the need for harmonization among the funds and programmes, especially UNICEF and UNFPA, bearing in mind the distinct mandates and business models of each organization.

17. The Associate Administrator requested the Executive Board to take note of the report on cost classification and of the need for a more transparent, strategic and aligned cost classification of activities. He apprised the Executive Board of certain special situations that had arisen, namely:

(a) A special authorization from the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe had been secured to allow the use of United States dollars to facilitate continued humanitarian work by the United Nations country team;

(b) A gradual phase-out over three years, following decision 2007/34 and as an exception, of the \$6 million programme financing resource transfer to the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF); and, related to that,

(c) A management decision to provide a resource transfer to UNCDF, of \$5 million in 2009, \$3 million in 2010 and \$1 million in 2011, as a follow-on to Board decision 2007/34 (under which UNDP is exceptionally provided a resource transfer to UNCDF of \$6 million in 2008), in order to avoid abrupt year-to-year changes while phasing out the support.

18. Many delegations requested further briefings on how programming arrangements and budgets would be influenced, at which point deeper and more detailed questions would emerge. They noted that the proposed reclassification of ‘programmes’, ‘programme effectiveness activities’, and ‘United Nations development coordination activities’ would have implications on cost allocations to development programmes.

19. Several delegations called for greater logic and transparency in the UNDP budgeting process to reflect its evolving business model. Some recognized that past budgeting practices might provide a logical model. They raised six key points for consideration by UNDP, namely: criteria by which programme effectiveness and coordination costs would

be determined; 'dual approach' to the biennial support budget and programming arrangements to allow the Executive Board to compare old and new systems; harmonization with UNFPA and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); clear presentation of efficiency savings; continued use of variable indirect costs to calculate cost recovery rates; and support for the conceptual shift proposed by UNDP.

20. Various delegations stressed that UNDP should keep the strategic plan in mind when revising cost classifications so that Executive Board members could properly judge results. One delegation asked how the flexibility requested in the strategic plan might be factored into regular and programme resources. Another asked for implementation support services to be included in the cost recovery methodology. Many reaffirmed the need for a transparent, results oriented, and coherent budget structure that would be simplified as well as harmonized. The Executive Board took note of the report on cost classification in UNDP (DP/2009/3).

### **III. Country programmes and related matters**

21. The Associate Administrator reminded delegations that, in accordance with decision 2001/11 and 2006/36, country programme documents are approved on a no-objection basis. The Executive Board approved country programmes for: Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Mauritania, Niger, the Republic of the Congo, Timor-Leste, Haiti, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

22. The Associate Administrator provided a detailed account of his recent field visit to Haiti, highlighting the job creation and humanitarian efforts of UNDP and highlighting support to public institutions in the justice and police sectors. He described the scaling up South-South and trilateral cooperation in support of development in the areas of agriculture, solid-waste management, and training for Haitian justice professionals. The Associate Administrator took the opportunity to apprise the Executive Board of upward revisions to the core resources allocation for Haiti, to \$22.29 million, and other resources allocation, to \$116.2 million, based on guidance from the Board.

23. Two delegations expressed satisfaction with the approval of their country programmes, speaking about key areas where UNDP assistance and guidance promises to protect achievements toward the MDGs in the context of the global crises. The delegations also thanked UNDP for a collaborative and symbiotic relationship and looked forward to continued progress towards nationally-driven development goals. One delegation announced a voluntary contribution to UNDP for 2009.

#### *Democratic People's Republic of Korea*

24. At the second regular session 2008, UNDP presented a 'road map' for the possible resumption of activities in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DP/2009/8), with which the Executive Board concurred. At the first regular session 2009, the Associate Administrator, and the Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, provided an update on UNDP findings from a technical mission and government discussions that took place in Pyongyang in October 2008. These discussions took place in full consideration of decision 2007/12, including the oral decision which was explained by the Associate Administrator of UNDP, as well as the confidential report on United Nations Development Programme activities in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, 1999-2007 (Nemeth report).

25. In addition to the measures outlined in the management proposal for the resumption of operations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Regional Director provided

additional information on key elements of the operation of a resumed programme on which the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had agreed, and assured the Executive Board that UNDP was in the process of systematically addressing all of the recommendations to improve programme management contained in the Nemeth report. Highlights of the new management plan included:

(a) *Human resource management*, including discontinuing sub-contracting of national staff members by the government, more competitive recruitment, staff evaluation and selection entirely at the discretion of UNDP, agreement directly with an individual to become a UNDP staff member, and direct payment of salaries and entitlements to individuals;

(b) *Finance and banking*, including local payments made in local currency and the agreement by the government to meet global UNDP banking standards;

(c) *Strengthened monitoring and evaluation*, with the addition of an international monitoring and evaluation specialist in the country office, regular visits to projects, and ample reporting on a regular basis on the implementation of these measures as well as on the overall programme. The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has agreed to give UNDP unhindered access to project sites and given assurances that UNDP will be able to physically verify the appropriate use of all project equipment and assets. These actions will all form part of the implementation of a detailed monitoring and evaluation plan;

(d) *Transparent communication*, in line with UNDP worldwide standards and similar to all other UNDP programmes, UNDP will establish a website on its programme in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with its overall objectives, detailed information on the country programme, projects, operations, and procurement for public viewing.

26. He concluded by calling upon the Executive Board to authorize the package to allow UNDP to resume its work in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

27. Many delegations expressed support for the activities outlined in the package of measures, recognizing the importance of putting UNDP back to work in the country with stronger accountability and monitoring and evaluation roles. Two delegations reminded the Board that considerable time and resources had been spent on analysing and investigating the programme, with one delegation expressing appreciation for the transparency brought to all UNDP development activities as a consequence of those efforts. Another delegation called the programme suspension politically motivated, but was pleased that the various investigations had revealed no wrongdoing. Many warned that such suspensions would divert UNDP from being neutral and impartial in providing human development assistance and jeopardize the achievement of internationally agreed-upon development goals.

28. Several delegations called upon UNDP to keep the Executive Board apprised of developments in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. One delegation thanked UNDP for its pragmatic approach in identifying the elements needed to address past problems. It requested clarification on arrangements for hiring local staff. Another delegation stressed that UNDP programme operations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea should be limited to supporting sustainable human development objectives, in accordance with decision 2007/12, including the oral decision which was explained by the Associate Administrator of UNDP, and requested UNDP to monitor activities closely.

29. Some delegations identified an area where two UNDP energy projects could be integrated into one, and spoke of shortcomings in capacity-building, training, and sustainability. They asked whether there was a 'ceiling amount' in adopting additional projects. One delegation highlighted the risk that, due to the interruption of development assistance, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea might miss national and international development targets, including the MDGs. Another asked that additional funds be dedicated to the country programme.

30. Many delegations expressed support in aligning the UNDP country programme with those of other United Nations organizations, upon completion of the package of measures in 2010. They felt that a resumption of UNDP presence would free other organizations to focus on their mandates, while allowing the UNDP to resume its critical function of aid coordination.

31. Based on the management proposal (DP/2009/8) and on the additional assurances provided during by the Regional Director in the course of Board deliberations, the Executive Board adopted decision 2009/1 on the proposed measures for the resumption of UNDP programme operations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea thanked the Executive Board President, the UNDP Administrator and staff, and the Group of 77 and China, welcoming the return of UNDP and pledging a collaborative relationship with the organization.

#### **IV. United Nations Office for Project Services**

*UNOPS financial regulations and rules; report on comprehensive post classification at UNOPS and proposals for implementation of the recommendations.*

32. The Executive Director of UNOPS presented an overview of the proposed financial regulations and rules and post reclassification efforts. He stressed that these were based on international public sector accounting standards to codify and reinforce risk management and financial controls. He assured delegations that the proposals reflected the accountability framework and new governance arrangements approved by the Executive Board.

33. He reiterated that post reclassifications were needed to help the organization attract and retain talent; high attrition rates had negatively affected productivity and budgets. He pledged that UNOPS would undertake post reclassifications gradually, after careful management consideration of budgetary and personnel implications. He informed the Board that, following Executive Board guidance on governance arrangements, the Secretary-General had delegated personnel responsibility to the Executive Director.

34. The Executive Director provided some preliminary budget numbers, which were expected to meet net budgetary targets, with delivery moving above \$1 billion for the first time and revenue reaching \$6.3 million. He reaffirmed his commitment to engaging with delegations on the UNOPS strategic plan in the lead-up to its consideration at the second regular session 2009, and updated the Executive Board on an investigation into alleged wrongdoing by a UNOPS senior manager.

35. Many delegations supported the post reclassifications request and said it should be approved expeditiously, to permit UNOPS to align its human resources with the United Nations common system. One delegation raised concerns about the scope and timing of the proposed post re-classifications, and called for additional time for Executive Board consultations, including with United Nations Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ). The delegation cautioned of the need to consider the

broader implications of this action on perceptions and potential consequences for the United Nations that such a comprehensive and costly reclassification could have at a time when national budgets are strained and jobs are being lost worldwide. Many recognized the dialogue with the ACABQ and the resulting report, which had informed the post-reclassification proposal. Some congratulated UNOPS on its progress towards implementation of the international public sector accounting standards and addressing the recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors, its asset management system, its internal control mechanisms, and the enhanced role of regional representatives. One delegation expressed its concern about the current status of the inter-fund reconciliation and deferred revenue of UNOPS — irrespective of the amount — which could have an impact on the management of this self-financing United Nations entity.

36. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/4 on the financial regulations and rules of the United Nations Office for Project Services. It also adopted decision 2009/5 on the post classification exercise and its implementation. After adoption of decision 2009/5, one delegation noted its understanding that UNOPS intended to implement the post-classification change in a cost neutral manner, so that salary increases would be offset by productivity gains and reduced costs associated with a turnover rate that had theretofore exceeded the United Nations average. Another delegation commented that it would carefully monitor the management activities of UNOPS.

## V. United Nations Capital Development Fund

37. The Executive Secretary of UNCDF summarized how the presence of the organization had grown from 23 to 40 programme countries over the last four years; how the organization had undertaken a process of decentralization; how total income in 2008 expanded to \$50 million from 24 different donors; and how nearly all new programmes were joint programmes, under United Nations Development Group (UNDG) guidelines. He explained the advantages of the UNCDF capital investment mandate from a financial flexibility perspective, and identified critical development results for UNCDF in 2008, including:

- (a) *Local development*, specifically the expansion of capacity-building and investment support to 749 local governments — nearly 70 per cent in Africa;
- (b) *Inclusive finance*, specifically support provided to 40 institutions with over 1.5 million clients, 60 per cent of whom were women. The Executive Secretary added that in 2008, UNCDF initiated inclusive finance programmes in 16 least developed countries;
- (c) *Evaluations and ratings*, specifically the positive rating of UNCDF by the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor — an independent policy and research centre — in the area of donor effectiveness. The Executive Secretary mentioned a 2008 World Bank self-evaluation document that recognized UNCDF for its local development work.

38. Delegations expressed confidence in the leadership of the Executive Secretary and were encouraged by the strong performance of UNCDF, reaffirming the important role it plays in supporting least developed countries in microfinance and local development. One delegation called on UNCDF to continue communicating its comparative advantages vis-à-vis UNDP, other financial institutions, and the wider aid architecture. That delegation requested UNCDF to working towards expanding its donor base. Another delegation noted the new strategic partnership with UNDP, which had strengthened the regional and country level presence of UNCDF, encouraging greater efficiency. It called

on the organization to continue work on decentralization, local development and inclusive finance, to expand programme offerings and continue results-based management practices. One delegation expressed support for the MicroLead programme and encouraged UNCDF to use it in post-conflict situations and strengthen ties with the activities of the Peacebuilding Commission.

39. The Executive Secretary provided details of the recent establishment of an operational review committee, the relative fragility of the core resource base despite recent growth, and new strategic partnerships with a host of United Nations organizations in addition to closer ties with UNDP. He described the new \$26 million facility 'MicroLead', a South-South initiative designed to bring leading Southern-based microfinance institutions to underserved least developed countries, especially those in crisis and post-conflict situations. MicroLead, he added, was receiving substantial support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The Executive Secretary stressed the commitment of UNCDF to catalytic work, measurable results, and integrity and transparency, calling on Executive Board members for continued support to regular and other resources for UNCDF. He concluded by introducing the new Deputy Executive Secretary.

## VI. Gender in UNDP

40. The Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau for Development Policy (BDP) and the Director, BDP Gender Unit, provided a comprehensive overview of gender in UNDP, the progress made and the challenges that remained.

41. The Assistant Administrator and Director of BDP gave a statistic to illustrate the scope of the challenge: 82 million women were unemployed, up from 70 million a decade ago. Women who were working, he said, were in less productive sectors carrying higher economic risk. In the context of the global economic crisis, he spoke of UNDP support to gender and human development through enhancing national capacity to mainstream gender equality in development policies, programmes, and budgets. He mentioned a groundbreaking study on the impact of the crisis on gender equality, which is helping UNDP shape nationally tailored responses. The Director, BDP Gender Unit, spoke about the UNDP gender action plan and advances in internal capacity, accountability and gender tracking mechanisms.

42. The Director, BDP Gender Unit, updated the Executive Board with detailed information on:

- (a) *Enhancing capacity for gender mainstreaming*, with the global launch of the gender equality strategy by the Administrator of UNDP;
- (b) *Enhancing corporate accountability for gender equality results*, through improved monitoring and reporting;
- (c) *Finances for gender equality*, including the total regular resources contribution of \$12,800,000 for implementation of the gender equality strategy;
- (d) *Human resources for gender mainstreaming*, including proper staffing for regional gender programmes intended to stimulate and complement country-level gender action;
- (e) *Strengthened knowledge management for gender equality*, with a specific focus on revamping the UNDP gender website and regional portals;
- (f) *Increased global and national inter-agency joint programming*, through United Nations country team gender thematic groups as well as several inter-agency gender taskforces.

43. The Director, BDP Gender Unit thanked the Executive Board for its support of the gender equality strategy, assuring delegations that attention would be focussed on protecting gains made towards achieving the MDGs and providing constituents with tools and capacities to help them respond to the affects of global crises.

44. Many delegations encouraged UNDP to continue mainstreaming and integrating gender perspectives into its focus areas and enhancing accountability on gender issues to achieve results. They recommended the development of success indicators linked to the MDGs and asked how UNDP tracked resources committed to gender equality and women. They emphasized the need for UNDP managers and staff to believe in the value of gender equality for real success to occur. They requested additional information about: cooperation with governments on gender budgeting; whether sufficient resources and gender expertise exist in each of the UNDP focus areas; and what UNDP considers to be the key challenges of mainstreaming gender perspectives, given the diverse country contexts in which it works. One delegation announced that, with help from its development partners, 18 per cent of its parliamentary seats were now dedicated to women.

45. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/6 on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy, 2008-2011.

### **Joint UNDP/UNFPA segment**

## **VII. Recommendations of the Board of Auditors**

46. The UNDP Associate Administrator, the UNFPA Deputy Executive Director (External Relations, United Nations Affairs and Management) and the UNOPS Deputy Executive Director introduced the reports of their respective organizations (DP/2009/5; DP/FPA/2009/1; DP/2009/6). A representative of the United Nations Board of Auditors participated in the discussion.

47. Delegations commended the follow-up by the three organizations in implementing the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and welcomed the participation of the representative of that Board in the current discussion. They requested additional information on the consequences of IPSAS implementation and the provisions being made by the organizations to meet after-service health insurance costs. They also requested additional information on IPSAS implementation during 2009, through formal discussion at the Executive Board and informal briefings. Delegations asked the representative of the Board of Auditors how he viewed the implementation of the recommendations by the organizations and if any deficiencies were noted. They inquired about the perspective of the Board of Auditors on risks and risk mitigation actions that could be taken by the organizations. They asked to continue the dialogue with the Board of Auditors either at the annual session 2009 or at the second regular session 2009.

48. Regarding UNDP, some delegations wondered why so few headquarters audits had taken place. One delegation expressed a desire to receive more information on the harmonized approach to cash transfers. Another asked for more stringent treasury management, as well as for the database of results-based management indicators to be updated and made more specific, time-bound and attainable. One delegation asked UNDP to share plans of how results-based management would be used to monitor country offices and ensure accountability. That delegation was concerned with the low implementation rate of audit recommendations and called for follow-up at the annual session. The issue of stronger reporting on UNDP management of multilateral and bilateral trust funds was also



raised as a concern. Delegations inquired how UNDP could strengthen its procurement function and what risks were involved with 'split procurement' orders avoiding review processes.

49. Several delegations recognized the progress made by UNOPS, and appreciated the quality of the report it presented. They called on UNOPS to continue making progress and reporting to the Executive Board.

50. Many delegations directed questions to the representative of the Board of Auditors: how did he view the implementation of the audit recommendations by the organizations? Were any deficiencies noted? What was the perspective of the Board of Auditors on organizational risks, risk management and risk mitigation actions that could be taken by the organizations?

51. The Board of Auditors representative provided a brief response, highlighting progress made since the report was issued. He spoke about the importance of interacting with the audit committees of UNDP, UNFPA, the ACABQ and the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly. He outlined the biennium interim process, where the Board of Auditors formally validates progress on recommendations. He spoke of the 'top risks' initiative implemented by UNDP senior management, confirming it as a best practice. Responding to a specific question, the representative stated that two previous reports had highlighted split procurement, and that it could be addressed through programme controls built into the Atlas system and a review mechanism to spot issues at the earliest possible moment.

52. The Associate Administrator stated that 13 audits would take place at headquarters in 2009. This would become a standard for the organization, he said. Regarding treasury, he was surprised at the unsatisfactory rating but had taken the lead on a comprehensive plan to reorganize and implement audit recommendations. Regarding procurement, UNDP had taken the initiative to audit processes and gauge weaknesses, and the outcome had already had an impact. On implementation of the international public sector accounting standards, he agreed that greater exchange would help Executive Board members see the human and financial effort required as well as implications on such areas as after-service health insurance. He assured the Board that greater attention would be paid to trust funds.

53. The UNFPA Deputy Executive Director (External Relations, United Nations Affairs and Management) thanked the delegations for their comments and support and assured the Executive Board that UNFPA had all the necessary systems in place to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors. She welcomed the request for an update on implementation of the international public sector accounting standards and noted that the annual session 2009 would be an opportune time for such an update. She stated that UNFPA had begun implementing the standards in 2008 and expected full implementation by January 2010. She added that UNFPA was fully engaged with other partners in the implementation process.

54. Regarding after-service health insurance, she noted that UNFPA was well prepared and had commenced funding of liabilities for 2007 and earlier years. For future after-service health insurance liabilities, UNFPA was providing for these through monthly payroll costs on an estimated basis with effect from January 2008. Concerning the issue of vacancy management, she assured the Executive Board that UNFPA was fully committed to reducing the lead time in filling vacancies. She noted that UNFPA welcomed the opportunity to provide an update (possibly at the annual session). She concluded by recalling that UNFPA reported twice a year on audit, namely, on external audit at the first regular session of the Board and on internal audit at the annual session.

55. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/2 on the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2006-2007.

## **VIII. Report to the Economic and Social Council**

56. On behalf of UNDP and UNFPA, the UNFPA Deputy Executive Director (External Relations, United Nations Affairs and Management) introduced the joint report to the Economic and Social Council (E/2009/5).

57. Delegations reaffirmed the strong relationship between the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, and the Executive Board, and the accountability among them. Delegations called for increased effectiveness and efficiency, coherence between the organizations, and a focus on organizational mandates, and harmonized processes. They noted that future reports to the Economic and Social Council should closely follow the structure and sequence of General Assembly resolution 62/208. Delegations emphasized the need to streamline and rationalize reporting requirements and stressed that duplication and an undue reporting burden should be avoided.

58. While stressing the importance of transparency and accountability for operational and management activities, one delegation expressed the hope that UNDP and UNFPA would steadily implement on-the-ground results-based activities without exhausting themselves due to the increased reporting obligations. The delegation noted that it would respect the initiatives of UNDP and UNFPA on how to meet the requirements of General Assembly resolution 62/208.

59. Delegations called for higher-quality reports for stronger benchmarking, highlighting achievements against those identified in strategic plans; and the inclusion of lessons learned, challenges, and forward-looking recommendations. They stated that it was important to address the needs of middle-income countries; South-South cooperation; and challenges in the area of capacity development. Delegations also emphasized the need to increase technical and financial support to the resident coordinator system; expand the pool of candidates for resident coordinator posts; and improve transparency in the selection process for high-level United Nations officials.

60. Delegations noted that the new comprehensive policy review contained some crucial mandates specific to UNDP and UNFPA and it would be important for the Executive Board to continue to maintain a focus on the implementation of those mandates through its reporting to the Economic and Social Council. In particular, they were interested in knowing how the organizations planned to meet the challenges identified in the area of capacity development. Six delegations elaborated on the new experiences emerging from pilot and non-pilot countries in implementing system-wide coherence and delivering as one.

61. The Assistant Administrator and Director of the Partnerships Bureau responded by acknowledging delegations' calls for reporting to be more closely aligned with the structure of the triennial comprehensive policy review. Further discussion was merited, he said, so as to avoid duplication with strategic plan reporting obligations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs reporting obligations and to ensure the best possible structure and analysis is provided to the Board. He spoke of the 'advisory group of 13' that formed to tackle issues surrounding business practices, joint sessions, and quality of resident coordinators, amongst other things. He concluded by touching upon the importance of the next generation of UNDAFs, the evaluation of delivering as one pilots

requested by the General Assembly, and reaffirmed the needs of middle-income countries and the vital importance of South-South cooperation.

62. The UNFPA Deputy Executive Director (External Relations, United Nations Affairs and Management) concurred with delegations that had stated that while reporting was very important an undue burden should not be placed on the organizations. She noted that it was particularly important not to overburden country offices with additional reporting requirements, given the need to focus on programme delivery. She underscored that the issue of support to the resident coordinator system was being addressed. Also, the UNDG had developed a position statement to guide the United Nations system approach to capacity development. UNFPA was continuing to address the challenges in the area of capacity development. She concurred that it would be important to report on South-South cooperation and issues pertaining to middle-income countries. She thanked the Executive Board for providing valuable guidance.

63. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/3 on the report of the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Director of UNFPA to the Economic and Social Council.

## **UNFPA segment**

### *Opening remarks by the President of the Executive Board*

64. The UNFPA segment began with the opening remarks of the President of the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board. He underscored the vital role that UNFPA played in the international development architecture. Noting that the year 2009 marked the 40th anniversary of UNFPA and the 15th anniversary of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), the President stated that over the last 40 years UNFPA had played a leading role in the United Nations system in promoting population and development issues. He highlighted the vital work of UNFPA in assisting countries in the areas of population dynamics; reproductive health, including family planning; and gender equality. He observed that UNFPA was the world's largest multilateral source of population assistance to developing countries.

### *Statement by the Executive Director*

65. The Executive Director began her statement (available on the UNFPA website at [http://www.unfpa.org/exbrd/2009/2009\\_first.htm](http://www.unfpa.org/exbrd/2009/2009_first.htm)) by congratulating the President and the other members of the Bureau on their election. She thanked the outgoing President and Vice-Presidents for their excellent leadership. She paid tribute to the UNDP Administrator who had announced that he would not seek a second term. She welcomed the inauguration of the President of the United States of America and hoped to work closely with the country in achieving the MDGs and more specifically the target of universal access to reproductive health by 2015. The Executive Director underscored that the United Nations remained an institution of "hope" while confronted by huge challenges. Noting that "just as crises are connected, people are too", she stressed the need to maximize the power of connections and to reach across cultures, promote universal values and find solutions to the many crises facing the world. She stated: "We must insist that those who need us most are the centre of our efforts". She emphasized the centrality of ICPD goals to achieving the MDGs.

66. The Executive Director elaborated on the importance of building networks at national, regional and global levels to enhance the flows of information, knowledge and experience, including through South-South cooperation and North-South relations. She highlighted the Fund's Campaign to End Fistula and noted that UNFPA was intensifying action with partners to achieve MDG 5 to improve maternal health, including a highly targeted effort

in 60 high-maternal mortality countries. She thanked all the countries that had contributed to the UNFPA Maternal Health Trust Fund. She emphasized the importance of reproductive health commodity security. She highlighted UNFPA partnerships with WHO, the World Bank, UNICEF, UNHCR and various non-governmental and civil society organizations, including faith-based organizations. She noted that UNFPA was reaching out to young people through building and/or using existing networks, including the Global Youth Advisory Panel and the Coalition for Adolescent Girls. The Executive Director elaborated on the Fund's culturally sensitive approach to human rights, including the rights to sexual and reproductive health and development in general. She noted that UNFPA was working with many networks to prevent violence against women.

67. Noting UNFPA commitment to United Nations reform, including simplification and harmonization, and delivering as one, the Executive Director stated that UNFPA was becoming more field-focused and results-oriented through its regionalization. She updated the Executive Board on the establishment of the regional offices and thanked the governments that had provided generous support for regionalization. The Executive Director underscored that UNFPA was focused on enhancing accountability, oversight, monitoring and evaluation. Furthermore, concrete steps were being taken to strengthen staff safety and security. The Executive Director updated the Executive Board on the Fund's financial situation: in 2008, provisional core contributions totalled \$430 million, an increase of more than \$10 million over the previous year. However, it was \$50 million less than expected, due to unfavourable exchange rates coinciding with late payments from some major donors. The non-core contributions income was approximately \$300 million, an increase of \$50 million from 2007. She did not foresee any decrease in 2009: several donors had already pledged increases. She thanked the UNFPA top donors and also those countries that had made multi-year pledges. She thanked all countries for the trust and confidence placed in UNFPA and for their contributions.

68. Delegations applauded the Executive Director and praised her inspiring and insightful statement. They expressed strong support and appreciation for her leadership and for the work of UNFPA. They appreciated her commitment to the issues of culture and religion in the context of development cooperation and the partnerships built with faith-based organizations. Delegations congratulated her on the two-year extension of her tenure. They also thanked her for her leadership as chair of the High-Level Committee on Management, and commended the work on the business practice reform initiative. Delegations emphasized that the ICPD agenda was crucial for achieving the MDGs and winning the fight against poverty. They expressed concern that progress on MDG 5 was lagging and that the current global financial crisis would further compromise the attainment of the MDGs. Concern was also expressed regarding the decline in international funding for family planning. The Netherlands delegation announced that with UNFPA it would co-organize a high-level meeting on MDG 5. Underscoring the importance of a comprehensive approach to global health, including reproductive health and maternal, newborn and child health, the Japanese delegation announced that the TICAD Ministerial Follow-up Meeting would be held in Botswana in March. Delegations noted that the global financial crisis had underscored the need to make aid more effective and get more value for money.

69. Delegations noted the Fund's contribution to HIV prevention. They underscored the importance of linking sexual and reproductive health initiatives with HIV prevention efforts. They commended UNFPA collaboration with WHO, UNICEF and other development partners. One delegation underscored the importance of the female condom in empowering women and noted that UNFPA had become a member of the steering committee of the Universal Access to the Female Condom Initiative. While emphasizing

that UNFPA had a central role to play on gender issues, delegations encouraged a better division of labour amongst agencies at the country level and a focus on comparative advantages. They also urged agencies working on gender to produce gender-disaggregated data to track the impact of programmes on women and girls. One delegation noted that its Secretary of State-designate had long been interested in and engaged on many of the issues in which UNFPA was involved and she had recently underscored that the plight of women and girls were of particular concern to her.

70. Delegations commended UNFPA commitment and efforts regarding harmonization, delivering as one and other aspects of United Nations reform. It was stressed that UNFPA had a central role to play in promoting the culturally sensitive approach in the context of delivering as one. Such an approach had great potential in challenging discrimination and harmful practices across different cultural settings. Delegations commended UNFPA commitment to supporting national leadership and national ownership. They stressed the importance of broadening policy dialogue on development at the country level and underscored the importance of the Accra Agenda for Action. They inquired about capacity development and hoped that regionalization would strengthen the Fund's delivery of technical and programmatic assistance, including with regard to the integration of sexual and reproductive health and rights into efforts to strengthen national health systems.

71. Sweden announced that it would substantially increase its core contribution to UNFPA in 2009 and also provide a contribution to support the work of UNFPA regarding MDG 5. The United Kingdom stated that it would provide UNFPA with up to \$132.5 million (89.5 million pounds) in core funding between 2008 and 2011. Denmark and the United Kingdom announced a new joint institutional strategy with UNFPA. The Netherlands, the top donor to UNFPA, noted that it had committed 58 million euros per year for the duration of the UNFPA strategic plan. The Netherlands stated that it had also increased its annual contribution to the UNFPA Global Programme on Reproductive Health Commodity Security and would provide 30 million euros per year until 2011. Norway stated that it had made an indicative multi-year pledge and would maintain its annual core contribution, at a minimum, at the 2008 level. Furthermore, the Norwegian parliament had decided to increase the country's development assistance budget for 2009 to the level of 1 per cent of gross national income. Donors making multi-year pledges urged others to do the same. The Republic of Korea noted that as a newly emerging donor it was committed to give back to the international community.

72. The Executive Director thanked delegations for their support and welcomed the announcements by some delegations regarding increased contributions, multi-year pledges and additional contributions. In expressing appreciation for the joint institutional strategy developed by Denmark and the United Kingdom, she noted that it would reduce transaction costs. Regarding the need to address restrictive rules and procedures that impeded coherence between United Nations agencies, she stated that the funds and programmes were harmonizing their rules, regulations and business practices. She elaborated on the various actions UNFPA was undertaking to increase capacity development in programme countries. In the area of HIV prevention, the use of report cards and the SRH/HIV assessment tool, scaled up condom programming (including the provision of female condoms) and linkages with the Global Fund were proving beneficial. She underscored the work of UNFPA in the areas of reproductive health and HIV prevention among women, girls and vulnerable population groups, including sex workers. She referred to attending a recent meeting in Mexico where ministers of health and education had committed to providing age-appropriate sexuality education. She discussed how UNFPA provided technical assistance to programme countries: until recently it had been through the country technical services teams; now, with regionalization, there was an

increased focus on integrating the technical and programmatic dimensions of assistance, and the utilization of regional institutions and expertise, including knowledge networks. She noted that UNFPA was also providing technical assistance in the areas of costing and monitoring and evaluation to build capacity in both governmental and non-governmental organizations. She noted that the International Planned Parenthood Federation was a strategic partner of UNFPA. She stated that the Partners in Population and Development (an intergovernmental organization) exemplified the type of valuable networking among countries necessary to advance the ICPD agenda.

*Oral briefing on the development of the UNFPA evaluation policy*

73. The Director, Programme Division, UNFPA, provided an oral briefing to the Executive Board on the development of the UNFPA evaluation policy, in response to decision 2008/12. A background note was distributed at the meeting and can also be accessed at [http://www.unfpa.org/exbrd/2009/2009\\_first.htm](http://www.unfpa.org/exbrd/2009/2009_first.htm).

74. The Director, Programme Division, noted that the evaluation policy being designed by UNFPA aimed at fostering both programme effectiveness and accountability and responded to General Assembly resolution 62/208. He delineated the guiding principles and the key features of the evaluation policy being developed. He welcomed the comments of the Executive Board.

75. Several delegations stated that they attached high importance to the evaluation function and its independence, including with regard to its budget and work programme. In that regard, they wondered about the independence of the evaluation function vis-à-vis the proposed oversight to be exercised by the UNFPA Executive Committee. Delegations emphasized the importance of conducting joint evaluations, including with the participation of national counterparts; and contributing to national capacity development for evaluation.

76. They encouraged UNFPA to harmonize with sister agencies, including UNICEF and UNDP, and to benefit from their recent experience in producing an evaluation policy. Delegations stated that they looked forward to additional informal meetings to discuss the evaluation policy prior to its submission to the Annual session 2009.

77. The Director, Programme Division, thanked the Executive Board for the comments and suggestions and noted that the principle of independence was already included in the draft policy being prepared and would be maintained.

## **IX. Country programmes and related matters**

78. In accordance with decision 2006/36, the Executive Board approved seven UNFPA-supported country programmes on a no-objection basis, without presentation or discussion. The following programmes were approved: from Africa — Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya and Mauritania; from Asia and the Pacific — Timor-Leste; and from Latin America and the Caribbean — Haiti and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

79. Following the approval of the country programmes, the delegations of Mauritania and Kenya took the floor to thank the Executive Board for approving the programmes and to express appreciation for UNFPA support and close cooperation and collaboration with national authorities and other development partners. The delegation of Mauritania stated that its country would increase its contribution to UNFPA in 2009.

---

## X. Other matters

### *Farewell tribute to the Administrator*

80. Representatives from each geographical region paid tribute to the Administrator. They spoke of his strong experience as a government minister and as a leading international advisor on development. They highlighted his stewardship of UNDP through difficult times, reiterating the organization's key role as a trusted partner to developing countries. Statements emphasized his inspirational and intellectual leadership, his spirit of openness, and his innovative approach to increasing UNDP resources for development action. They praised the Administrator as a champion of reform and recognized his tireless efforts to increase transparency and efficiency at UNDP and to advance greater harmonization and coherence across the United Nations system. Delegations noted the analytical rigour he brought to the post, adding that the next Administrator would have large shoes to fill.

81. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/7, an expression of appreciation to Kemal Derviş, Administrator of UNDP from 2005-2009.

### *Informal meetings*

82. The Executive Board held the following informal meetings:

*UNDP.* An informal consultation on the implementation of decision 2008/37 on internal audit and oversight;

*UNOPS.* A briefing on the UNOPS strategy.

## **Annex**

### **Joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme**

#### **Population growth and rapid urbanization: Food insecurity on the rise in urban settings**

83. The President of the World Food Programme (WFP) Executive Board invited the WFP Deputy Executive Director to introduce the background paper on behalf of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP. The Deputy Executive Director noted the rapid growth of urban areas and the 'new face' of poverty, hunger and food insecurity confronting people living in them. Urban poverty would become increasingly a major challenge for development and for attaining the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs. He drew the attention of Board members to some broader dimensions indicating that the food crisis and the financial crisis would make it even more difficult to respond to the challenge of urbanization. Of the 1 billion hungry people in the world, many lived in urban areas; response to their needs must be timely. While it was important to ensure a response to urban poverty, hunger and malnutrition, the silent tens of millions in faraway places who did not have a voice could not be forgotten. Food and nutritional assistance could address immediate needs and be an important engine of growth, which was much needed in the current global economy, where there was a strong economic argument for the dramatic and positive impact on productivity and growth by a better-nourished and educated population. Lastly, he pointed out that climate-related disasters compromised health, nutrition and education and that part of the coping mechanisms of those populations affected by climate change was to move to urban areas, some of which may be vulnerable to climate-related events.

84. In concluding, the Deputy Executive Director stressed that government responses and initiatives must be supported by coordinated action among United Nations organizations, and that there was a need to mobilize a wide coalition of actors — engaging governments and city administrators, and reaching out to non-governmental and civil society organizations that addressed urban poverty. There was a need for a sharper focus on urbanization and the specific problems faced by the urban hungry and poor, including challenges created by urban slums being unregistered, and the high mobility of urban poor people and their limited access to social services. Support from governments at all levels was needed to build appropriate responses that would ensure food and nutrition security for the urban poor.

85. The Permanent Representative of Tajikistan shared his country's perspectives on how the Government had addressed the issues brought about by the food and energy crisis. He indicated that 72 per cent of the population lived in urban settings, and that only 7 per cent of the land was arable. Rising food prices in 2007 had a negative impact on the poorest people; food import bills tripled, and access to food was precarious. He stressed that food security was a priority for the Government, which had addressed the issues not only by producing more food, but also by increasing the purchasing power of the poorest people.

86. Many delegations commended the paper and supported the United Nations organizations' intention to work in urban areas, but cautioned against neglecting rural areas, and urged ensuring inclusion of other relevant partners such as the United Nations Human Settlements Programme. Programme planning and interventions should be based on vulnerability assessments and should engage all stakeholders of the urban poor,



especially women. Furthermore, some delegations indicated that private sector involvement was critical to programme success. A few delegates highlighted the importance of supporting government responses and initiatives, while ensuring adequate policy preparations at national and sub-national levels, and investments in state and municipal capacities.

87. The panellists responded that engaging with the poor in urban areas was rather more difficult than in rural areas, because community and kinship ties were not as strong there. In addition, factors such as mobility, lack of a voice and the difficulty in organizing communities hampered efforts by the poor to achieve successful and structured engagement. The role of the private sector in production and distribution of food was recognized; particular mention was made of current work with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation and the United Nations to better connect small farmers to markets, against the budget of \$1 billion of food purchase in developing countries in 2008.

#### **Unstable food prices and linkage with food and nutrition security**

88. The President of the UNICEF Executive Board invited the UNICEF Executive Director to introduce the background paper on unstable food prices and the linkage to food and nutrition security and to lead discussions on behalf of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP. The Executive Director highlighted the continuing challenges created by unstable food prices, especially their role in heightening vulnerabilities in developing countries, as the deteriorating nutritional status of the poor was likely to be further exacerbated by the global economic crisis. She also stressed the importance of close collaboration to combat the effects of unstable food prices and the global economic crisis, to ensure achievement of the MDGs.

89. The coordinator of the High-Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis referred to the coordinated United Nations response mechanisms in place to support governments in their short- and longer-term actions to: mitigate the impact of unstable food prices; increase agricultural productivity, especially of smallholder farmers; address malnutrition; and strengthen resilient social protection systems, as detailed in the Comprehensive Framework for Action issued in July 2008. WFP had received significant support for scaling up its programmes, but funding still fell far short of the estimated needs for supporting all outcomes of the framework.

90. The United Nations resident coordinator in Mozambique underscored that country's heavy reliance on food imports and described the coordinated United Nations support to the government response to rising food prices. This response essentially followed two tracks: (a) enhancing food production and trade; and (b) expanding social action and safety nets for the most vulnerable in the areas of education, nutrition and health. The Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mozambique further elaborated on the Government's response, especially in embarking on an accelerated 'green revolution' and on the vital services that the United Nations organizations were carrying out in a coordinated manner through the United Nations country team.

91. In the discussions that followed, several delegations expressed concern that the global economic crisis would further erode the purchasing power of the poor, thus increasing the number of people living in poverty and unable to acquire the foods they needed, resulting in a real possibility that MDG 1 ("Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger") would not be reached.

92. Delegations supported the Comprehensive Framework for Action and stressed the importance of a coordinated United Nations response; they mentioned Mozambique as a

good case study in this respect, referring also to its commitment to ‘delivering as one’. They also indicated support for a broader partnership to address food and nutrition insecurity, as would be proposed at the High-Level Meeting on Food Security for All, held jointly by the Government of Spain and the United Nations in Madrid, on January 26-27 2009. Providing assistance to smallholder farmers was considered vital, since they could stabilize the local food supply. A specific recommendation was to increase the percentage of official development assistance devoted to actions addressing hunger.

93. A number of delegations recommended an integrated multi-sectoral response to unstable food prices, as their impact was felt in nutrition, health, education, water and sanitation, and general protection. Women were particularly vulnerable, especially those heading households, as their capacity to deal with unstable food prices was generally lower; they also often faced the risk of violence, especially in times of food insecurity. Several delegations stressed the role of organizations in women’s empowerment.

94. In response, the panellists indicated that the current instability and the likely worsening conditions due to the global economic crisis should also be seen as an opportunity to address deep-seated problems. The United Nations could play a central role in helping to build national capacities, providing technical assistance and promoting broad partnerships with all stakeholders, including civil society organizations. The example of Mozambique demonstrated how a coordinated United Nations response could support the efforts of the national Government.

95. In terms of support to smallholder farmers, the Rome-based agencies were working with the World Bank to address the challenges those farmers faced, recognizing that a majority of them were women. Gender was a constant concern in all aspects of the United Nations response.

96. The UNICEF Executive Director, reiterating that the United Nations system was well coordinated under the leadership of the Secretary-General, emphasized the need for enhancing broader partnership. A life-cycle approach was considered essential for tackling food and nutrition insecurity and mother and child survival; this included addressing the nutritional needs of pregnant women; promoting exclusive breastfeeding; and ensuring the availability of nutritious complementary foods for infants and young children. An integrated approach was required, given the interaction between disease and malnutrition, and the impact of poor sanitation and hygiene.

97. The positive aspect of unstable food prices was that the world had begun to focus on increasing agricultural productivity and the important role of nutrition in health.

#### **Harmonization among the United Nations funds and programmes: Business practices**

98. The President of the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board chaired the session on the harmonization of business practices among the United Nations funds and programmes. The UNFPA Executive Director introduced the background paper on behalf of all four organizations, focusing on progress made at the global level. The United Nations Resident Coordinator, Mozambique, focused on the achievements and challenges in Mozambique regarding the harmonization of business practices. The Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations gave a presentation underlining the importance that his Government placed on United Nations reform and, in particular, on the simplification and harmonization of business practices.

99. During the discussion, delegations expressed support for and interest in the ongoing work on the harmonization of business practices, including the business practices proposal. They stressed the need for the entire United Nations system to make progress,

taking fully into account existing intergovernmental guidance. Delegations commended the United Nations country team in Mozambique for the progress achieved. A number of delegations called for the United Nations system to ensure that the ongoing reforms at the country level were matched by similar reforms at the global level and that adequate support was provided to countries.

100. Delegations underlined that cost savings realized through business practice harmonization at the country level should be transferred to programmes in those countries. Some delegations asked for further clarification on the difference between the work undertaken in the context of the Chief Executives Board (CEB) High-Level Committee on Management (HLCM) and that undertaken through the UNDG.

101. In her response, the UNFPA Executive Director thanked delegations for their support and guidance. She reiterated the serious commitment of the United Nations system to the harmonization of business practices and to addressing the issues highlighted by Member States. She noted that there was a clear division of labour between the global level where the United Nations system sought system-wide solutions through the CEB and HLCM, and the work of UNDG in support of countries. From the country level, lessons learned and issues that needed the attention of the entire system were passed on by UNDG to HLCM. She also noted that an important part of United Nations reform and coherence must also take place at the level of the governing bodies so that United Nations organizations receive the same messages. The Resident Coordinator in Mozambique thanked the delegations for their support and noted that the harmonization of business practices was essential for effective country-level programme delivery. The Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations closed by noting that fragmentation of the United Nations system was not an option since countries needed a strong and coherent United Nations system.

**Harmonization among the United Nations funds and programmes: Programmatic side — Reinforcing state capacity: United Nations support to national capacity development**

102. The President of the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board invited the Administrator of UNDP to open discussions on national capacity development and the role of the United Nations development system. The Administrator stressed the importance of a coordinated United Nations system in contributing to increased economic activity, fair distribution of wealth, sustainable environmental management and engaging more people in democratic processes. Social, environmental and economic sustainability were complementary, and he reiterated that the knowledge of United Nations organizations could help states achieve national development goals.

103. The Administrator went on to discuss the essential role states had in ensuring economic and social development, stability and keeping the peace, and the need to invest in the capacities of leadership and state institutions to do so. He emphasized the value of states working as enablers and facilitators between civil society, the private sector and international development partners to advance national development agendas. The experience of United Nations organizations could play a catalytic role in promoting South-South solutions.

104. The Deputy Permanent Representative of Indonesia spoke on behalf of the representative of the Ministry Planning, who was unable to attend. She highlighted recent capacity development achievements in her country, including peaceful elections, post-tsunami rebuilding efforts and early graduation from the International Monetary Fund. She cited the ‘localizing’ of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (in the Jakarta

Commitment on Aid for Development Effectiveness) as a key framework for Indonesia and its development partners. In that context, the United Nations actively helped Indonesia strengthen subnational capacity to localize the MDGs, provided assistance in addressing capacity issues in national and local institutions implementing the new decentralization policy, and served as intermediary for the sharing of global knowledge and experience in areas such as climate change, local elections and poverty-reduction strategies; these showcased Indonesia's capacities while it learned and gained from the capacities of others. She concluded by thanking the Board for encouraging country-level capacity development initiatives, and the United Nations system for its support in helping meet country needs.

105. Delegations supported the focus on national capacity development as articulated in the 2007 triennial comprehensive policy review. They reiterated that while the organizations must establish priorities for capacity-building and capacity development according to their respective mandates, they must be guided by the priorities established by programme countries. One delegation asked the UNDG to recognize the differing points of view among development actors on system-wide coherence, suggesting that concepts around South-South and triangular cooperation could strengthen harmonized operational activities among United Nations organizations. It requested that UNDG analyse where harmonization — based on mandates and comparative advantages of each organization — could occur and be effective for development results, and report back. Two delegations requested greater innovation and coordination to help countries achieve the MDGs and other national development priorities, emphasizing the need for continuing reforms. They encouraged United Nations country teams to prioritize capacity development, and called for the more deliberate use of UNDAFs to measure capacity development results. The Board asked for continued dialogue on reinforcing national capacity development and the role of the United Nations development system in that regard.

**Part two**  
**Annual session 2009**

**Held in New York from 26 May to 3 June 2009**

## **I. Organizational matters**

1. The annual session 2009 of the Executive Board of UNDP and UNFPA was held at United Nations Headquarters, New York, from 26 May to 3 June 2009.
2. The Executive Board approved the agenda and workplan for its annual session 2009 (DP/2009/L.2), and approved the report of the first regular session 2009 (DP/2009/9).
3. The Executive Board agreed to the following schedule of future sessions of the Executive Board in 2009:

Second regular session 2009: 8 to 11 September 2009

4. The Executive Board took an oral decision to postpone, from the second regular session 2009 to the first regular session 2010, consideration of the UNDP and the UNIFEM biennial support budgets, 2010-2011, and of the UNDP midterm review of the programming arrangements, 2008-2011.
5. Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at the annual session 2009 were included in document DP/2009/27, accessible at [www.undp.org/execbrd](http://www.undp.org/execbrd).

### **UNDP segment**

## **II. Statement by the Administrator and annual report of the Administrator**

### *Administrator's statement*

6. In her first statement to the Executive Board, the new Administrator, Helen Clark, acknowledged the Secretary-General, the Associate Administrator, and the Executive Board President and Vice-Presidents for their support as she took up her new duties with UNDP. She reaffirmed the important role of the Board in providing guidance to the organization and spoke about the future direction of the organization in light of the numerous crises facing the international community. A top priority, she said, would be to sharpen the focus of UNDP on poverty reduction and achieving the Millennium Development Goals, the latter of which is at the very centre of the mission of the organization and enshrined in the UNDP strategic plan.
7. The Administrator spoke about the deadline to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, just six years away, and the obligation by the international community to meet its promises. She referred to the 2005 Gleneagles G8 summit where countries promised to increase official development assistance by \$50 billion by 2010, a promise that remains unfulfilled. As a follow-up to Gleneagles, the Administrator provided details about the work of UNDP with partner governments, the African Development Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to develop 'Gleneagles scenarios' to scale up action towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals from macroeconomic and developmental perspectives. While publication of the Gleneagles scenarios is imminent, she conveyed her hope that at the upcoming July 2009 G8 summit, previously pledged resources could be mobilized in order to implement them.
8. The Administrator provided some insight into the first annual report on the strategic plan, speaking about its significance as an accountability mechanism and noting that it reflects a collaborative approach between UNDP and its sister funds and programmes, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the United National Capital

Development Fund (UNCDF) and the United Nations Volunteer programme. She also explained that it included analytical information about strategic results, including programme and project results, as requested by the Board. She stressed that, because UNDP contributions are in the areas of capacity-building and capacity development, actual outcomes are often generated over a decade or more; reporting on actual outcomes can be difficult. She reiterated that UNDP cannot be a 'super non-governmental organization' and that the strategic plan moves the organization away from undertaking smaller and less strategic projects.

9. The Administrator spoke about the efforts of UNDP in other critical areas, including: gender equality; South-South cooperation; United Nations reform; and managing for results. She stressed the need for adequate, predictable core resources, which were even more important given the current economic circumstances and their effects on the world's most vulnerable. The Administrator assured delegations that UNDP would continue to pursue efficiencies and make decisions about what to prioritize. She thanked Executive Board members for their support in sustaining and guiding UNDP, and reaffirmed her commitment to making a difference and meeting common development goals. She invited the Associate Administrator to update the Board on UNDP initiatives and processes requiring attention.

10. The Associate Administrator highlighted the decision by the General Assembly to modify the comprehensive policy review of operational activities from a triennial to a quadrennial cycle, which also urged United Nations funds and programmes to align strategic planning cycles accordingly. He suggested the Executive Board extend the UNDP strategic plan, 2008-2011, by two years, until the end of 2013. He spoke about decision 2008/24 in the context of implementing a pilot policy on direct budget support and pooled funds. Headquarters was working closely with country offices wishing to pilot the policy, he said, and with the guidelines and procedures released. Headquarters would also dedicate time to pursuing harmonized approaches across the United Nations development system and elaborate on assessment criteria for this type of development support. He informed the Board of efforts being made to strengthen results-based management. The Associate Administrator specified four challenges requiring attention from management in order to ensure that UNDP remained an effective contributor to development results and supporting infrastructure: staff excellence; surge readiness; organizational readjustment; and budgetary efficiency. He indicated that while those were painstaking challenges, they were indispensable to managing a complex organization such as UNDP in a way that builds trust in the abilities and effectiveness of the organization.

11. Delegations welcomed the new Administrator and congratulated her on her appointment, a number of them stressing the significance of the occasion. Delegations expressed their appreciation of the vision presented in the statement of the Administrator, confirming that it was very much in line with their overall view of the direction that UNDP should take. They thanked the Associate Administrator for his briefing. Many stressed the need for UNDP to continue to be responsive to the wishes and interests of programme countries, and remain focused on its core development mandate — particularly capacity-building and development — to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals. Some delegations called upon UNDP to work on the basis of operational principles that have universal acceptance and application, and also reaffirmed the importance of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation.

12. Nearly all delegations expressed concern that the economic and financial crisis could hamper progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals. In the light of the present situation, numerous

delegations encouraged donor countries to meet crucial funding commitments to UNDP, despite the crisis. A number of delegations called upon UNDP to continue to focus its work in least developed and most vulnerable countries. They asked UNDP to concentrate on its areas of comparative advantage, focus its brand image through improved communication, and sharpen its reporting to the Executive Board on concrete results from on-the-ground interventions.

13. Many delegations, pleased at the adoption of a UNDP management accountability framework in 2008, asked that the organization continue improving its accountability and transparency. Several recognized that ongoing reforms at the country level and the 'delivering as one' pilots helped increase efficiency, effectiveness and coherence; they called for similar reforms at headquarters by modifying rules, regulations and procedures that impeded coherence among United Nations organizations.

14. The importance of the relationship between anti-corruption measures, eradicating poverty and fostering sustainable development was touched upon and UNDP was asked to bear in mind the United Nations Convention against Corruption in its country-level work on governance. Some delegations asked UNDP to strategically develop its expertise in democratic governance, focusing on areas where the organization could make the greatest impact. Others asked UNDP to ensure that the requirements agreed upon in decision 2008/37 for the disclosure of internal audit reports was strictly followed to ensure confidentiality. One delegation expressed concern that a larger share of UNDP resources went to the democratic governance area than to the poverty reduction area. Several delegations asked UNDP to improve its effectiveness in the areas of early recovery and peacebuilding, climate change mitigation and adaptation, capacity-building, technical assistance, and policy advice. Some delegations stressed the importance of clearly defining the role of UNDP in the area of climate change so that the organization could maximize its relevance and impact at the United Nations Climate Change Conference, to take place in Copenhagen in December 2009.

15. Numerous delegations raised the issues of gender equality and gender mainstreaming, reiterating the importance of gender as a cross-cutting developmental and organizational issue. One delegation thanked UNDP for its active role in the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality and for its gender strategy, which included concrete development and institutional mechanisms for strengthening women's empowerment and gender equality. Another took note of systematic UNDP efforts to emphasize gender equality in crisis prevention and recovery activities, throughout in its operations, across its four focus areas, and in its work on the global gender and climate change alliance, incorporating gender viewpoints into climate change policies and finance mechanisms.

16. The Administrator thanked delegates for their support of the work of UNDP, as well as for their best wishes to her as the new Administrator. She assured delegates of follow-up action in response to their comments, and reaffirmed the commitment of UNDP to adhere to the priorities set out in its strategic plan and to integrate climate change priorities into its development activities. She pledged to improve efficiency; maintain strong support to United Nations reform and 'delivering as one' for, and with, developing countries; and report on results in a robust and ongoing manner. She acknowledged the importance of establishing partnerships within and outside the United Nations family, including with donors, the Bretton Woods institutions, non-governmental organizations and civil society.

17. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/9 on the annual report of the Administrator, including the operationalization and extension of the UNDP strategic plan, 2008-2011; the Executive Board took note of the UNDP report on the recommendations of



the Joint Inspection Unit in 2008 (DP/2009/11/Add.1), and the statistical annex (DP/2009/11/Add.2) and its corrigendum (DP/2009/11/Add.2/ Corr.1).

### III. Funding commitments to UNDP

18. The Administrator called upon delegations to give UNDP the tools to respond to the global recession and prevent the reversal of hard-won development gains, namely adequate, predictable funding. She referred to the successful attainment of the 2008 core income target of \$1.1 billion, adding that UNDP would like to meet core income targets in 2009 and beyond. She cautioned that, funding predictions for 2009 were a concern, with core contributions estimated to reach just \$965 million — short of the strategic plan target of \$1.25 billion. She pledged to work with current donors to sustain current commitments and consider how to expand the range of member states who would consider contributions.

19. The Assistant Administrator and Director, Partnerships Bureau, summarized the UNDP budget numbers, highlighting total regular resources contributions, the top five contributors, the number of countries contributing to regular resources, those contributing \$1 million or more to UNDP regular resources, and those that had increased regular resource contributions to the organization. Regarding the \$3.6 billion in ‘other resources’ contributions, he provided a breakdown of the total between bilateral, multilateral, and local resources contributions. He mentioned that the 2009 budgetary situation was a cause for concern as regular and other resources were projected to decrease. He identified five fundamental issues for consideration by the Executive Board: (a) the 2009 budget falling short of original projections in the strategic plan; (b) the imbalance between regular and other resources; (c) the vulnerability of voluntarily funded programmes and funds, including UNDP, in crisis situations; (d) the volatility of the financial situation and the dearth of concrete information with which to programme resources; and (e) the predictability of funding (or lack thereof).

20. One delegation took the opportunity to announce contributions to UNDP and its associated funds and programmes for 2009 — \$3.5 million for UNDP core resources, \$850,000 for the South-South cooperation trust fund, and \$30,000 for UNCDF and the United Nations Volunteer programme, respectively. That delegation expressed that it actively supported UNDP and had, to its best ability, expanded contributions to core resources. Another delegation asked several questions in relation to the facts and figures presented by the Assistant Administrator and Director, Partnerships Bureau, namely: what was the reason for reductions in government local office cost contributions, and what were the impacts and pressures being experienced by UNDP in connection with its regular resources and programming arrangements. That delegation called upon all donors to provide stable, multi-year funding.

21. The Assistant Administrator and Director, Partnerships Bureau, thanked the delegation for its announcement of monetary contributions to UNDP. He clarified that the reduction in local government contributions was linked to programme cost-sharing and not government local office contributions. The 20 per cent reduction stemmed from a decision to remove procurement-focused initiatives, in consultation with governments, when they did not contribute directly to the goals of the strategic plan. In response to the question about pressure on regular resources and overall programming arrangements, he explained that this was why the Administrator had requested additional time for study and review.

22. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/10 on the status of regular resources funding commitments to UNDP and its funds and programmes for 2009 and onwards.

## IV. Evaluation

23. The Director, Evaluation Office, briefed the Executive Board on independent evaluations. She spoke about the evaluation of the third regional cooperation framework for Arab States, the global cooperation framework and UNDP contributions to energy and the environment. She also provided a status update on improvements in Evaluation Office operations, progress towards creating a culture of evaluation, updates to the 2002 monitoring and evaluation handbook, and challenges in building evaluation capacity in the bureaux and at the country level. She highlighted the workplan for her office for 2009 and 2010. The Director, Operations Support Group, provided a management response on evaluations.

24. Two delegations referred to four areas where they felt UNDP could work to enhance evaluation in the future: evaluation compliance and coverage; quality; resources; and follow-up. One delegation, in the light of outcome evaluation ratings contained in DP/2009/13, expressed concern that more than half of the evaluation reports in the area of evaluation design and follow-up were rated ‘unsatisfactory’ or ‘highly unsatisfactory’ — an unchanged trend. That delegation expressed concern that the Evaluation Office was possibly overloaded with its programme of work. It called on UNDP to make practical use of evaluation results and internal follow-up activities in order to improve results.

25. Another delegation expressed its appreciation of the large amount of useful information presented in the report, but felt it could have been presented in a clearer way. Another delegation, in response to certain paragraphs in the annual report, expressed the opinion that country programme evaluations should be carried out with the agreement of UNDP and the Member State, focusing on how UNDP is encouraging development through its programmes and how evaluation results could be used to improve the programmes.

### *Evaluation of the third regional cooperation framework (2006-2009) for the Arab States*

26. Regarding the third regional cooperation framework for the Arab States, delegations reiterated the need for coordination among United Nations actors on the ground. Two delegations asked UNDP to look at the work of the United Nations Children’s Fund and UNFPA in order to mainstream a youth perspective into its programmes and projects, rather than undertake duplicative work. Several delegations called for a better tapping of the financial resources, experience and expertise available in the region. Another called upon UNDP to make better use of its regional advisers and their experience in preparing the next regional cooperation framework. One delegation requested a correction to a footnote contained in the full evaluation report, which incorrectly identified regional ethnicity. Others asked UNDP to take better account of the challenges facing the Arab States, including those related to capacity, technology transfer, desertification and sustainable development.

27. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/11 on the annual report on evaluation in UNDP. It also took note of the following documents: (a) Evaluation of the third regional cooperation framework (2006-2009) for the Arab States (DP/2009/14); (b) Management response to the evaluation of the third regional cooperation framework (2006-2009) for the Arab States (DP/2009/15); and (c) Follow-up to management responses on evaluations, including decentralized evaluations (DP/2009/16).

## V. Human Development Report

28. In line with General Assembly resolution 57/264, the senior policy specialist, Human Development Report Office (HDRO), provided an update and insight into the consultative processes underpinning the Human Development Report for 2009 on the topic of mobility.

29. Two delegations thanked the HDRO speaker for the topic of the 2009 report on human migration, and welcomed an approach of thorough consultation with, *inter alia*, civil society, academics and UNDP staff. One reaffirmed the importance of the topic, given the tremendous economic and social impact of human migration, including financial remittances to home countries. The other called for research that could shed light on all the implications of migration and what might constitute appropriate responses. That delegation emphasized, however, that it would be opposed to policies that ran counter to its national principles of highly-skilled labour migrants, or labour migrants filling a particular national labour gap.

30. The senior policy specialist reiterated that the HDRO was committed to maintaining dialogue with stakeholders and policymakers, and confirmed that the report would focus on the effects of the economic crisis on international labour migration. The report would address appropriate policy responses, he said, in the context of a natural reaction by countries to protect and safeguard their people. He added that the report would also provide strategic insight for 'sending' and 'receiving' countries so that they could benefit from the potential of human migration once the economic recovery process had begun.

31. The Executive Board took note of the update on the Human Development Report consultations (DP/2009/17).

## VI. UNDP country programmes and related matters

32. The Associate Administrator invited delegations to review and comment on 12 draft country programmes; six one-year country programme extensions; a second one-year country programme extension; and a first two-year extension for three country programmes. Assistant Administrators and Directors of the respective regional bureaux presented their country programmes for consideration by the Executive Board.

33. Delegations whose countries were the subject of new country programmes thanked UNDP and highlighted areas where the interventions of the organization could help increase levels of capacity-building and alignment with national development priorities. Other delegations called upon UNDP to reduce overlap; focus on its areas of comparative advantage; forge partnerships with other multilateral actors in support of its development work; sharpen its support to national development strategies; and improve its priority-setting capabilities. Some delegations reminded UNDP that it should move away from direct execution, where possible, and support greater national execution of projects and programmes.

34. Several delegations commended UNDP for having responded to previous Board requests to ensure that new country programmes were accompanied by an assessment of development results providing outcomes and data from the end of the previous programme cycle for each country. Those delegations felt this helped increase transparency and accountability. Other delegations asked for UNDP to continue to focus on important cross-cutting issues in its programming, such as gender, anti-corruption measures and adaptation to climate change; to continue bolstering its coordination work among United Nations

organizations; to leverage regional cooperation as a development tool; and to integrate a monitoring and evaluation component into all its work.

35. The Executive Board took note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Azerbaijan, Chile, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Serbia, Somalia and Zimbabwe (DP/2009/18, table 1). The Executive Board approved the second one-year extension of the country programme for Turks and Caicos Islands (DP/2009/18, table 2) and approved the first two-year extensions of the country programmes for Barbados and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, Mozambique and the Philippines (DP/2009/18, table 2). The Executive Board took note of the draft country programme documents and comments regarding Afghanistan, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burundi, Ecuador, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

## **VII. United Nations Capital Development Fund**

36. The Executive Secretary, UNCDF, introduced the agenda item, focusing on two important areas: the strategic nature of the UNDP and UNCDF partnership and UNCDF results in 2008.

37. Delegations were pleased with the performance, growth and confidence enjoyed by UNCDF, reaffirming its vital role in the United Nations system. Delegations asked UNCDF to focus on high-quality interventions to provide capital where needed, to promote local capacity and ownership in development processes, and to draw on the experience and expertise of a variety of partners. Haiti asked why UNCDF was not working more in its country, the only least developed country in the hemisphere. One delegation asked why UNCDF had missed delivery targets and financial institution reporting targets. Another delegation, confirming a \$30,000 contribution, called upon the organization to expand its donor base.

38. The Executive Secretary thanked delegations for their support and confirmed that the organization was on the upswing. He spoke of 'UNCDF Project 2010' and its goal of examining operational systems to continue improving performance. He explained to the delegations asking about delivery rates that UNCDF works in the most difficult conditions and provides funding to emerging institutions that are not always — at least initially — up to international standards. He mentioned the rigorous oversight and evaluative controls used by UNCDF, and drew attention to its 'thought leadership' abilities. He indicated that microfinance opportunities in Haiti would be expanded in the future. He reiterated that the organization was having difficulty meeting the demand for microfinance activities from Angola, Afghanistan, Haiti and other countries. Ongoing efforts, in collaboration with UNDP, would help expand the reach of UNCDF in the area of microfinance, he said.

39. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/12 on the annual report of the United Nations Capital Development Fund and the progress report on the implementation of the strategic partnership between UNCDF and UNDP.

## **VIII. United Nations Development Fund for Women**

40. To show support and recognition of the work of UNIFEM, the Administrator opened the agenda item, reiterating the importance of gender equality and women's empowerment in achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. The Executive Director of UNIFEM reported to the Board on the implementation of the UNIFEM strategic plan, while the Deputy Executive Director

outlined the operational activities of the organization and of the UNIFEM management results framework.

41. Delegations thanked UNIFEM for its work, progress and initiatives, and expressed the need to continue creating an environment of increased economic opportunities for women, with greater inclusion in decision-making and political processes. Delegations recognized UNIFEM as an essential source of support in ending violence against women worldwide, and encouraged it to continue working in support of Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820. Several delegations appreciated the growth of resources, but noted the disparity between regular and other resources. Many delegations asked UNIFEM to move toward results-based management and report more on the impact of its work. At least two delegations increased support to UNIFEM core resources.

42. The Executive Director of UNIFEM was encouraged by delegations' comments on the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820, and on another priority of UNIFEM: ending sexual violence as an instrument of conflict. She spoke of UNIFEM support to the creation of a new gender entity proposed by various United Nations organizations, and the need for greater resources to sustain it. She referred to the growth of the organization, not only in a monetary sense, but in a political sense as well. She acknowledged calls to expand the financial support base and confirmed that UNIFEM would continue to work in that area.

43. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/13 on the annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the extension of its strategic plan.

## **IX. United Nations Office for Project Services**

44. The Executive Director of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) introduced the annual report, and summarized the progress made in 2008, including the delivery of \$1.06 billion through project implementation and an almost \$5 million contribution to its operational reserve.

45. Many delegations recognized the important role of UNOPS in Africa, particularly in post-conflict recovery processes, peacebuilding, peacekeeping and development. They called upon UNOPS to increase its presence in developing countries. One delegation recognized the organization for having increased its operational reserve and establishing its management accountability framework. That delegation requested further information on the way in which UNOPS responded to tenders in markets where it might have special advantages. Two delegations recognized UNOPS compliance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), while another called upon UNOPS to diversify further and improve its financial stability.

46. The Executive Director thanked delegations and noted the encouragement by some delegations to reach out to developing country governments to build capacity and assist in procurement. He said that UNOPS was increasing its presence in United Nations country team meetings so as to provide more strategic assistance in its areas of comparative advantage. He mentioned changes in perception revealed by the last two UNOPS partner surveys and spoke about the oversight and accountability efforts of the organization. He highlighted that UNOPS could bid on international tenders, but that it preferred a sole-source arrangement where UNOPS was invited to bid, adhering to strict guidelines. He said that UNOPS was aiming for close, long-term partnerships with partners, citing an example of the work of the organization with the United Nations Mine Action Service, but added that there would be continued diversification in the future.

47. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/14 on the annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office for Project Services.

## **Joint segment**

### **X. Internal audit and oversight**

#### *UNDP*

48. The Director, Office of Audit and Investigations, introduced the report on internal audit and investigations in UNDP (DP/2009/23), prepared in line with Executive Board decision 2008/13, which contained a list of key findings and audit ratings, a table containing unresolved audit recommendations by year and category, and an explanation of findings that had remained unresolved for 18 months or more. The Associate Administrator provided a management response that covered accountability, monitoring and guidance, and the delay in IPSAS implementation. They were joined on the podium by: the Director, UNDP Ethics Office, who briefed the Board on the activities of her office; the Head of the UNOPS Internal Audit Office, who briefed the Board on UNOPS activities in 2008; and the chairperson of the UNDP audit advisory committee, who was available to respond to questions from delegations.

49. Many delegations reaffirmed the importance of the accountability frameworks of UNDP and UNOPS as a way of gauging contributions to programmes and the effectiveness of expenditures. They requested that each organization be diligent in monitoring and controlling risks. Those delegations were pleased with UNDP audit results overall, and recognized that efforts were being made to address weaknesses. They expressed satisfaction at the first full year of operation of the UNOPS audit office, requesting information about the structure of the office and steps taken by the organization to train its staff throughout the year. Delegations encouraged ongoing reporting to the Executive Board on the implementation of IPSAS.

50. One delegation commended the organizations for working to create a culture of accountability. That delegation asked UNDP senior management and the audit advisory committee whether a certain level of unsatisfactory audit ratings should be considered 'routine'; how the internal control framework and enterprise risk management were being implemented and improved; how results-based management was being integrated into UNDP; and the strengths and weaknesses of the UNDP management accountability and oversight policies. The delegation asked whether the IPSAS delay was avoidable, enquired about the UNDP readiness to implement IPSAS, and asked whether the Director, Office of Audit and Investigations, agreed with the 'top 11' audit priorities identified by UNDP.

51. Many delegations, recognizing the leadership role of UNDP in adopting new systems for financial management, expressed surprise at the news of a two-year delay in implementing IPSAS. They requested ongoing information from the organization on the expected cost of the delay and status reports on progress towards implementation. Two delegations asked the Administrator to seek ways to reduce the number and gravity of audit issues, and to enhance the ability of project officers to monitor their portfolios from a risk perspective, or develop alternate means of monitoring projects. Those two delegations sought the opinion of the audit advisory committee in two areas: whether there were any shortcomings in the current enterprise risk management system, and whether the accountability framework of UNDP is being integrated into the work of the organization. One delegation suggested that a results-based management culture in UNDP would increase donor confidence, and reiterated the importance of the procedures outlined

in decision 2008/37 regarding the disclosure of UNDP internal audit reports. Another delegation expressed its commitment to continue following up on access to audit reports by the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, where UNDP is the principal grant recipient on collaborative projects.

52. The Associate Administrator stressed that efforts were made to ensure there would be no acceptance of any unsatisfactory audit rating, though circumstances could sometimes lead to such an outcome. It was up to management, he said, to recognize and identify areas requiring structural improvements; he cited successful bank reconciliation changes as an example of that approach, adding that capacity levels at the country office level may sometimes require a modified approach. He highlighted the importance of results-based management and its potential to change the management culture in UNDP. He spoke of the need to revisit the UNDP project portfolio and remove smaller projects with less strategic value. He recognized the regret expressed by some delegations at the postponement of IPSAS implementation in UNDP, but reiterated the need to ensure that managers were not stretched beyond their capacity and to prevent ‘change fatigue’ among UNDP staff.

53. The Director, Office of Audit and Investigations, confirmed that results-based management was integrated into the conceptual work of UNDP, but that it could take time for managers to understand, embrace and implement the concept. The same was true for managing nationally executed projects. Determining the ‘top 11’ audit priorities was a consultative process in which the Office of Audit and Investigations agreed with the priorities identified. Regarding the access to audit reports by non-Member States — specifically, a request by the Office of the Inspector General of the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria — he reiterated that Executive Board guidance in this area was clear for Member States and does not cover donors who are not Member States.

54. The chairperson of the audit advisory committee reaffirmed its involvement in developing the UNDP accountability framework. UNDP movement towards its full implementation — including elements such as the enterprise risk management and results-based budget systems — indicated continuous efforts to improve. Regarding the IPSAS implementation delay, she highlighted that the contractual reform mandated by the General Assembly and the modification of associated systems and processes were critical organizational considerations, and that the committee was in agreement with the need to delay.

55. The Head of the UNOPS Internal Audit Office confirmed that his office reported directly to the Executive Director of UNOPS, and to the independent strategy and advisory committee whenever it met. He highlighted the structure of the Office, confirming that staff are fully accredited professionals, and that training is an ongoing and important part of staff development.

#### *UNFPA*

56. The Director, Division for Oversight Services (DOS), introduced the report on UNFPA internal audit and oversight activities in 2008 (DP/FPA/2009/5). The Deputy Executive Director (Programme) presented the UNFPA management response. The Chair of the UNFPA Audit Advisory Committee (AAC) participated in the discussion.

57. Delegations appreciated the enhanced quality of the UNFPA report and noted that it provided a comprehensive analysis of the risk universe of UNFPA. They commended the management commitment to and the progress achieved in improving accountability, oversight and monitoring in UNFPA. They fully supported UNFPA efforts towards greater transparency. They welcomed the annual report of the Audit Advisory Committee and

were encouraged that UNFPA felt well served by the AAC. Delegations commended UNFPA for the implementation of the accountability framework and stressed that such an instrument was essential for the meticulous follow-up of contributions to programmes and to ensure stringent financial propriety and the effectiveness of resources expended. Delegations pointed out that the UNFPA restructuring and decentralization made the work of audit and oversight more complex and also more necessary. They underscored that it was critical to focus audit and oversight resources toward the 11 defined organizational priorities. Delegations appreciated the recent actions undertaken to further strengthen the national execution (NEX) modality.

58. Some delegations noted the challenges in the area of programme design, management and monitoring and wondered if more actions in the area of internal controls and results-based management (RBM) training for staff were needed, especially at the country level. Information was requested on a time frame to address system-related issues pertaining to RBM. Concern was expressed about the current low level of audit coverage, given the growth in the Fund's overall resources. Additional information was requested on how the issue of recruitment of audit staff was being addressed. The Chair of the AAC was requested for her views on the following: what would be entailed in the UNFPA implementation of an enterprise risk management strategy; measures to strengthen DOS; what level of unsatisfactory audit ratings (in a high-risk environment) should the Executive Board accept as routine; measures proposed by UNFPA to address NEX issues; and the strengths and weaknesses of the accountability framework and oversight policy.

59. Delegations reaffirmed their support for IPSAS implementation and encouraged UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to regularly inform the Executive Board of progress. UNDP and UNFPA were requested to organize a joint informal briefing in the near future on their internal control frameworks and enterprise risk management frameworks.

60. The Deputy Executive Director (Programme) thanked delegations for their support and underscored that UNFPA appreciated the Executive Board's guidance regarding addressing the 11 priorities. She assured the Board that UNFPA was committed to continued strengthening of programme design, management and monitoring, and internal control. She noted that UNFPA was developing a strategy for operations in security-compromised environments. She emphasized that UNFPA took all audit reports very seriously and senior management followed up promptly with country offices and headquarters divisions on audit issues and recommendations. She discussed the components and time frame of the Fund's initiative to optimize RBM and mentioned various ongoing UNFPA learning and training initiatives. Regarding succession planning, she elaborated on such measures as the rosters of pre-screened candidates for key positions; the Fund's annual rotation exercise; functional streams; and focused planning meetings with divisional managers to discuss anticipated retirements and staff movements. She noted that according to a recent survey conducted by the Chief Executives Board for Coordination/Human Resources Network, UNFPA was the only organization with a formal succession planning framework. She stated that, in consultation with UNDP, UNFPA would be happy to organize the requested joint briefing.

61. The Director, DOS, while reiterating the Fund's continuing commitment to strengthening RBM, stressed the importance of evidence-based programming and added that UNFPA was focusing increased attention to monitoring. He underscored that programme activities should be based on a thorough assessment that enabled UNFPA and its implementing partners to have proper indicators to measure results. He elaborated on the work under way regarding NEX and noted that management activities undertaken in 2008 had resulted in a significant decrease in NEX audit reports that were qualified. He stated that UNFPA welcomed the support and guidance of the Executive Board in



addressing such issues as NEX and the new aid modalities, including sector-wide approaches, basket funding and direct budget support. He discussed the challenges in recruiting qualified auditors to fill existing vacancies and noted that DOS was exploring ways to ensure adequate audit coverage, including outsourcing some of the DOS work.

62. The Chair, AAC, responded to queries noting that the focus was not the level of unsatisfactory audit ratings but whether recommendations for significant audit observations were implemented and corrective action was taken to address the deficiency. She highlighted UNFPA management's commitment to ensuring such corrective action. Noting UNFPA commitment to RBM implementation, she added that the AAC was visiting country and regional offices to discuss challenges and offer guidance on enhancing effectiveness and efficiency. Regarding NEX issues, she highlighted the importance that the AAC placed on UNFPA commitment to further improving NEX processes. Concerning the oversight policy, she noted that the AAC would look at its impact to see if expected results had been achieved and would make recommendations as needed. She observed that it was critical for the internal audit function to be involved from the beginning in new business processes. Regarding risk exposure, she elaborated on the DOS risk model and noted that together with the fraud assessment programme and other new initiatives a broader understanding of risk exposure had been achieved in UNFPA and would be further enhanced with the adoption and implementation of an enterprise risk management strategy. Regarding strengthening DOS, she observed that the key challenge was recruiting and retaining skilled staff, which was being addressed. She emphasized the importance of succession planning and the need for a strong Deputy Director in DOS.

63. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/15: Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and oversight.

## **XI. Field visits**

64. The President called upon the rapporteur of the joint field visit to Cambodia and the rapporteur of the field visit to Nepal to introduce their respective reports.

65. Regarding the joint field visit to Cambodia, one delegation confirmed the usefulness of the visit, noted the accommodating nature of the United Nations country team and thanked the organizers and participants for an engaging visit. The delegation asked that the report be transmitted to the United Nations country team, since it contained useful information.

66. Regarding the field visit to Nepal, the delegation of Nepal was pleased with the outcome of the visit and thanked UNDP and UNFPA for their support to national development. The delegation expressed concern about the heavy focus of the report on political issues, specifically the peace process, while scant attention was paid to the developmental and operational activities of the organizations and coverage of the three-year national development plan. It asked the Executive Board not to lose sight of the United Nations mission already in place, with a Security Council mandate to assist in the peace process. Two other delegations expressed the opinion that some paragraphs in the report went beyond the mandate of UNDP and UNFPA and asked the organizations to focus on their fields of expertise. The delegation of Nepal and the other two delegations requested certain amendments to the report. One delegation asked about the origin of the recommendation that UNDP and UNFPA work with the Ministry of Health to deliver health services, particularly in the area of reproductive health.

67. The rapporteur for Nepal acknowledged the comments and explained the approach taken in the report. He recognized that there were areas where the language could be modified for greater clarity.

68. The Executive Board took note of DP-FPA/2009/CRP.1, report on the joint field visit to Cambodia; and DP/2009/CRP.2-DP/FPA/2009/CRP.1, report on the field visit to Nepal.

## **UNFPA segment**

### *Opening remarks by the President of the Executive Board*

69. In his opening remarks, the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board President underscored that a key element in confronting the current economic and financial crisis and ensuring sustainable development was to continue investments in the social sector, ensuring that countries did not experience reversals in the progress attained. He emphasized the importance of pursuing the goals of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and integrating them in national policies and development frameworks. In stating that UNFPA was uniquely positioned to assist countries in doing that, the President emphasized the key role of UNFPA in scaling up national capacity development. He thanked the Executive Director and the UNFPA staff for their commitment and hard work in assisting countries in the areas of population dynamics; reproductive health, including family planning and HIV prevention; and gender equality.

## **XII. Statement by the Executive Director and annual report of the Executive Director**

70. The Executive Director began her statement (available at [http://www.unfpa.org/exbrd/2009/2009\\_annual.html](http://www.unfpa.org/exbrd/2009/2009_annual.html)) by welcoming Helen Clark, the new UNDP Administrator, and noting that each of the four funds and programmes was now headed by a woman. She saluted the leadership of Peter Piot, the former UNAIDS Executive Director, and welcomed his successor Michel Sidibé. Noting the challenges facing the world, she stated that no leader, organization or nation could meet the challenges alone: cooperation and understanding among nations and peoples were essential, coupled with a strong spirit of service, a full understanding of global justice and genuine mutual trust. She thanked all the countries that had contributed to UNFPA. She observed that the multiple crises confronting the world provided opportunities to strengthen United Nations reform and to harmonize the response by the United Nations system in support of national development. She emphasized the opportunities for strengthening implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and supporting attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). She noted that UNFPA placed special emphasis on the achievement of MDG 5 to improve maternal health. She referred to the upcoming substantive session of the ECOSOC and ICPD @ 15 regional meetings as opportunities to advance the global health agenda, including maternal health. She stated that at the recent session of the Commission on Population and Development it was agreed that the MDGs to eliminate poverty and hunger and improve health and education could not be achieved unless greater attention was focused on population dynamics and universal access to reproductive health by 2015. She expressed concern regarding the funding gap for the ICPD agenda.

71. The Executive Director underscored that UNFPA was committed to making greater progress to improve the health of the world's mothers, women and young people and was working with a wide range of partners, including UNICEF, the World Bank and WHO.

She stated that “forces are aligning to ensure that no woman dies giving life”. She noted that UNFPA was working with partners to reposition voluntary family planning within the context of women’s reproductive health and maternal mortality reduction. She elaborated on the progress achieved in 2008 in supporting countries in the 2010 round of censuses; facilitating South-South cooperation and North-South cooperation; building national capacity; supporting HIV prevention and integrating sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS; working to address female genital mutilation/cutting and gender-based violence (GBV); promoting and supporting reproductive health commodity security (RHCS); training service providers; and strengthening effective humanitarian response, transition and recovery.

72. The Executive Director requested the Executive Board to extend the strategic plan, 2008-2011, by two years to 2013, including the integrated resource framework and the global and regional programme, to allow alignment with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, as requested by the General Assembly. Noting the improved availability of baseline data in 2008, she stated that UNFPA would focus on improving the analytical quality of reports and sharpening the focus on development results. She noted that UNFPA continued to strengthen systems for results, oversight and accountability. Underscoring UNFPA commitment to accountability, she referred to the establishment of the UNFPA Ethics Office in 2008 and to the Fund’s financial disclosure programme. She stated that UNFPA was taking a phased approach to the roll-out of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) and aimed to have UNFPA financial statements fully IPSAS-compliant by 31 December 2012. She updated the Executive Board on the Fund’s reorganization and stated that UNFPA would continue to focus on change management and business continuity and even stronger management of results and risks. She concluded by thanking the Executive Board members for their continuing support to UNFPA and the visionary ICPD agenda.

73. Delegations congratulated the Executive Director and UNFPA staff on their achievements in 2008, a period of significant organizational change for UNFPA, and noted that UNFPA staff worked in some of the most challenging environments in the world. Delegations commended the leadership of the Executive Director in chairing the High-level Committee on Management and in moving the United Nations reform agenda forward, including on “Delivering as One” and the harmonization of business practices. Delegations were pleased to note that UNFPA had given increased attention to population dynamics and its relation to sustainable development. UNFPA support for the 2010 round of censuses, as well as for building capacity for data collection analysis and use was commended. One delegation requested further information about the methodologies applied in data collection and use. The need to prioritize universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights information and health care services was emphasized.

74. The ability of UNFPA to advance vital development issues globally was commended and UNFPA was encouraged to focus greater attention on the roles and responsibilities of boys and men and the multisectoral needs of youth. Delegations commended the strong UNFPA focus on national-level actions such as supporting ownership, capacity development and strengthening national health systems. Delegations welcomed the focus on national execution (NEX), including the establishment of a NEX unit at headquarters. The critical importance of reproductive health commodity security, including as an integral part of national health policies, was emphasized and the progress becoming visible in several countries was noted.

75. Underscoring the crucial interlinkages between the ICPD goals and the MDGs, delegations emphasized the key role of UNFPA in implementing the ICPD Programme of Action, which at 15 continued to be of utmost importance. The longer term challenges in

relation to the MDGs and the climate change agenda were noted. Delegations expressed deep concern about the prospect of reaching MDG 5 on maternal health and noted that of all the reproductive health indicators the least progress had been made in reducing maternal mortality. Noting that the Human Rights Council could constructively raise awareness of the human rights implications of maternal mortality and morbidity, one delegation stated that it was introducing a resolution on preventable maternal mortality, morbidity and human rights at the forthcoming session of the Council. Some delegations expressed concern about female genital mutilation/cutting and its permanent negative consequences on women's health. Concern was also expressed regarding the decrease in funding for family planning. One delegation noted that to achieve MDGs 4 and 5, the H4 (UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO and the World Bank) should urgently develop a single strategy that clearly illustrated the division of labour between the H4 members. It was underscored that the work of UNFPA made a difference to people all over the world. Furthermore, in light of the financial crisis, UNFPA was urged to continue to give voice to those most affected, including women, young people and poor people. Recognizing the need for stronger advocacy at the political level, one delegation appreciated UNFPA support for parliamentary activities. Delegations from the Africa region appreciated the commitment of UNFPA to help African women and young girls to achieve a better and healthy life and encouraged action to link HIV/AIDS efforts and sexual and reproductive health.

76. One delegation requested information on the steps taken to ensure that women who have unintended pregnancies have access to safe abortion services, including post-abortion family planning. The delegation emphasized the importance of UNFPA working with other United Nations agencies to link HIV prevention to other sexual and reproductive health services; ensuring that interventions at the country level make strategic impact; enhancing monitoring and evaluation of country programmes; and ensuring effective analysis of the challenges in implementing the UNFPA strategic plan. Noting that UNFPA had a special responsibility as the lead multilateral organization promoting the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action, another delegation expressed support and encouraged UNFPA efforts to expand access to family planning and maternal health services in order to save the lives of women and children in Africa. The delegation also encouraged UNFPA to enhance its ongoing efforts to strengthen effectiveness, accountability and transparency.

77. One delegation noted that several countries in the Latin America and Caribbean region required resources even though they were "C" category countries under the UNFPA resource allocation system. Maternal mortality was a key concern that needed additional support. The delegation noted that the Latin America and Caribbean region was one of the most "unequal" regions and there was an acute need to address the reproductive health needs of marginalized groups, including indigenous people and adolescents. Another delegation welcomed the strengthening of the institutional capacity of the subregional office in Jamaica, including to better serve the countries of the Eastern Caribbean.

78. Several delegations stated that they supported the extension of the strategic plan to 2013, including the extension of the timing of the midterm review. With regard to reporting on results, delegations urged a greater focus on outcomes and hoped that future reports would compare achievements against targets. One delegation requested a concept paper on the midterm review at the Executive Board's session in January 2010. Given the significant increase of UNFPA activities in the humanitarian field, one delegation requested a more detailed overview at a future Executive Board session. In noting that the annual report was clear and informative, delegations encouraged more analytical reporting on results and a comparison of achievements against targets, with an emphasis on outcomes and not merely output indicators.

79. China announced that in 2009 it would increase its core contribution to \$950,000. Finland announced that its 2009 core contribution had increased 31 per cent over the previous year. Japan announced that it would contribute \$31.1 million to UNFPA core resources, an increase of 1.3 per cent over the previous fiscal year. The United States of America announced that it would make a contribution of \$50 million dollars to UNFPA in 2009. A number of delegations welcomed the return of the United States of America as a donor to UNFPA. Numerous delegations urged the international community to maintain development assistance in the face of the current economic and financial crisis.

80. The Executive Director thanked delegations for their support, contributions and multi-year pledges. She welcomed the return of the United States of America as a donor and thanked the Government for its generous contribution to UNFPA. She thanked the countries that had increased their contributions in spite of the financial crisis, including China, Finland, Japan and New Zealand. She thanked the Executive Board members for supporting the two-year extension of the strategic plan to 2013. She thanked Japan and Italy for their G8 leadership efforts to ensure financial commitments to MDGs 4, 5 and 6 and to strengthening health systems. She thanked New Zealand for its efforts in formulating a resolution on maternal mortality as a human rights issue within the framework of the Human Rights Council. She also thanked delegations for recognizing the efforts to consolidate linkages between ICPD and the MDGs and for underlining the importance of population and development in relation to data collection and census. She noted that at a future Board session UNFPA would provide a briefing on its humanitarian work.

81. Concerning responding to the financial crisis, the Executive Director noted that globally UNFPA contributed to the work of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination on the system-wide response. In its own specific response, UNFPA was focusing special attention on RHCS in the most vulnerable countries and mobilizing resources within emerging initiatives for innovative financing of health systems. At the country level, UNFPA was engaging with partners in supporting countries in monitoring the crisis and response in terms of setting priorities with a focus on vulnerable groups. UNFPA was also ensuring “Delivering as One” in support of national priorities and building on national systems.

82. Referring to the Fund’s reorganization, the Executive Director reiterated UNFPA commitment to ensuring a field-focus and effective support to countries. She assured the Board that UNFPA was shifting to an upstream approach and programming tools and training were already in place to facilitate that approach. She clarified that, in accordance with the agreed H4 division of labour, a single workplan was being finalized to engage in selected countries and UNFPA, WHO, UNICEF and the World Bank had agreed to map out the gaps, costs and personnel needs for maternal and newborn health in 25 priority countries. Concerning the query about safe abortion and post-abortion care, she clarified that the only way to reduce recourse to abortion was through universal voluntary family planning. Within the sexual and reproductive health care package, post-abortion care was an integral part of the package. In line with the ICPD Programme of Action (paragraph 8.25) and an earlier decision (85/19) of the Governing Council, UNFPA did not support or promote abortion as a method of family planning. UNFPA worked with Governments to strengthen their national health systems, including to increase access to family planning and ensure reproductive health commodity security.

83. The Deputy Executive Director (External Relations, United Nations Affairs and Management) thanked delegations for their supportive comments, including on system-wide coherence. She elaborated on how UNFPA was monitoring its contributions to United Nations reform and noted that lessons learned were fed back into programming,

including in the new generation of United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks. She assured the Executive Board that UNFPA was committed to achieving efficiency gains and was focusing particular attention on change management, accountability and the internal control framework.

84. The Deputy Executive Director (Programme) appreciated the support of delegations and clarified that the linkages between reproductive health and HIV were emphasized in the Fund's programmatic work, including through use of the linkage assessment tool which was being rolled out in 60 countries. Regarding prevention of mother-to-child transmission, she noted that UNFPA was working with several partners and was leading in the areas of primary prevention in women and girls; and prevention of unintended pregnancy in women living with HIV.

85. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/16: Report of the UNFPA Executive Director for 2008: Progress in implementing the strategic plan, 2008-2011.

### **XIII. Funding commitments to UNFPA**

86. The Chief, Resource Mobilization Branch (RMB), introduced the Report on funding commitments to UNFPA (DP/FPA/2009/3) and updated the Executive Board on the latest estimates for UNFPA regular and co-financing resources, as of 20 May 2009.

87. Delegations appreciated the detailed introduction. While pleased to note the growth in the Fund's resource envelope, one delegation inquired about the ratio of core resources to non-core resources. Noting that the proportion of non-core resources was on the rise, the delegation asked if there was something donors could do.

88. The Executive Director noted that UNFPA favoured receiving core resources. However, it was in the hands of the Member States as the trend was towards increasing non-core resources. She reiterated the appeal to Member States to contribute to core resources. The Chief, RMB, noted that part of the growth of non-core resources was due to new funding mechanisms such as joint programmes and "one budgets" within the concept of "Delivering as One".

89. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/17 on funding commitments to UNFPA.

### **XIV. UNFPA country programmes and related matters**

90. The UNFPA Deputy Executive Director (Programme) introduced the 11 new draft country programme documents (CPDs) and 7 programme extensions and noted that the draft CPDs had been developed through a participatory process which had involved the respective governments and other national and international stakeholders, including civil society. The Directors of the regional offices for Africa; Arab States; Asia and the Pacific; Eastern Europe and Central Asia; and Latin America and the Caribbean introduced the draft CPDs and programme extensions from their respective regions.

91. Delegations appreciated that the draft CPDs reflected and responded to national priorities and development needs. They thanked UNFPA for the support and close collaboration. They welcomed the focus on building national capacity and improving sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services. They emphasized the need to strengthen donor coordination. Some delegations noted that the draft country programmes should have more extensive analysis and reflect how lessons learned were fed into the new programmes. A number of delegations provided comments on specific draft CPDs, including on such topics as sexual and reproductive health and rights; HIV/AIDS;

maternal mortality; reproductive health commodity security; adolescent SRH; universal access to SRH services, including for poor and vulnerable population groups; the 2010 round of censuses; gender-based violence; addressing the needs of the Roma as a group separate from other vulnerable groups such as women, youth and the elderly; and support for and involvement of non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

92. The following delegations commented on their own respective programmes and thanked UNFPA and the Executive Board for the support provided: Afghanistan; Armenia; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Botswana; Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Ecuador; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Kazakhstan; Lebanon; Mozambique; Occupied Palestinian Territory; Philippines; Tajikistan; Turkmenistan; and Uzbekistan.

93. The Directors of the regional offices thanked the Executive Board for the constructive comments and support and assured the Board that the comments would be conveyed to the concerned countries to take into account in finalizing the CPDs. The regional directors also provided responses to the specific queries raised by some of the Board members concerning the integration of reproductive health and HIV programmes; reproductive health commodity security; the 2010 round of censuses; sharing of lessons learned; improving coordination amongst development partners; increased involvement of NGOs; outcomes and indicators; and the inclusion of the Roma group in a regional programme.

94. The Executive Board approved the two-year programme extensions for Mozambique, Philippines and Kyrgyzstan; and took note of the one-year programme extensions for the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), and Azerbaijan. The Board also took note of the draft country programme documents for Botswana, Burundi, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Ecuador and the comments thereon, which would be conveyed to the concerned countries to take into account in finalizing the programmes, as per decision 2006/36.

## **XV. Evaluation**

95. The Deputy Executive Director (Programme) introduced the Report on the UNFPA evaluation policy (DP/FPA/2009/4).

96. Delegations noted their support for the focus in the policy on improving programme effectiveness, achieving results and enhancing national capacity. They welcomed the plans to strengthen the Fund's capacity in evaluation, including through regional monitoring and evaluation advisers and coordinated and joint evaluations with partners. They encouraged UNFPA to work more actively through national evaluation systems. Noting that the evaluation function reinforced accountability, oversight and learning, they underscored the need to ensure that the policy enhanced the learning aspect of evaluation. Some delegations stated that while they would have preferred a fully independent evaluation office, given the Fund's size, they saw the practicality of including the evaluation office in the Division for Oversight Services (DOS). They asked UNFPA to ensure the independence of the evaluation function and its separation from the oversight functions of DOS. Delegations requested clarification on the roles and responsibilities of different entities, including regarding reporting to the Executive Board and overseeing implementation of the recommendations and the quality of evaluations; the dual role of DOS; the role of the Programme Division in terms of coordination of evaluation planning; the role and structure of the knowledge management platform; and the terminology in the document.

97. Some delegations requested information on the prioritization and planning of evaluations; targeted areas of coverage and the use of evaluations; the purpose and use of decentralized and independent evaluations; and links between the lessons learned from evaluations and the implementation of results-based management (RBM). Some delegations thought that the operational details of the implementation of the evaluation policy should also be included in the policy document. Regarding the disclosure of evaluations, some delegations called for sharing them as widely as possible and making them public as a general rule. Emphasizing the importance of reporting to the Executive Board, some delegations invited UNFPA to inform the Board on an annual basis on the major thematic evaluations carried out and the related management responses to the recommendations. However, other delegations underscored the need for caution and prudence in dealing with sensitive information and recalled the difficulties that had arisen in the Executive Board in 2008 over the issue of disclosure of internal audit reports. A number of delegations stated that the same policy and approach should be used as adopted for the disclosure of internal audit reports. Those delegations expressed support for the UNFPA evaluation policy as presented. One delegation stated that the Executive Board should take note of the UNFPA evaluation policy and ask the Executive Director to review the policy after a trial period and then report back to the Board on potential areas for improvement. One delegation inquired about support for abortion.

98. In responding to one delegation's query about abortion, the Executive Director clarified that in line with the Programme of Action (paragraph 8.25) of the International Conference on Population and Development and an earlier decision (85/19) of the Governing Council, UNFPA did not support or promote abortion as a method of family planning. It supported voluntary family planning to prevent unwanted pregnancies so as to eliminate recourse to abortion and worked with Governments to strengthen their national health systems to deal effectively with the complications of unsafe abortions, thereby saving women's lives.

99. The Deputy Executive Director (Programme) thanked the delegations for the rich discussion on the evaluation policy. She underscored that UNFPA emphasized capacity-building at the country level and this would include providing guidelines and evaluation tools, organizing training and learning events, sharing lessons learned, as well as working through national evaluation systems. She added that UNFPA had already undertaken joint evaluations, including in India and the United Republic of Tanzania. She emphasized that RBM was an integral part of evaluation. Regarding the query on roles and responsibilities of the Executive Board, she noted that these were defined in General Assembly resolutions 48/162 and 49/128 and were also referred to in the UNFPA oversight policy. She added that in her introductory statement she had elaborated on UNFPA reporting responsibilities to the Executive Board. She underscored that UNFPA was enhancing the evaluation capacity of all managerial staff and increasing the number of monitoring and evaluation advisers in the country offices.

100. The Director, Programme Division, noted that evaluation information was shared through Evalnet (an Internet system). Also, a database was planned to facilitate follow-up on evaluation recommendations. The annual report of the Executive Director would regularly feature a section on evaluation and, in addition, the Executive Board would receive biennially the periodic report on evaluation. He assured the Board that a solid results framework for country programmes would be established at the outset specifying indicators, baselines and targets for the programmes. He noted that the operational details regarding evaluations would be addressed through guidelines and evaluation plans.

101. The Director, DOS, provided the historical context for the development of the evaluation policy while noting the linkages with the Fund's strategic plan, accountability



framework and oversight policy. He stressed that the focus should be on the independence of evaluations and not the evaluation function. Regarding the disclosure of evaluations, he recalled paragraph 44 in the UNFPA oversight policy (DP/FPA/2008/14) concerning the disclosure of internal audit reports and noted the need to maintain coherence. He noted that evaluations belonged to all partners in the development process. He recalled that paragraph 129 of General Assembly resolution 62/208 had emphasized that programme countries should have greater ownership in the evaluation of all forms of assistance.

102. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/18: UNFPA evaluation policy.

## **XVI. Other matters**

### *Special luncheon event*

103. The Administrator of UNDP, the Executive Director of UNFPA, and the Executive Director of UNICEF hosted an ambassadorial-level luncheon event on the response of UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF to the world financial crisis. More than 100 delegations attended.

### *Informal meetings*

104. The Executive Board held the following informal meetings:

*UNDP.* (a) Briefing on peacebuilding and early recovery; and (b) Informal consultation on the UNDP biennial support budget and the midterm review of programming arrangements.

*UNFPA.* (a) Briefing on reproductive health commodity security and the female condom; and (b) UNFPA-UNICEF joint programme on female genital mutilation/cutting: Accelerating change.

*UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS.* Joint briefing on the implementation of IPSAS.

## **Part three**

### **Second regular session**

**Held at United Nations Headquarters in New York  
from 8 to 11 September 2009**

## I. Organizational matters

1. The second regular session, 2009, of the Executive Board of UNDP and UNFPA was held at the United Nations Headquarters, New York, from 8 to 11 September. The Board approved the agenda and work plan for its second regular session (DP/2009/L.3) and the report of the annual session 2009 of the Executive Board (DP/2009/26).

2. The Executive Board was presented with two alternative dates for its first regular session, 2010. Subsequent to the second regular session, 2009, the Executive Board agreed to the following schedule of sessions in 2010:

Election of the Bureau for 2010:	11 January 2010
First regular session 2010:	19 to 22 January 2010
Joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP:	15 and 18 January 2010
Annual session 2010:	21 June to 2 July 2010 (Geneva)
Second regular session 2010:	13 to 16 September 2010.

3. Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at the second regular session, 2009, were included in document DP/2010/2, available on the Executive Board secretariat website ([www.undp.org/execbrd](http://www.undp.org/execbrd)).

### UNFPA segment

#### *Opening remarks by the President of the Executive Board*

4. The President of the Executive Board noted that on 12 October the General Assembly would commemorate the 15th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). Noting that the ICPD Programme of Action had served as the universal reference for population policies and programmes, he underscored UNFPA achievements in assisting programme countries in the areas of population and development strategies, reproductive health and women's empowerment. He recalled the active role of UNFPA in advancing global health, including at the substantive session of ECOSOC in July. He was concerned that the financial crisis had reduced funding for programmes and that progress was lagging on Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 5 on maternal health. Emphasizing the contribution of UNFPA advocacy work to the international efforts to mitigate, adapt and address climate change challenges, he stressed that adaptation planning should include analysis of population trends and demographic data. He commended the UNFPA Executive Director and staff for their commitment to supporting national ownership and leadership and for their responsiveness to Board guidance.

## II. Statement of the Executive Director and financial, budgetary and administrative matters

5. In her statement (available at [http://www.unfpa.org/exbrd/2009/2009\\_second.html](http://www.unfpa.org/exbrd/2009/2009_second.html)) the Executive Director updated the Executive Board on the ICPD 15th anniversary commemoration, referring to various regional meetings, the Fourth International Parliamentarians' Conference on ICPD on 27 and 28 October 2009, in Addis Ababa, preceded by a high-level meeting on maternal health and MDG 5, hosted by the Netherlands and UNFPA, and the General Assembly commemorative session on 12 October. Noting UNFPA support along with the German Government for the NGO

Forum on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Development, held in Berlin, she expressed her appreciation to the German Minister for Development Cooperation. She thanked the United Kingdom's Department for International Development for recognizing UNFPA effectiveness and awarding additional funding. She thanked the Government of the United States of America for its funding and return to the circle of UNFPA donors. She updated the Board on other advances made by UNFPA since the annual session 2009 on issues ranging from maternal health to population and climate change; United Nations reform and aid/programme effectiveness; and various partnerships. She underscored that the struggle for women's rights was at the centre of the struggle for human rights and global progress in the 21st century and committed action was necessary to advance the right to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and reduce high rates of maternal death and disability.

6. She updated the Executive Board on the UNFPA reorganization. Noting that regional offices were functioning in Bangkok, Johannesburg and Panama City, she thanked the host governments. She noted that as the Board had been informed earlier, the Slovak Government had withdrawn its offer to host the UNFPA regional office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia in Bratislava. To ensure business continuity and programme country support, the regional office would operate from New York for the next two years. UNFPA was engaged in discussions with the Slovak Government on reimbursement of costs of about \$1.3 million. As regards the Arab States Regional Office to be located in Cairo, UNFPA, through the Office of Legal Affairs, was engaged in negotiating the host country agreement. The Executive Director introduced the biennial support budget, 2010-2011 (DP/FPA/2009/10) and the report on the revision of UNFPA financial regulations and rules (DP/FPA/2009/12). She noted that UNFPA was pleased with the supportive report (DP/FPA/2009/11) of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) and was fully committed to further harmonization and simplification efforts with UNDP and UNICEF and improvement of results-based management and budgeting.

7. Delegations stated that the 12 October commemorative session of the General Assembly provided an excellent opportunity to highlight the international consensus on the importance of population dynamics, SRH and rights, gender equality and the empowerment of women. They were pleased to note that national ownership, national leadership and capacity development remained key guiding principles of UNFPA work and appreciated the contribution of UNFPA to United Nations reform. They stressed the importance of reaffirming commitment to the ICPD agenda and the centrality of ICPD goals to achieving the MDGs. Delegations emphasized the contribution of UNFPA towards reaching MDG 5 on maternal health and underscored the need for universal access to reproductive health. They supported the work of UNFPA in the area of prevention of gender-based violence and expressed concern about female genital mutilation/cutting. They welcomed the UNFPA focus on the interrelation between climate change and population dynamics, including migration.

8. The need to address gender inequality was underscored. Some delegations referred to the report on system-wide coherence and expressed support for the creation of a new composite gender entity for the United Nations system to better address gender inequalities and support women around the world. They hoped that Member States would reach agreement on it at the General Assembly.

9. Noting its \$50 million contribution to UNFPA, the delegation of the United States of America underscored that it regarded UNFPA as a key partner in efforts to increase worldwide access to reproductive health and family planning and stated that UNFPA had a special responsibility as the lead multilateral body promoting the implementation of the

ICPD Programme of Action. The delegation stressed that its Government was strongly committed to the ICPD agenda and the importance of gender equality, women's empowerment and reproductive health. The delegation of the United Kingdom stated that in recognition of UNFPA results and performance in 2008 it had provided an extra 2.05 million pounds in funding to UNFPA. Japan announced that it would contribute \$31.1 million in 2009 to UNFPA regular resources.

10. Delegations commended the open consultative process through which UNFPA had engaged the Executive Board in preparing the biennial support budget (BSB) and welcomed the prudent and moderate budget proposal for 2010-2011. They welcomed the decrease in the percentage share of the BSB to the total use of resources and were pleased to note the increased resources for programme. Delegations welcomed the positive report of the ACABQ and several concurred with the recommendation that information be included in future budgets on management results achieved in the context of the previous budget.

11. Some delegations called on UNFPA to further identify efficiency gains to offset fully the statutory cost increases relating to existing staff costs. The need for more robust and measurable results indicators was underscored. One delegation stated that the BSB format should centre on the strategic plan's nine management results supported by information on costs to achieve each result. The delegation requested a short section on cost recovery to be integrated into future budgets. Some delegations called for improved comparability of budgets among agencies. The need for harmonization with regard to cost classification categories was stressed. One delegation expressed concern regarding the sector budget support funding modality. Delegations supported the phased adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) and the necessary revision of UNFPA financial regulations and rules. Further periodic updates on IPSAS implementation were requested.

12. Concerning the withdrawal of the offer by the Slovak Government to host the regional office of Eastern Europe and Central Asia in Bratislava, which was now in the hands of the Executive Board, some delegations called on UNFPA to explore alternative locations in the region.

13. The Executive Director thanked delegations for their support and contributions and underscored that UNFPA was committed to the achievement of universal access to reproductive health by 2015 and was re-energizing family planning within the spectrum of SRH. She reaffirmed that UNFPA would continue to advocate for reproductive health and rights. She appreciated the support regarding gender equality and women's empowerment, as well as the comments highlighting the interlinkages between climate change and population dynamics. She appreciated the recognition of the General Assembly session on ICPD at 15, and of the Fund's commitment to supporting national leadership and ownership and South-South cooperation. She clarified that UNFPA support for sector budget support was at the request of countries. She noted that "Delivering as One" had helped to strengthen the inclusion of the ICPD agenda in the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks. She appreciated the support for the Fund's reorganization and stronger field focus. In taking note of the Slovak Government's response regarding the location of the regional office, she stated that UNFPA would be guided by the Executive Board and the principle of co-location. She thanked delegations for supporting the BSB and acknowledging UNFPA efforts to increase programme expenditure and achieve efficiency gains. She emphasized the Fund's firm commitment to working with other organizations to improve results-based budgeting, methodology harmonization and increased transparency. Underscoring the need to ensure a balance between accountability

and flexibility, she emphasized that flexibility was essential for facing the changing financial and programmatic environment.

14. The Deputy Executive Director (External Relations, United Nations Affairs and Management) thanked the Executive Board, noting that UNFPA had benefited from the consultative process and the Board's support and guidance. The BSB was prudent and conservative and channelled more resources to programme. Reiterating UNFPA commitment to progressively implementing the Board's decision on evaluation, she confirmed that resources dedicated to evaluation were not being reduced and UNFPA had simply moved one post from the Division for Oversight Services to the Programme Division to strengthen programme evaluation. She emphasized that all programmes included monitoring and evaluation. Regarding IPSAS implementation, she noted that the revision of the UNFPA financial regulations and rules would enable moving forward in a phased manner with full implementation in 2012. Training was essential and its costs were included in the budget. UNFPA with its partners would continue IPSAS briefings for the Board. Concurring on the need to better link the BSB to development and management results, she stated that UNFPA was committed to improving/simplifying indicators and targets. She underscored UNFPA commitment to working together with UNDP and UNICEF to harmonize cost classification and the budget format and structure, taking into account organization-specific mandates and business models. She appreciated the Board's guidance on results-based budgeting, noted that significant efforts had been made and affirmed the Fund's continued commitment. She noted that UNFPA would report on cost recovery at the first regular session in 2010. Agreeing on the importance of cost recovery, she cautioned about the challenges, particularly in a small organization where each staff member was multitasking.

15. The Deputy Executive Director (Programme) highlighted the work on maternal health, including the Health 4 efforts with prioritized focus on 25 countries with the highest maternal mortality rates. The Director, Division for Management Services clarified that the BSB was not just a management budget, it included programme support and resources for the technical advice that UNFPA provided at country level. He stressed that while UNFPA programme delivery had increased twofold over the past years, the number of posts had not increased by a commensurate volume. Emphasizing that UNFPA was a strong advocate and user of common services and shared premises, he noted that in many countries UNFPA was represented by the UNDP Resident Representative. In assuring the Executive Board that UNFPA would work with UNDP and UNICEF regarding cost classification, he stated that the organizations were committed to having a harmonized model that was applicable to and served the needs of the three organizations. Regarding the regional office which would not be located in Slovakia, he noted that a claim of compensation had been submitted and if the same was not fully settled, the amount would be treated as a financial loss and would be so reflected within the UNFPA financial statements, as per UNFPA financial regulations and rules.

16. The Executive Board adopted decisions 2009/26: Estimates for the UNFPA biennial support budget, 2010-2011; and 2009/27: Revision of the financial regulations and rules of UNFPA.

### **III. Country programmes and related matters**

17. The UNFPA Deputy Executive Director (Programme) introduced the draft country programmes for Uganda (DP/FPA/DCP/UGA/7) and Guatemala (DP/FPA/DCP/GTM/6), noting that they were fully in line with country needs and priorities identified in the respective national development policies and frameworks. The Directors of the Africa

Regional Office and the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office elaborated on the respective programmes.

18. The delegations of Uganda and Guatemala and other delegations commended the participatory consultative process that had taken into account national frameworks, plans and priorities and had involved a wide range of development partners and stakeholders. It was noted that the programmes had the full support of the Government and other stakeholders and would address key issues such as maternal mortality; reproductive health; safe motherhood; unmet need for family planning; gender-based violence; gender-disaggregated data; and HIV prevention and the integration of reproductive health and HIV programmes. One delegation stated that each draft programme should be accompanied by the evaluation of the previous programme.

19. One delegation noted the need to address the issue of high population growth in Uganda and reposition sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence prevention in funding mechanisms and institutions related to HIV and AIDS. While appreciating UNFPA efforts to provide contraceptive supplies, one delegation suggested revising an existing indicator to measure the availability of family planning methods in facilities by increasing from three to five the number of modern methods available.

20. The delegation of Guatemala acknowledged that UNFPA support had a positive impact regarding the country's demographic bonus. One delegation expressed interest in undertaking South-South cooperation between its own country and Guatemala. One delegation recommended addressing the needs of the indigenous people more broadly in the Guatemala programme and expressed concern regarding overlap with the UNICEF country programme. One delegation suggested adding family planning as a specific and cost-effective intervention to reduce maternal mortality in Guatemala and suggested continuing efforts to ensure and promote reproductive health commodity security.

21. The Deputy Executive Director (Programme) and the Directors of the two regional offices thanked delegations for the constructive comments and in addition to providing specific responses to queries they noted that UNFPA would look into the various suggestions offered during the discussion.

22. In accordance with decision 2006/36, the Executive Board approved, on a no-objection basis, the 11 country programmes discussed earlier at the annual session in May-June 2009, namely: Afghanistan, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burundi, Ecuador, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. In addition, in accordance with decision 2006/36, they discussed and took note of the comments on the draft country programmes for Uganda and Guatemala. The comments will be conveyed to the two countries to take into account in finalizing their respective programmes.

## **UNDP segment**

### **IV. Statement by the Administrator and financial, budgetary and administrative matters**

23. The Administrator updated on her vision and direction for UNDP, stressing the need to maintain funding levels despite the global economic crisis. She added that UNDP expected to save approximately \$50 million through efficiency gains.

24. She reiterated that the Millennium Development Goals were the bedrock of the UNDP strategic plan and called for renewed efforts in the light of the 2015 deadline. She noted

that even before the crisis, no country in sub-Saharan Africa had been on track to achieve all the Millennium Development Goals. The global recession could create a potential for a “double blow”, she said, if hard-won progress towards the Millennium Development Goals were reversed.

25. She underscored UNDP support to the Secretary-General in his advocacy for the Group of Eight to fulfil its Gleneagles official development assistance commitments, which were recently reaffirmed in Italy, but remain essentially undelivered. She updated the Board on efforts by UNDP and the International Monetary Fund, working closely with African countries and their multilateral partners, to develop “Gleneagles scenarios” that would demonstrate the development results obtainable if official development assistance were scaled up to the levels pledged by the Group of Eight.

26. The Administrator recognized the importance of cross-cutting issues such as gender and climate change adaptation strategies, and described efforts to help countries analyse and articulate their needs in climate negotiations and develop their capacity to obtain carbon financing. She added that UNDP would continue to work in countries that had experienced traumatic conflict, bringing about peace and laying the foundation for longer-term recovery and stability.

27. Regarding greater coordination among United Nations organizations, the Administrator stated that each fund and programme had distinct capabilities, mandates and comparative advantages. However, she reiterated that if United Nations organizations were well coordinated, resources for development would go much further. There would be numerous opportunities to strengthen coordination, since, for example, more than 90 countries would be establishing new United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks between 2010 and 2013. She also called attention to the role of UNDP in supporting and managing the resident coordinator function for greater system-wide coherence, and its participation in the United Nations Development Group, gathering lessons and experiences from the ‘delivering as one’ pilots.

28. The Administrator highlighted the economic climate and the volatile exchange rate environment, which could prevent UNDP from meeting the resource targets approved by the Executive Board. She emphasized the need for secure, predictable funding; indicated that UNDP would consider how the donor pool could be expanded for 2009 and 2010; and expressed concern at the possibility of continued imbalances between regular and ‘other’ (non-core) resources. She assured delegations that UNDP would spare no effort to meet resource projections and expressed deep appreciation for the continuing support of donors.

29. Delegations thanked the Administrator for her statement. Many noted that her first official trip as head of UNDP was to Africa, which they felt that was important considering the need to safeguard Millennium Development Goal achievements. They alluded to the close relationship between climate change and poverty reduction, noting that Africa would be in the greatest danger if a climate deal were not reached quickly. They asked UNDP to step up the mainstreaming of climate change mitigation and reiterated the need for UNDP to participate in promoting the ‘global jobs pact’ and to promote national ownership and capacity-building in its development work. Those same delegations called upon the organization to continue strengthening its efforts with respect to United Nations reform, harmonization of business practices, using the lessons learned in the ‘delivering as one’ pilots to invigorate field and headquarters operations, and strengthening the resident coordinator system to improve on-the-ground delivery.

30. Many delegations called for a strengthening of crisis prevention and recovery to support peacebuilding, particularly in countries emerging from conflict. They noted that UNDP brought added value, particularly in areas such as governance and capacity-



building. One delegation reminded UNDP to continue prioritizing poverty reduction to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

31. The interventions of numerous delegations focussed on the global economic and financial crisis. Delegations stressed that UNDP must work quickly to mitigate the effects of the worldwide recession, which were being felt disproportionately by the poor and which could create instability and conflict as well as jeopardizing hard-won Millennium Development Goal achievements. UNDP was requested to sharpen its focus on poverty reduction. One delegation noted that UNDP poverty reduction resource levels are far short of required levels and should be increased, particularly in support of the least developed countries. Other delegations anticipated the Millennium Development Goals review conference scheduled for September 2010.

32. Delegations noted connections between climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts, crisis prevention and recovery, United Nations coordination, the need for greater technical assistance and technology transfer, and the timely provision of resources. Some reiterated the call for UNDP to mainstream climate change across all its development work. Others called upon the organization to be prepared to translate the outcomes of the climate change conference to take place in Copenhagen in December into concrete action on the ground. One delegation asked UNDP to implement, rather than simply write, national adaptation plans of action for least developed countries, and help incorporate them into poverty reduction strategy papers.

33. Numerous delegations commented on UNDP budgetary matters. While there was overall support for the restructuring of the budget, those delegations also stressed the importance of cost classification; harmonization among partner organizations; increased core resources for crisis-affected countries; continued reform of the budget structure for transparency and accountability; implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards; and continued use of the results-based budget approach. A number of delegations stressed the importance of transitioning to a single, integrated budget. Others expressed concern at the long-standing imbalance between regular and other resources and at the projected drop in 2009 un-earmarked resources to \$995 million, from the UNDP strategic plan target of \$1.2 billion.

34. One delegation stressed that the postponement of the presentation of the biennial support budget, 2010-2011, until the first regular session 2010, was a one-time exception and not a precedent for the future. That delegation, while noting that harmonization should enhance transparency and provide comparability, asked whether total harmonization would be achievable, given the unique and distinct character of each United Nations fund and programme.

35. The Administrator thanked delegates for their support of the budget restructuring efforts, pledging to continue organizational improvements to increase efficiency. She agreed with the need to help least developed countries address climate change, adding that UNDP had contributed to an analysis of its impact and was working to facilitate access to carbon financing processes. She confirmed that UNDP was collaborating with partners in the United Nations Development Group to empower resident coordinators to lead country teams. She added that UNDP was sharpening its focus on programmes with system-wide impact.

*Financial, budgetary and administrative matters*

36. The Assistant Administrator and Director, Bureau of Management, introduced the annual review of the financial situation, 2008; information on United Nations system technical cooperation expenditures, 2008; and the methodology and approach to the

UNDP biennial support budget, 2010-2011. She announced that UNDP would not submit a report on United Nations system technical cooperation expenditures in future years, but that in accordance with General Assembly resolution 63/232, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs would prepare a comprehensive statistical analysis. She reiterated that adequate, predictable regular resources were the bedrock of UNDP programmatic activities.

37. Delegations thanked UNDP, and generally supported the three documents presented under the agenda item. Many delegations had technical follow-up questions for the organization. One delegation requested more time to analyse the proposals considering the late arrival of the document in official languages. That delegation felt strongly that harmonization should not be forced, but should be based on best practices and the role of each organization. Another delegation suggested that a combination of expanding relations with new donors and cost-cutting might be an effective way to remedy the budget deficit. That delegation suggested that it might be necessary to review the validity of the strategic plan, asking UNDP to review the plan in the context of the global financial and economic crisis. It also requested that the organization include revenue and expenditure figures for 2007 and 2008 in the next preliminary biennial support budget, for comparative purposes.

38. One delegation requested more seamless linkages between the UNDP budget, its integrated results framework, and its strategic plan. That delegation asked UNDP to adequately outline the cost categories in the programming arrangements and the biennial support budget, and stressed that budget comparability was essential. Regarding the 'coordination on behalf of the United Nations system' cost category, the delegation suggested that UNDP refer back to its 1997 budget as an example of how to provide a distinct breakdown of components into the four cost categories; the budgets of the World Food Programme and World Health Organization might provide additional lessons and guidance. It asked UNDP to identify those items that were shifted between the biennial support budget and the programming arrangements.

39. Another delegation asked about what might be the proper ratio of regular to other resources, in consideration of multi-donor trust funds, thematic trust funds, system-wide funds and bilateral funds. That delegation suggested a need to understand why donors were not providing more regular resources, hypothesizing that better results and indicators, such as those provided by the annual report of the Administrator, were needed to illustrate the linkage between regular resources and outcomes. It requested an update on the core budget deficit situation and asked UNDP to prepare an informal paper on its unexpended resources and provide an indication of when they might be spent. Regarding harmonization of budgets, it expressed regret that movement in that area had been slow. It called for a greater focus on measurable results indicators and, with another delegation, requested a road map for future action. The delegation asked about the utility of the 16 functions of the results-based budget, whether UNDP management found them useful and, if so, how they were useful.

40. One delegation requested UNDP management to: (a) provide an itemization of the \$5.6 billion in the regular resources column ('investments held for other'), as well as information on the returns earned and how they were used and reported to the Board; and (b) provide information on income received as a result of cost recovery from regular resource contributions, how such income is utilized and reported to the Board, and post the cost recovery information on the Executive Board website. That delegation asked about the shifting of posts to and from the support budget and the connection between cost classification and promoting results-based management, reiterating the need for a clear correlation between the new functions of the UNDP budget and the indicators that measure results. The delegation expressed concern at the lack of clarity about how core

management activities — audit, ethics, investigation, and evaluation — would be funded, adding that the funding approach would affect integrity and quality. Regarding the new methodology and the mock-up of the support budget, the delegation asked: what benefit UNDP would derive from the cost classification exercise and how it would promote results-based management; how core evaluation and oversight activities would be funded. It asked UNDP to formulate an integrated resources plan, apply the new cost classification concepts in budget execution and financial reporting, and to implement the ‘whole post’ concept.

41. Another delegation asked that the views of developing countries be fully considered on all issues and decisions in agenda items related to management, administrative and budgetary matters. The delegation noted some confusion in connection with development effectiveness activities and development coordination activities, stating that: (a) it did not know what the end result was and what the means were to achieve the end result; (b) the integrated results framework of the strategic plan incorporated programme activities and coordination as part of the outputs of the institutional results matrix, but the proposal to re-categorize them as development activities could create inconsistencies between the strategic plan and the biennial support budget; (c) the proposals for reclassification might actually decrease accountability for the development results; and (d) full harmonization of cost classification might be neither possible nor desirable across multiple institutions with differing mandates.

42. One delegation stated that the work of UNDP in cost classification was highly relevant for bilateral development agencies trying to adopt a similar transparent approach to operational costs. The delegation suggested that work by UNDP in this area could become a model for bilateral organizations, offering to ‘share notes’ and create a consistent approach to classifying costs.

43. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/20 on the annual review of the financial situation, 2008; decision 2009/21 on United Nations system technical cooperation expenditures, 2008; and decision 2009/22 on the methodology and approach to the UNDP biennial support budget, 2010-2011.

## **V. United Nations Development Fund for Women**

44. The Executive Director, United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), and the Deputy Executive Director, UNIFEM, introduced the report on the criteria and methodology for regular resource allocations for programming.

45. The Deputy Executive Director indicated that UNIFEM had decided to adapt the methodology used by UNDP, which allocates resources based on per capita income and population size and favours least developed countries; this approach met with the guiding principles of UNIFEM and was adjusted for gender disparities. He mentioned that the methodology provides for a safeguard — a minimum programme funding amount — that should be available for programmes managed by UNIFEM subregional programmes receiving the smallest share of resources.

46. Delegations expressed their appreciation for the presentation. Several delegations from the Latin America and Caribbean region noted with concern that the proposals contained in the report on the criteria for resource allocation could have a negative impact on resources allocated to the region. One delegation expressed regret that the methodology might penalize the relative success of middle-income countries and have negative consequences on rural women, poor women in urban areas, and marginalized groups of women, especially among indigenous populations, which it stated was contrary

to General Assembly resolution 31/133. The same delegation also suggested that the methodologies proposed in the document were not in line with the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, which acknowledges the challenges faced by middle-income countries in eradicating poverty and makes specific provision for the United Nations system to respond to those challenges in order to safeguard achievements made. It did not agree with the proposed changes to the funding methodology, suggesting instead that further discussions be pursued around the recently adopted United Nations Children's Fund framework.

47. Another delegation from the Latin America and Caribbean region, in complete agreement with previous comments, added that the methodological changes would disproportionately affect rural and marginalized women in middle-income Group of Latin America and Caribbean Countries as well as in the Asia-Pacific region, by reducing resources. The delegation felt that the methodology was flawed, as it was missing cross-cutting themes such as opportunities for South-South cooperation created from support to middle-income countries. It also suggested that the document be translated into official United Nations languages to permit all countries to understand the proposals, adding that while it was not against entering into discussions on funding methodology in a transparent manner, the timing was not appropriate.

48. Many delegations expressed understanding for those concerns, but added that solid criteria for resource allocation were important to the mandate of UNIFEM. Two delegations suggested that the addition of criteria for subregional allocations would be especially helpful for programme countries and urged that it be included in future documents. Those delegations asked what had prompted the proposed changes to the methodology, which is closely linked to the role of UNIFEM in programme countries and the approach taken around regional allocations and inequities. Many delegations agreed that the document served as an important starting point for continued discussion in order to identify solid criteria for resources allocation, bearing in mind the concerns of programme countries. One delegation added that gender equality and women's empowerment were complex but universal issues of concern to all Member States. Discussions, it said, must take into consideration, *inter alia*, differences in income level within regions as well as the fact that gender inequality does not necessarily have a correlation with income level. Delegations encouraged UNIFEM to continue consulting with Member States in the coming months.

49. The Executive Board took note of the report on the criteria and methodology for regular resources allocation (DP/2009/38).

## **VI. Evaluation**

50. The Director, UNDP Evaluation Office, introduced the joint terminal evaluation of the cooperation agreement between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and UNDP (DP/2009/32); she was joined on the podium by the Director of the UNIDO Evaluation Office. The Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Director, Partnerships Bureau, introduced the management response document (DP/2009/33).

51. Delegations thanked the evaluation team and conveyed their gratitude to UNDP and UNIDO for their positive relationship, suggesting it was a model for complementarity and cooperation in the United Nations system. One delegation mentioned that the synergy between UNDP and UNIDO shown his country how to achieve sustainable momentum for social and economic transformation in a cost-effective and relevant manner. Another delegation said that there was too much emphasis on private sector development, while

other elements for promoting industrial development in the government sphere were disregarded. That delegation felt that UNIDO representatives should try to achieve better alignment with governmental priorities to increase the impact of their work, and encouraged UNIDO to harmonize its activities in the country, working within the purview of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework. Another delegation encouraged continued movement towards a system-wide cluster approach, but urged both organizations to sign a memorandum of understanding so as to maintain the positive relationship. One other delegation, taking note of the recommendations contained in document DP/2009/32, asked UNDP and UNIDO to bear them in mind when developing the memorandum of understanding.

52. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/23 on the evaluation of the cooperation agreement between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and UNDP.

## VII. Country programmes and related matters

53. The Assistant Administrator and Director, Partnerships Bureau, introduced the items on country programmes for consideration by the Executive Board, from:

*Africa region:* Uganda

*Latin America and the Caribbean region:* Argentina, Guatemala

*Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States region:* Romania

54. Also under consideration was the draft regional programme document for the Arab States (DP/RPD/RAS/2) and assistance to Myanmar, note by the Administrator (DP/2009/34), which contained a proposal to extend the Human Development Initiative by an additional year, until 2011. The Board was also asked to take note of the extension of the country programme for the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

55. Delegations whose countries were the subject of new country programmes expressed their appreciation, highlighting how their country programmes would contribute towards the attainment of national development priorities and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

56. Delegations supported those countries, encouraging UNDP to continue to work in areas where it has the greatest impact and comparative advantage. Two delegations asked that UNDP avoid spreading itself too thinly in Uganda, reducing fragmentation in its programming and coordinating its work more effectively. One delegation requested clearer linkages between lessons learned and the practical application of those lessons in the new programme. With respect to Guatemala, several delegations asked UNDP to remain focused and results-oriented; continue its work in democratic governance and coordination; improve results indicators in the draft programme and generate tangible improvements; strengthen the rule of law and work to reduce corruption; and increase the focus on gender, minority groups, and South-South cooperation.

57. The draft regional programme for the Arab States elicited comments from many delegations, who asked for additional regular resources to be dedicated to programme implementation in view of the global economic crisis. They stressed that, while significant progress had been made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, the programme should maintain its focus on enhancing human capacity, capacity development and regional partnerships. Those delegations also asked for clearer references to international and regional trade, job creation, youth issues, and helping least developed countries in the region.

*Assistance to Myanmar*

58. The Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, with the UNDP resident coordinator/resident representative in Myanmar, introduced this topic. The delegation from Myanmar thanked UNDP and the Executive Board, and thanked the United Nations country team for their assistance. The delegation reaffirmed its commitment to meeting the needs of the people and was hopeful that a country programme could be established for Myanmar in recognition of its encouraging implementation of the human development initiative.

59. Delegations that spoke supported the one-year extension of assistance to the Myanmar until 2011. They urged UNDP to continue to collaborate with other United Nations actors in Myanmar, bolster its work in gender and strengthen its work at the grass-roots level to reduce poverty by, increasing support to schools and health care centres.

60. The Executive Board approved 12 country programmes on a no-objection basis, without presentation or discussion, in accordance with decision 2001/11. These were: Afghanistan, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Burundi, Ecuador, Lebanon, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. In addition, the Board adopted decision 2009/24 on assistance to Myanmar.

## **VIII. United Nations Capital Development Fund**

61. The Executive Secretary of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) introduced an oral report on the UNCDF approach to cost recovery. This, he explained, was in anticipation of a formal report on the implementation of its cost recovery policy, to be presented to the Executive Board at its first regular session 2010.

62. There were no comments from delegations.

## **IX. United Nations Office for Project Services**

63. The Executive Director provided introductory remarks on the strategic plan, 2010-2013, of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), and its annual statistical report.

64. Delegations thanked UNOPS for its contributions to development and welcomed the strategic plan, encouraging UNOPS to continue providing adaptable, flexible approaches to help the United Nations system. One delegation asked the organization to continue diversifying its client base and to complement the mandates of other United Nations organizations while avoiding 'mandate creep'. Another delegation recognized the increased demand for UNOPS services and its organizational efficiency, but expressed concern about the indication in the annual statistical report of a move towards sustainable or 'green' procurement, which had not been mandated by the General Assembly guidelines and, should not be pursued independently.

65. One delegation encouraged UNOPS to adhere to the full cost recovery principle, requesting periodic revisions to its cost recovery and pricing policy and regular updates to the Board. The delegation asked UNOPS to expand its reporting on outcomes and impact, fully implement its internal control and risk framework, and strengthen its oversight capacity. Many delegations expressed support for authorizing the UNOPS Executive Director to appoint country-level representatives so as to improve communication with the governments of host countries, and to sign, when appropriate, direct service and host-country agreements, in consultation with the resident coordinator. Two delegations were

concerned with the decline in procurement from developing countries, and asked that this situation be remedied. One delegation recognized the improvements to the UNOPS website and asked for more detailed project information to be posted, including on UNOPS contributions to national capacity-building projected business volume, major clients, and high-revenue activities and practices. Another delegation asked why UNOPS could not provide data in its statistical report about the country of origin of goods, or on actual expenditures. One other delegation asked for a UNOPS presence in its country, and requested the Executive Director to provide information on what steps had been taken, if any, towards setting up a presence there.

66. The Executive Board adopted decision 2009/25 on the United Nations Office for Project Services strategic plan, 2010-2013; and took note of the annual statistical report on the procurement activities of United Nations system organizations (DP/2009/37).

### **Joint UNDP/UNFPA segment**

## **X. Follow-up to UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board meeting**

67. The UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director, Bureau for Development Policy and the UNFPA Deputy Executive Director (Programme), made a joint presentation on implementing the recommendations of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board.

68. Delegations welcomed the report and asked all UNAIDS partners to ensure contributions to HIV prevention and AIDS care and treatment, and to uphold the rights of those living with HIV, particularly the right to live without stigmatization, discrimination, and equal access to services. Five delegations noted the progress made by UNDP, the World Bank and UNAIDS to build capacity of United Nations staff members on gender, human rights, and HIV. Those delegations asked for a renewed emphasis on effective prevention strategies and to ensure national HIV and AIDS strategies were aligned with the drivers of the epidemic on the ground. In view of the role of UNFPA as lead agency concerning sex work, the five delegations looked forward to working together with the UNAIDS secretariat, co-sponsors and civil society on gender and HIV and AIDS issues. The delegations underscored that gender equality and human rights, including sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and rights must be at the core of an effective response to HIV and AIDS. In addition to stressing the need to focus on women and girls, delegations pointed out that gender equality efforts and programmes should involve boys and men.

69. One delegation requested that there be a clearer connection between decisions made by the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board and actions taken. That delegation also requested more information on whether any obstacles or bottlenecks may have adversely affected the implementation of the decisions of the Board. The delegation welcomed the attention given to HIV in humanitarian situations and asked how the Inter-Agency Standing Committee programming on HIV was working at the field level. Referring to the priority accorded by UNFPA to enhancing access to reproductive health commodities, the delegation asked for further information on progress and cooperation with partners regarding access to female condoms. The delegation inquired if there were plans to use the Global Implementation Support Team to enhance that work, given that UNFPA was chairing the team.

70. In addition to requesting stronger analysis in the report, some delegations noted the lack of reference to the UNAIDS Action Framework: Universal access for men who have sex with men and transgender people, and asked the secretariat to report on it; and to increase advocacy in the area of prevention of transmission and better linkage of HIV prevention and SRH and rights. Two delegations also asked how budget resources would

be allocated and its implications, whether UNDP efforts to strengthen national implementation capacity involve civil society and promoting cooperation between state and non-state actors. They asked whether UNDP, UNFPA and the other UNAIDS co-sponsors would provide a joint management reaction, similar to that of 2003, to the second independent evaluation of UNAIDS.

71. The UNFPA Deputy Executive Director (Programme) appreciated the comments from delegations and noted that UNFPA would review and strengthen the linkages between the decisions of the Programme Coordinating Board and the reporting format for the Executive Board. She noted that the issue of linking SRH and HIV would be the theme of the Programme Coordinating Board meeting in June 2010 and would be discussed at length. She underscored that UNFPA was taking an active role in ensuring the better integration of SRH and HIV. She noted that the additional \$3 million funding from the unified budget and work plan received by UNFPA would be concentrated on engaging men as partners; men and women in the uniformed services; linking SRH and HIV programming, particularly in 18 countries; and rolling out the guidelines on sex work. She noted that the co-sponsors would indeed respond to the UNAIDS evaluation and were working on how the response would be prepared and shared.

72. The Chief, HIV and AIDS Branch, UNFPA, thanked the delegations and clarified that moving funds from the secretariat to the co-sponsors was an intentional effort to ensure that the UNAIDS secretariat did not become an operational entity. He underscored that the co-sponsors were taking stronger leadership roles in accordance with their own programmes of work. Thus, UNFPA was taking a stronger leadership role in such areas as HIV in humanitarian settings and in the uniformed services; men and boys as partners; and the elimination of gender-based violence. He emphasized that working with the uniformed services was a powerful means of intensifying engagement with men and boys, as well as women, in the context of SRH and HIV prevention. After service, men and women in uniform frequently returned to their communities as key leaders. He reiterated UNFPA commitment to reproductive health commodity security, including condom programming and promotion of the female condom. He noted that the pledge made by the UNFPA Executive Director at the AIDS conference in Bangkok in 2004 had borne fruit and UNFPA and its development partners, including civil society, had contributed to the increase in female condom distribution in the last four years from about 14 million condoms in 2005 to 33 million in 2008. Under the UNFPA-supported Global Condom Initiative, condom programming was supported in 65 countries. He outlined three key challenges: (a) studying the modes of HIV transmission and having an appropriate programmatic response; (b) addressing the gender dimensions of HIV; and (c) addressing the need for better synergy between the national structures set up in the HIV and AIDS response and the programmes of various ministries. He underscored the importance of synergy and the need to avoid vertical and parallel programming.

73. The Executive Board took note of the report (DP/2009/39-DP/FPA/2009/14).

## **XI. Internal audit and oversight**

74. As requested by the Executive Board in its decision 2008/37, UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS presented oral reports on the implementation of decision 2008/37 on internal audit and oversight.

### *United Nations Development Programme*

75. The Director, Office of Audit and Investigation, presented an oral report that focused primarily on the process of handling requests for disclosure of country office audit



reports, and the number and timing of requests received. He provided a breakdown on governments making the requests, the number and regions of corresponding requests, and countries. The Director, Office of Audit and Investigation, informed the Board that while the procedures for obtaining UNDP country office audit reports were clearly established for Executive Board members, no such rules exist for non-members, such as the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the European Union. Therefore, he said, access to reports by these non-members was declined.

76. There were no comments from delegations.

*The United Nations Population Fund*

77. In his oral report, the Director, Division for Oversight Services (DOS), UNFPA, focused on two topics, namely, implementation of decision 2008/37; and disclosure of internal audit reports. He highlighted the actions taken by UNFPA pertaining to the UNFPA oversight policy, including posting the oversight policy in the UNFPA Policies and Procedures Manual; risk assessment and management; responsibility and accountability for results; single audit principle; financial disclosure; transparency; and oversight roles and responsibilities. He informed the Executive Board that DOS had incorporated the process of disclosure in its procedures manual and developed a detailed process chart to reflect decisions 2008/37 and 2009/15. He stated that as of 7 September 2009, UNFPA had received no request for disclosure and thus no internal audit report had been disclosed.

78. There were no comments or queries from delegations.

*The United Nations Office for Project Services*

79. The Deputy Executive Director, UNOPS, informed the Executive Board that there had been no requests for audit reports from delegations. He took a few moments to update the Board on accountability and ethics in UNOPS, and informed the Board of the continuing efforts to strengthen UNOPS internal audit and investigation capacities.

80. There were no comments from delegations.

## **XII. Other matters**

*Farewell tribute to the UNDP Associate Administrator*

81. The Associate Administrator of UNDP was invited to the podium to address the Executive Board. He thanked the Board for its unwavering support during his time with UNDP and committed to working in his new role, as the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General for Iraq, to improve the lives of the poor and work towards the development of Iraq.

82. The President of the Executive Board read aloud a statement congratulating the Associate Administrator on his new responsibilities, recognizing his contributions to UNDP and to the Board, and wishing him success in his new endeavours to foster peace and development in Iraq.

*Thematic debate: the work of UNDP in capacity-building*

83. The Assistant Administrator and Director, Bureau for Development Policy, and the Director, Capacity Development Group, introduced the thematic debate. They focused on capacity development as the essence of the development challenge, whether in poverty reduction, democratic governance, HIV/AIDS, or climate change. They reiterated the urgency and complexity of the challenges, noting that the development paradigm has

shifted from the simplistic North-South binary concept towards including the creative solutions being generated by countries dealing with the challenges and sharing those solutions. They emphasized the importance of robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks to capture best practices and ensure the best use is made of lessons learned, noted a greater willingness to engage in peer review for quality assurance, and indicated that subnational capacity development and local-level lessons were extending far beyond an individual country in an interconnected 'global' manner not seen before. They noted the need to capture capacity development results, establish methodologies to measure performance, stability, and adaptability, to gauge results and to promote internal UNDP adoption of, inter alia, actions to promote deeper global partnerships, modify staff profiles, and embed an 'evaluation mind-set'.

84. One delegation, in the context of sustainable national capacity development, asked the extent to which UNDP and other United Nations organizations 'did business' with national institutions at different levels, and how decisions were made regarding how and what things got done. Another delegation asked how UNDP verified that its support to national capacity development and capacity-building for core public institutions translated into grassroots contributions. That delegation also asked what indicators could provide information on improvements to national capacity development.

*Informal meetings*

85. The Executive Board held the following informal meetings:

*UNDP.* (a) An informal consultation on the methodology and approach to the UNDP and UNIFEM biennial support budgets, 2010-2011; (b) implementation of the UNDP cost recovery policy; and (c) review of the UNDP evaluation policy.

*UNOPS.* An informal consultation on UNOPS field operations.

*UNFPA.* UNFPA organized a briefing on the 2010 round of censuses. Following introductory remarks by the Deputy Executive Director (Programme) there were three country-specific presentations, respectively, by the Minister of International and Regional Cooperation, the Democratic Republic of the Congo; the Director, Central Statistics Office, Botswana; and the UNFPA Chief Technical Adviser for census in Iraq.

---

## **Annex**

### **Statement made by one delegation regarding the adoption of decision 2009/22 — Item 2c: UNDP financial, budgetary and administrative matters**

#### **Antigua and Barbuda explanation of position**

Thank you Mr. President. Forgive me for interrupting. I did just want to make a short statement on the occasion of the adoption of the decision on item 2c, if you would allow me.

My delegation is pleased to join consensus in the adoption of the decision on item 2c, however, we would like to make the following statement.

When the item was introduced to the Executive Board on Tuesday, we did make a statement, which among other things raised the point that, with regard to harmonization, we cannot and perhaps should not, strive to achieve full harmonization as it may not only not be possible, but perhaps not desirable — particularly with regard to harmonization of budget processes and methodology, including cost classification. We would like to reiterate that point, a view that I believe was shared by other members of the Board.

We do recognize that some degree of harmonization is necessary to allow for comparisons across agencies, and to draw from lessons learned and best practices based on the experiences of the individual organizations. These can then be applied, of course, where and when applicable to facilitate efficiency and cost savings. However, harmonization is a process and it is a relative one — there should not be any undue push to harmonize for the sake of harmonization only, nor for the sake of any agendas or objectives, other than achieving actual development results on the ground.

Having said this, and underscoring that decisions on harmonization, as they relate to other organizations, must go through their respective governing bodies for the necessary intergovernmental approvals and, most importantly, that we should bear in mind the relevant General Assembly mandates on harmonization as it relates to cost classification. We therefore do not interpret anything in the decision to go beyond existing General Assembly mandates on harmonization, integration, and/or consolidation of the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies.

We respectfully request that this statement be included for the record in the report of the meeting.

Thank you very much, Mr. President.

## **Annex I**

### **Decisions adopted by the Executive Board during 2009**

#### Contents

#### **First regular session 2009**

#### **(19 to 22 January 2009, New York)**

<i>Number</i>		<i>Page</i>
2009/1	Proposed measures for the resumption of UNDP programme operations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. ....	64
2009/2	Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2006-2007. ....	64
2009/3	Report of the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Director of UNFPA to the Economic and Social Council. ....	65
2009/4	Financial regulations and rules of the United Nations Office for Project Services. ....	65
2009/5	Post classification exercise and implementation for the United Nations Office for Project Services. ....	66
2009/6	Oral report to the Executive Board on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy, 2008-2011. ....	67
2009/7	Expression of appreciation to Kemal Derviş, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme from 2005 to 2009. ....	67
2009/8	Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular session 2009. ....	68

#### **Annual session 2009**

#### **(26 May to 3 June 2009, New York)**

2009/9	Annual report of the Administrator, including the operationalization and extension of the UNDP strategic plan, 2008-2011. ....	70
2009/10	Status of regular resources funding commitments to UNDP and its funds and programmes for 2009 and onwards. ....	71
2009/11	Annual report on evaluation in UNDP. ....	72
2009/12	Annual report of UNCDF and progress report on the implementation of the strategic partnership between UNCDF and UNDP. ....	73
2009/13	Annual report of the Executive Director of UNIFEM and extension of its strategic plan. ....	73
2009/14	Annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office for Project Services. ...	74
2009/15	Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and oversight. ....	75
2009/16	Report of the UNFPA Executive Director for 2008: progress in implementing the strategic plan, 2008-2011. ....	77
2009/17	Funding commitments to UNFPA: report on contributions by Member States and others to regular and co-financing resources for 2009 and future years. ....	77

2009/18	UNFPA evaluation policy. . . . .	78
2009/19	Overview of decisions adopted at the annual session 2009 . . . . .	80

**Second regular session 2009  
(8-11 September 2009, New York)**

2009/20	Annual review of the financial situation, 2008 (UNDP). . . . .	84
2009/21	United Nations system technical cooperation expenditures, 2008 . . . . .	85
2009/22	Methodology and approach to the UNDP biennial support budget, 2010-2011 . . . . .	85
2009/23	Evaluation of the cooperation agreement between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and UNDP . . . . .	87
2009/24	Assistance to Myanmar . . . . .	87
2009/25	United Nations Office for Project Services strategic plan, 2010-2013. . . . .	88
2009/26	Estimates for the UNFPA biennial support budget, 2010-2011 . . . . .	88
2009/27	Revision of the financial regulations and rules of UNFPA . . . . .	90
2009/28	Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA at its second regular session 2009 . . . . .	90

**Special session 2009  
(17 November 2009, New York)**

2009/29	Interim allocation for the UNDP biennial support budget, 2010-2011. . . . .	94
2009/30	Interim allocation for the UNIFEM biennial support budget, 2010-2011 . . . . .	94

**2009/1**

**Proposed measures for the resumption of UNDP programme operations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

*The Executive Board,*

*Having considered* the proposals contained in document DP/2009/8,

1. *Takes note of* the proposed measures for the resumption of programme operations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DP/2009/8);
2. *Welcomes* the efforts of all parties to ensure that management and programme implementation practices conform with Executive Board guidance;
3. *Authorizes* the resumption of programme activities in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea based on the measures set forth in DP/2009/8 and further clarified in statements made by UNDP to the Executive Board during its first regular session 2009;
4. *Authorizes* the Administrator to approve additional projects in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on a project-by-project basis, for the period 2009-2010.

22 January 2009

**2009/2**

**Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2006-2007**

*The Executive Board,*

*Having reviewed* the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2006-2007 (DP/2009/5, DP/FPA/2009/1 and DP/2009/6, respectively),

1. *Requests* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to provide a joint briefing at the annual session 2009, including a conference room paper, on the preparations, implementation and implications of the international public sector accounting standards on UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS;

*With respect to UNDP:*

2. *Notes* that the Board of Auditors issued an 'unqualified' audit opinion for UNDP with respect to the biennium ended 31 December 2007;
3. *Recognizes* the progress made by UNDP in addressing the 'top 15' audit priorities in 2006-2007;
4. *Expresses its support* for the specific efforts made by UNDP to address key audit priorities in the 2008-2009 biennium;
5. *Requests* UNDP to provide, with future reports to the Executive Board, an accompanying matrix, on an informal basis, that illustrates the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, including proposed actions;
6. *Stresses* the importance of timely and full implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, particularly in key functions of the organization, including indicators for results-based management, treasury management, procurement, enterprise risk management, audit coverage of national execution, audit coverage of headquarters and asset management;

*With respect to UNFPA:*

5. *Takes note of the further action planned by UNFPA in implementing the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2006-2007, and stresses the importance of timely and full implementation of these recommendations;*

*With respect to UNOPS:*

6. *Notes that the Board of Auditors issued an 'unqualified' audit opinion for UNOPS with respect to the biennium that ended 31 December 2007, and stresses the importance of timely and full implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;*

7. *Acknowledges the good progress made by UNOPS in strengthening internal controls and improving its financial viability since the release in June 2007 of the audit report for the biennium ending 31 December 2005.*

22 January 2009

### **2009/3**

#### **Report of the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Director of UNFPA to the Economic and Social Council**

*The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of the report of the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Director of UNFPA to the Economic and Social Council (E/2009/5);*

2. *Underscores the importance of the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208;*

3. *Decides to transmit the above-mentioned report (E/2009/5) to the Economic and Social Council, along with a summary of the comments and guidance provided by delegations at the present session;*

4. *Requests UNDP and UNFPA to include in future reports a more qualitative assessment and analysis of results achieved, progress made and difficulties encountered, as well as lessons learned;*

5. *Requests that future reports adhere to the structure established in General Assembly resolution 62/208 and include recommendations to further improve its implementation;*

6. *Requests the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Director of UNFPA to consider ways to improve future reports, taking into account relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, report E/2008/49, and the need to achieve efficiency and effectiveness in their reporting practices, and to consult with the Executive Board in order to prepare a proposal on this matter at its second regular session 2009.*

22 January 2009

### **2009/4**

#### **Financial regulations and rules of the United Nations Office for Project Services**

*The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of the financial regulations and rules of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) delineated in document DP/2009/4, in accordance with decision 2008/35, as well as the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (AC/1673);*

2. *Notes* the need to amend the UNOPS financial regulations and rules to permit them to address the unique business realities faced by the organization and facilitate the implementation of the international public sector accounting standards;
3. *Expresses appreciation* for the conscientious effort, as represented by the proposed financial regulations and rules, to improve the ability of UNOPS to function as a self-financing entity of the United Nations system;
4. *Approves* the proposed financial regulations and rules, to take effect on 1 February 2009, with the following exceptions and modifications:
  - (a) the removal of regulation 2.04;
  - (b) the establishment of a process for management to consult the Strategy and Audit Advisory Committee on any proposed amendments or suspension of the financial rules, and to inform the Executive Board of any proposed amendments or suspensions, together with the advice of the Strategic Audit and Advisory Committee at least 30 days before any changes take effect;
  - (c) the removal of regulation 6.01(c);
  - (d) the need to report to the Executive Board on all drawdowns against the operational reserves when implementing regulation 22.02;
  - (e) to ensure, when implementing rules 118.01 (b) (iii), 122.17 and 122.19, that if exceptions from any provisions of the regulations and rules are authorized or if decisions are made contrary to recommendations of the contracts and property committee(s), that such exceptions and decisions be recorded in written form;
  - (f) to state, in rule 104.03, that the Strategy and Audit Advisory Committee is an independent body established to provide, inter alia, advice to the Executive Board on the soundness of the risk management systems of UNOPS;
5. *Welcomes* the active engagement of UNOPS in interagency efforts to achieve harmonized financial regulations and rules, and *recommends* that the Executive Director of UNOPS review the UNOPS financial regulations and rules, following completion of the interagency exercise, with a view to achieving harmonization to the extent possible, and that the Executive Director consult accordingly with the Executive Board;
6. *Requests* UNOPS to ensure, when implementing rule 103.05, that its human resource practices do not contradict the United Nations Staff Regulations and Rules;
7. *Requests* the Strategy and Audit Advisory Committee to inform the Executive Board periodically on the implementation of the revised financial regulations and rules with a view to their further improvement;
8. *Urges* UNOPS and its United Nations partners to continue to consult on the issue of trust funds and multi-donor trust funds, and their potential impact on the activities of UNOPS, and to present the recommended conclusions to the Executive Board at its annual session 2009.

22 January 2009

## **2009/5**

### **Post classification exercise and implementation for the United Nations Office for Project Services**

#### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the report on the comprehensive post classification of international positions at the United Nations Office for Project Services and proposals with regard to the implementation of the recommendations (DP/2009/7);



2. *Recognizes* that one of the primary purposes of the proposed changes in post classifications is to reduce the current high staff attrition levels by applying the standards of the International Civil Service Commission in the classification of posts, and to reduce the associated costs with managing the high levels of staff turnover;
3. *Takes note of* the objective of UNOPS management to achieve, through the reclassification exercise, a reduction in the current attrition rates as well as increased cost savings from greater productivity and reduced selection and training expenditures for new staff, while recognizing that these expectations can be affected by a number of other factors;
4. *Approves* all the proposed post reclassifications as per DP/2009/7 and the associated increase in the 2008-2009 biennial administrative budget of up to \$1,045 million, and *encourages* the Executive Director to prioritize the post upgrades for those positions with the greatest transformational impact for the organization;
5. *Requests* UNOPS to report to the Executive Board, in the Executive Director's annual report, on the implementation of the post upgrades, as well as on the productivity of the organization, including the impact on staff attrition rates and the ratio of administrative budget to programme expenditure.

22 January 2009

#### 2009/6

#### **Oral report to the Executive Board on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy, 2008-2011**

##### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the oral report on the implementation of the UNDP gender strategy and action plan, as requested in decision 2006/3;
2. *Recognizes* the importance of mainstreaming gender equality as reflected in the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for the development of the United Nations system (A/RES/62/208), and in the strategic plan of UNDP, 2008-2011;
3. *Requests* the Administrator to provide an oral report annually to the Executive Board on the implementation of the gender strategy and action plan, as set forth in DP/2005/7, for the remainder of the period of the strategic plan, at its first regular session each year.

22 January 2009

#### 2009/7

#### **Expression of appreciation to Kemal Derviş, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme from 2005 to 2009**

##### *The Executive Board,*

*Noting with regret* that on 1 March 2009 Kemal Derviş will leave his position as Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, which he assumed in 2005,

*Acknowledging* the drive of Kemal Derviş to strengthen the United Nations Development Group and contribute to global development,

*Also acknowledging* the efforts and progress made by Mr. Derviş in increasing the effectiveness and coherence of the United Nations development system through reform

initiatives such as ‘delivering as one’, and in providing the United Nations Development Group with leadership and guidance to confront global challenges and crises,

*Noting with appreciation* that Mr. Derviş has promoted and supported the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

*Acknowledging* the increased efficiency of UNDP in responding effectively to the needs of programme countries during the tenure of Mr. Derviş,

*Recognizing in this context* that Mr. Derviş has enhanced the contribution of UNDP in all its programmatic areas, encompassing democratic governance; poverty alleviation; the environment; and crisis prevention and recovery; and has made gender equality a priority across all these areas,

*Noting with great satisfaction* that, through the efforts of Mr. Derviş, voluntary contributions to UNDP have continued to increase,

1. *Decides* to pay special farewell tribute to Mr. Kemal Derviş by:
  - (a) *Recognizing* the commitment, dedication and vision he has shown in strengthening the role of the entire United Nations development system and in eradicating poverty;
  - (b) *Commending him* for his effective guidance and management of UNDP from 2005 to 2009;
  - (c) *Expressing its gratitude* for his outstanding leadership in times of crisis during his tenure;
2. *Extends* its warm wishes to Kemal Derviş for continued good health and success in his future endeavours.

21 January 2009

## 2009/8

### Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular session 2009

#### *The Executive Board*

*Recalls* that during its first regular session 2009, it:

#### **Item 1**

##### **Organizational matters**

Elected the following members of the Bureau for 2009:

President:	H.E. Mr. Mohammad Khazaei (Iran, Islamic Republic of)
Vice-President	Mr. William Exantus (Haiti)
Vice-President	Mr. Jeroen Steeghs (Netherlands)
Vice-President	Mr. Dragan Mičić (Serbia)
Vice-President	Mr. Omary Mjenga (Tanzania, United Republic of)

Adopted the agenda and work plan for its first regular session 2009 (DP/2009/L.1);

Adopted the report of the second regular session 2008 (DP/2009/1) and its corrigendum (DP/2009/1/Corr.1);

Adopted the annual work plan for 2009 (DP/2009/CRP.1);

Approved the tentative work plan for the annual session 2009;

Agreed to the following schedule for the remaining sessions of the Executive Board in 2009:

Annual session 2009: 26 May to 5 June 2009  
Second regular session 2009: 8 to 11 September 2009

## **UNDP segment**

### **Item 2**

#### **Financial, budgetary and administrative matters**

Took note of the report on cost classification in UNDP (DP/2009/3).

### **Item 3**

#### **Country programmes and related matters**

Adopted decision 2009/1 on the proposed measures for the resumption of UNDP programme operations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

Approved the following country programme documents:

Africa: Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Mauritania and the Republic of the Congo;

Asia and the Pacific: Timor-Leste;

Latin America and the Caribbean: Haiti and Venezuela.

### **Item 7**

#### **United Nations Office for Project Services**

Adopted decision 2009/4 on the financial regulations and rules of the United Nations Office for Project Services;

Adopted decision 2009/5 on the post classification exercise and implementation for the United Nations Office for Project Services.

### **Item 9**

#### **Gender in UNDP**

Adopted decision 2009/6 on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy, 2008-2011.

### **Item 8**

#### **United Nations Capital Development Fund**

Heard an oral report by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Capital Development Fund on the preliminary 2008 results, and perspectives for 2009-2011.

### **Item 10**

#### **Other matters**

Adopted decision 2009/7, an expression of appreciation to Kemal Derviş, Administrator of UNDP from 2005-2009.

## **UNFPA segment**

### **Item 6**

#### **Country programmes and related matters**

Approved the following country programme documents:

Africa: Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya and Mauritania;

Asia and the Pacific: Timor-Leste;

Latin America and the Caribbean: Haiti and Venezuela.

## **Joint UNDP/UNFPA segment**

### **Item 4**

#### **Recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors**

Adopted decision 2009/2 on the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2006-2007.

### **Item 5**

#### **Report to the Economic and Social Council**

Adopted decision 2000/3 on the report of the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Director of UNFPA to the Economic and Social Council.

### **Item 10**

#### **Other matters**

UNDP: held an informal consultation on the implementation of decision 2008/37 on internal audit and oversight;

UNFPA: gave an oral report on the development of the UNFPA evaluation policy;

UNOPS: held a briefing on the UNOPS strategy.

#### **Joint meeting of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP**

Held a joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP on 23 and 26 January 2009, which addressed the following topics: (a) population growth and rapid urbanization; (b) unstable food prices and the linkage with food and nutrition security; and (c) harmonization among the United Nations funds and programmes (business practices and reinforcing state capacity).

22 January 2009

## **2009/9**

### **Annual report of the Administrator, including the operationalization and extension of the UNDP strategic plan, 2008-2011**

#### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the report on the annual report of the Administrator, including the operationalization and extension of the strategic plan, 2008-2011 (DP/2009/11);
2. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 63/232 on operational activities for development, which, inter alia, decided to change the comprehensive policy review of operational activities from a triennial to a quadrennial cycle in order to better provide policy guidance to the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies and urged the funds and programmes to carry out any changes required to align their planning cycles with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, including the implementation of midterm reviews as necessary;
3. *Recalls* its decision 2008/15, and *also recalls* its decision 2008/14, which, inter alia, urged UNDP to give top priority to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and eradicating poverty, and requested UNDP to include in future annual reports of the Administrator a comprehensive comparative analysis of its spending for United Nations system coordination and programming;
4. *Notes with concern* that 'earmarked' resources have continued to far exceed the regular resources of UNDP, and that core resources, because of their untied nature, form the bedrock of UNDP finances;

5. *Requests* the Administrator to include in future reports: (a) information on challenges to the implementation of the strategic vision and the related focus areas of the strategic plan, 2008-2013, and show how UNDP plans to address those challenges; (b) information on the consequences and remedial action foreseen to achieve the agreed objectives; (c) detailed information on the contribution of UNDP to the implementation of the management and accountability framework of the United Nations development and resident coordinator system, including the functional firewall of the resident coordinator system; and (d) a summary table listing project evaluations and outcome evaluations conducted in the previous year;
6. *Urges* UNDP to continue to strengthen the annual report, starting in 2010, to integrate information on its contributions to the development outcomes of the strategic plan and, in that regard, *supports* the UNDP plan to provide more in-depth analysis, starting in programme areas with higher demand;
7. *Extends* the UNDP strategic plan, 2008-2011, including the integrated financial resources framework and relevant UNDP global and regional programmes, to 2013;
8. *Requests* the Administrator to submit to the Executive Board, at its annual session 2011, a midterm review of the extended strategic plan, 2008-2013, including the integrated financial resources framework and the relevant UNDP global and regional programmes;
9. *Also requests* the Administrator to submit to the Executive Board, at its first regular session 2013, a cumulative review of the extended strategic plan, 2008-2013, prior to the submission of a draft of the UNDP strategic plan, 2014-2017, at the annual session 2013, and ahead of its formal submission at the second regular session 2013.

2 June 2009

## 2009/10

### **Status of regular resources funding commitments to UNDP and its funds and programmes for 2009 and onwards**

#### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the report on the status of regular resources funding commitments to UNDP and its funds and programmes for 2009 and onwards (DP/2009/12);
2. *Notes* that UNDP has been able to meet the first annual funding target (2008) for regular ('core') resources set out in its strategic plan, covering the period 2008-2011;
3. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, *reiterates* that regular resources form the bedrock of UNDP finances, and *requests* all countries that have not yet done so to make contributions to regular resources for 2009;
4. *Further notes*, with concern, that according to current UNDP projections and subject to further exchange rate fluctuations, contributions to UNDP regular resources are expected to fall to \$965 million from the 2008 level, and therefore not reach the targeted \$1.25 billion in 2009 in addition to being highly unpredictable for 2010, and *calls upon* UNDP to hold an informal consultation with the Board on a strategy to address the projected funding gap;
5. *Stresses* that the financial crisis should not diminish the capacity of UNDP to assist countries in achieving their development goals; and *recognizes* that strengthening the role and capacity of UNDP to assist countries in achieving their development goals requires an increase in UNDP resources in line with the projections calculated in its strategic plan,

2008-2011 and an expansion of its resource base on a continuous, more predictable and assured basis, as well as continuing improvement in UNDP reporting on its effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and results;

6. *Stresses* the importance of a stable, predictable base of regular resources and encourage Member States that are in a position to do so to announce pledges, on a multi-year basis if feasible, and payment schedules, and to adhere to such pledges and payment schedules thereafter;

2 June 2009

## **2009/11**

### **Annual report on evaluation in UNDP**

#### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the report on evaluation in UNDP (DP/2009/13);
2. *Welcomes* the additional information and analysis on the evaluation functions and activities of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the United Nations Volunteers programme, as well as their actions in strengthening evaluation through dedicated units, the development of evaluation tools and guidelines, and attention to evaluation follow-up;
3. *Further welcomes* the enhanced and harmonized methodology of the assessment of development results, as well as their greater coverage and timeliness to improve their value in the planning of new country programmes;
4. *Recognizes* that UNDP has strengthened evaluation oversight through the issuance of directives reinforcing the roles and responsibilities of regional bureaux and country offices and the inclusion of an indicator on management response compliance in the management ‘dashboard’;
5. *Requests* UNDP to address the issues raised by the evaluations;
6. *Notes* the decline in the total number of decentralized evaluations, and in this regard *requests* UNDP to strengthen decentralized evaluation capacity to monitor and evaluate programmes at the country level and to increase the use of these evaluations as the basis for decision-making for future improvements, taking into account the need to support regions and focus areas with lower evaluation coverage and higher resource levels;
7. *Notes* the decline in country programme compliance with undertaking outcome evaluations, and *requests* UNDP to improve compliance through the establishment and appropriate resourcing of achievable country programme evaluation plans, including the resourcing of decentralized outcome evaluations from programme resources;
8. *Notes* the continuing challenge of the quality of decentralized evaluations, and *emphasizes* the need for UNDP to improve programme planning and results-based management in order to improve the design and methodology of decentralized evaluations;
9. *Acknowledges* the increase in dedicated monitoring and evaluation specialists in 2008, and *encourages* UNDP to continue professionalizing the function through improvements in dedicated personnel and their sustainability to address the fact that some programming units are without such expertise;
10. *Notes* the slight improvement in the submission of management responses to decentralized evaluations, and *encourages* UNDP to further improve the submission and

tracking of management responses to improve accountability and transparency on evaluation follow-up;

11. *Further requests* UNDP to support national evaluation capacity development;

12. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 62/208, which encourages the strengthening of evaluation activities, with particular focus on development results, including through the promotion of collaborative approaches to evaluation, including joint evaluations; and in this regard *encourages* UNDP to continue to conduct joint evaluations with other United Nations organizations while retaining a focus on the accountability of UNDP;

13. *Approves* the programme of work for 2009-2010 proposed by the Evaluation Office.

2 June 2009

## 2009/12

### **Annual report of UNCDF and progress report on the implementation of the strategic partnership between UNCDF and UNDP**

#### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the annual report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) (DP/2009/19) and *notes* the programmatic and operational results contained therein;

2. *Welcomes* the concrete and scalable contributions by UNCDF towards localizing the Millennium Development Goals in the least developed countries, by providing investment capital and technical assistance to build local development and promote inclusive microfinance services that benefit poor households and small and micro enterprises;

3. *Reiterates* its support for the proposed UNCDF programming and funding arrangements, 2008-2011, presented at the first regular session 2008, and encourages Member States in a position to do so to contribute to UNCDF regular resources or by means of multi-year thematic contributions at the level necessary to implement the UNCDF investment plan, 2008-2011, which would allow UNCDF to expand its services and investment support to from 38 to 45 least developed countries;

4. *Recommends* that UNDP and UNCDF further strengthen their strategic partnership as outlined in document DP/2009/20, and *requests* that they report to the Board regularly, including at its annual session 2011 on the challenges and lessons learned in this regard.

2 June 2009

## 2009/13

### **Annual report of the Executive Director of UNIFEM and extension of its strategic plan**

#### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) (DP/2009/21) and its corrigendum (DP/2009/21/Corr.1/Rev.1), and the information on its strategic plan, 2008-2011, contained in the report;

2. *Recognizes* the contribution of UNIFEM in supporting programme countries as they advance agreed development priorities, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as assisting countries in linking progress on the Goals with efforts to implement the Beijing Platform for Action and the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

3. *Requests* UNIFEM, in its annual report to the Executive Board, to include qualitative and quantitative information on progress and challenges toward achieving the goals and outcomes of its strategic plan, using the indicators defined in the plan;
4. *Recognizes* the efforts of UNIFEM to track performance, progress and gaps more effectively, and *requests* the Executive Director to continue to improve the linkage between outputs and outcomes in the annual report in order to better demonstrate the impact of UNIFEM activities;
5. *Commends* UNIFEM for having surpassed the projections for resource mobilization in 2008 and the expansion of its partnerships with bilateral donors, civil society and private sector partners, and *encourages* the Fund to continue to broaden its resource base and to seek stronger partnerships in order to meet the resource mobilization targets in its strategic plan, paying particular attention to its core resources;
6. *Takes note of* the briefing note on criteria and methodology for regular ('core') resources allocation (annex 3 to DP/2009/21) and the letter addressed to the UNDP Administrator by the Chair of the Consultative Committee of UNIFEM on 27 May 2009 (annex 2 to DP/2009/21) and following consultation with Member States *decides* to consider them at the second regular session 2009;
7. *Encourages* UNIFEM to continue to cooperate with all relevant United Nations entities to further promote gender equality and the empowerment of women;
8. *Extends* the UNIFEM strategic plan, 2008-2011, including the integrated financial resources framework, to 2013;
9. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit to the Executive Board, at its annual session 2011, a midterm review of the extended strategic plan, 2008-2013, including the integrated financial resources framework and the relevant UNIFEM global and regional programmes;
10. *Also requests* the Executive Director to submit to the Executive Board, at its first regular session 2013, a cumulative review of the extended strategic plan, 2008-2013, prior to the submission of a draft of the UNIFEM strategic plan, 2014-2017, at the annual session 2013, and ahead of its formal submission at the second regular session 2013.

2 June 2009

## **2009/14**

### **Annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office for Project Services**

#### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) (DP/2009/22);
2. *Welcomes* the progress of UNOPS towards greater effectiveness and efficiency in its business practices;
3. *Takes note of* the UNOPS contributions to United Nations operational activities and results, often in the most challenging of environments;
4. *Also takes note of* rising demand for UNOPS services, as demonstrated by its record business acquisition, and indications of growing professionalism, as suggested by recent positive survey trends and client satisfaction;



5. *Encourages* UNOPS to integrate additional information on and analysis of its client satisfaction surveys into future reports.

29 May 2009

**2009/15**

**Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and oversight**

*The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of:* (a) the UNDP report on internal audit and investigations (DP/2009/23); (b) the report of the Ethics Office (DP/2009/25); (c) the report on UNFPA internal audit and oversight activities in 2008 (DP/FPA/2009/5); and (d) the report of the United Nations Office for Project Services on internal audit services to the organization in 2008 (DP/2009/24);
2. *Welcomes* the focus on key and recurrent management issues, the clarity and format of the recommendations, and the risk-based audit planning outlined in the internal audit reports;
3. *Welcomes* the inclusion in the respective audit and oversight reports of key findings, of unresolved audit recommendations and explanations pertaining to findings that have remained unresolved for 18 months or more;
4. *Recalls* decision 2008/13 on General Assembly resolution 62/208, *takes note of* actions undertaken by UNDP and UNFPA to further strengthen the national execution modality and national ownership, and *requests* UNDP and UNFPA to address all operational issues identified in the audit reports, with particular attention given to capacity-building;
5. *Recalls* decision 2008/37, which inter alia, stipulated the procedure for the disclosure of internal audit reports, and *requests* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to:
  - (a) Include in future annual reports comprehensive information on disclosure, including the number of internal audit reports disclosed and their titles; and
  - (b) Provide the concerned governments with adequate time to review and comment on the internal audit reports, prior to the disclosure;
6. *Endorses* the decision of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to defer implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) by 2012, and requests the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Directors of UNFPA and UNOPS to commit, as a matter of priority, to adopting IPSAS no later than 2012 and submitting to the Board their IPSAS-compliant financial statements for the year 2012 at the second regular session 2013;
7. *Requests* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to make their IPSAS implementation plans available on their respective websites, and to update the Executive Board on a regular basis until the financial statements are submitted at the second regular session 2013;
8. *Requests* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to include in future reports multi-year comparisons of trends in audit issues;
9. *Shares* the concern of UNDP and UNFPA management on the recurrent findings outlined in documents DP/2009/23 and DP/FPA/2009/5 relating to project management, programme management, and monitoring and evaluation, *welcomes* the ongoing efforts of UNDP and UNFPA management to address those systemic weaknesses, and *looks forward to* significant improvements in audit findings relating to those areas by 2010, to be

reported to the Executive Board at its annual session 2011, through the internal audit reports of UNDP and UNFPA;

10. *Requests* UNDP management and UNFPA management to inform the Executive Board on strategies and activities they have implemented to address the recurrent audit findings identified in documents DP/2009/23 and DP/FPA/2009/5;

*With regard to UNDP,*

11. *Welcomes* the continued improvement in the internal audit coverage of UNDP country offices and headquarters units, *encourages* UNDP to expand its audit coverage of headquarters units, and *notes with concern* the number of country office audits, which gave rise to an unsatisfactory audit rating;

12. *Notes* the decreasing number of audit recommendations that remain outstanding after more than 18 months, and *requests* UNDP to maintain its follow-up efforts for implementing those recommendations;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the significant progress made in the timely submission of audit reports covering projects executed by non-governmental organizations and/or national governments;

14. *Takes note of* the annual report of the Audit Advisory Committee for 2008;

15. With reference to paragraph 9 above, *welcomes* the progress made in addressing the recurrent findings on audit issues identified in document DP/2009/23, including weaknesses in procurement, asset management and financial resources, and *requests* UNDP to address those issues as a matter of priority and in future planning efforts in country offices and at headquarters.

*With regard to UNFPA,*

16. *Expresses support* for the continued strengthening of the accountability and assurance process in UNFPA, and *urges* the Executive Director to continue to strengthen risk-based audit planning, adopt an internal control framework in line with internationally recognized best practices, implement enterprise risk management, fill vacant posts in the Division for Oversight Services to ensure appropriate audit coverage, and ensure that the level of resources made available to the Division is within the range recommended by the Joint Inspection Unit in report JIU/REP/2006/2;

17. *Recalls* the provisions of article XII of the financial rules and regulations of the United Nations on external audit, particularly financial regulation 12.6, and *stresses* that all agreements on funding should be in accordance with General Assembly resolutions and Executive Board decisions;

18. *Reiterates* its request to the Executive Director to take the necessary measures to ensure compliance with UNFPA policies, rules and regulations.

*With regard to UNOPS*

19. *Welcomes* the progress made to increase the internal audit capacity of the organization;

20. *Welcomes* the increased internal audit coverage in 2008;

21. *Takes note of* the annual report of the Strategic and Advisory Committee for 2008, and *endorses* the revised terms of reference included therein, subject to the following modifications:

- (a) Members of the Strategic and Advisory Committee, prior to their appointment, should be reviewed for any possible conflict of interest, consistent with decision 2008/37;
- (b) In appointing future members of the Strategic and Advisory Committee, the Executive Director shall ensure that at least a simple majority of the membership has significant, relevant and recent financial or internal oversight experience;
- (c) The Strategic and Advisory Committee, in fulfilling its advisory role in oversight, can perform any of the principal duties listed in chapter 5, at its discretion.

3 June 2009

## 2009/16

### **Report of the UNFPA Executive Director for 2008: progress in implementing the strategic plan, 2008-2011**

#### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note* of the documents that make up the report of the Executive Director for 2008: DP/FPA/2009/2 (Part I), DP/FPA/2009/2 (Part I, Add.1 and its corrigendum, Part I, Add.1/Corr.1), and DP/FPA/2009/2 (Part II), and also takes note of the continuous progress made in aligning UNFPA programming with the UNFPA strategic plan, 2008-2011, in response to the national priorities of programme countries;
2. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 63/232 on operational activities for development, which, inter alia, urges the funds and programmes to carry out any changes required to align their planning cycles with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, including the implementation of midterm reviews as necessary;
3. *Extends* the UNFPA strategic plan, 2008-2011, to 2013, including the integrated financial resources framework and the UNFPA global and regional programme, 2008-2011;
4. *Requests* the Executive Director to include in future annual reports references to the baselines and targets of the outcomes and outputs of the strategic plan, 2008-2011, with a view to fully tracking progress in achieving these targets and outcomes;
5. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit to the Executive Board, at its annual session 2011, a midterm review of the extended strategic plan, 2008-2013, including the integrated financial resources framework and the UNFPA global and regional programme;
6. *Also requests* the Executive Director to submit to the Executive Board, at its first regular session 2013, a cumulative review of the extended strategic plan, 2008-2013, prior to the submission of a draft of the UNFPA strategic plan, 2014-2017, at the annual session 2013, and ahead of its formal submission at the second regular session 2013.

3 June 2009

## 2009/17

### **Funding commitments to UNFPA: report on contributions by Member States and others to regular and co-financing resources for 2009 and future years**

#### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the report on contributions by Member States and others to regular and co-financing resources for 2009 and future years (DP/FPA/2009/3);

2. *Welcomes* the increase in the 2008 regular income level of UNFPA and the increase in the 2008 co-financing income, and *also welcomes* the contributions made by programme countries;
3. *Emphasizes* that regular resources are the bedrock of UNFPA and essential to maintaining the multilateral, neutral and universal nature of its work, and *encourages* UNFPA to further mobilize these resources while also continuing to mobilize supplementary resources for its thematic funds and programmes;
4. *Stresses* that the financial crisis should not diminish the capacity of UNFPA to assist countries in achieving their development goals; and *recognizes* that strengthening the role and capacity of UNFPA to assist countries in achieving their development goals requires an increase in UNFPA resources in line with the projections calculated in its strategic plan, 2008-2011 and an expansion of its resource base on a continuous, more predictable and assured basis, as well as continuing improvement in UNFPA reporting on its effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and results;
5. *Recognizes* that sustaining and improving the UNFPA funding level will require countries that are in a position to do so to increase their contributions during the period of the UNFPA strategic plan;
6. *Encourages* all countries that are in a position to do so to make contributions early in the year and to make multi-year pledges;
7. *Emphasizes* that UNFPA needs strong political and increased financial support as well as increased and predictable core funding in order to enhance its assistance to countries to fully integrate the agenda of the International Conference on Population and Development into national development strategies and frameworks.

2 June 2009

## **2009/18**

### **UNFPA evaluation policy**

#### *The Executive Board*

1. *Recalls* decision 2007/40 on the UNFPA strategic plan, 2008-2011, and the UNFPA accountability framework, and decision 2008/37 on the UNFPA oversight policy, and *recognizes* that these documents lay the foundation for the UNFPA evaluation policy;
2. *Welcomes* the UNFPA evaluation policy (DP/FPA/2009/4) as an important step towards establishing a common institutional basis for increasing transparency, coherence and efficiency in generating and using evaluations for organizational learning and effective management for results, in order to support accountability and ensure impartiality;
3. *Welcomes* the emphasis of the evaluation policy on strengthening the evaluation capacity of programme countries, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/208, and *calls on* UNFPA to continue to conduct evaluations of operations at the country level in close consultation with national governments and to assist them in developing their national evaluation capacity;
4. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts of UNFPA to align the evaluation policy with the norms and standards for evaluation by the United Nations system, through the United Nations Evaluation Group;
5. *Approves* the UNFPA evaluation policy as presented in document DP/FPA/2009/4, subject to the provisions of the present decision, and notes that the mandate of the

evaluation function is to evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of UNFPA programmes and results;

6. *Reaffirms* that, in accordance with paragraphs 39 and 40 of the UNFPA oversight policy (DP/FPA/2008/14), the Executive Board receives information on the results of evaluations and provides guidance accordingly;

7. *Recalls* its decision 2008/37 and urges the Executive Director to ensure that the evaluation functions of UNFPA and the evaluations carried out by UNFPA, in consultation with national governments in accordance with the evaluation policy, are independent and impartial;

8. *Requests* the Executive Director to:

(a) Safeguard the quality, impartiality and independence of the evaluation function and evaluations performed in UNFPA;

(b) Appoint the Director of the Division for Oversight Services and the Chief of the Evaluation Branch in the Division for Oversight Services, limiting the term of their appointments to five and four years, respectively, renewable once, and barring re-entry into UNFPA;

(c) Ensure that the Director of the Division for Oversight Services has the independence to report directly to the Executive Board on evaluations led by the Division for Oversight Services, as well as to track follow-up of the management responses resulting from the evaluations;

(d) Ensure that the Chief of the Evaluation Branch in the Division for Oversight Services has the final say on the contents of evaluation reports issued by the Division for Oversight Services;

(e) Provide adequate human and financial resources for evaluation at global, regional and country levels, as well as strengthen an independent, credible and useful evaluation function;

(f) Ensure that all programmes, especially the country programmes, are evaluated at least once during their cycle, that management responses are prepared for all evaluation reports, that recommendations are implemented, and that lessons learned are built into future policies, programmes and operations;

(g) Submit for information purposes, a biennial evaluation plan to the Executive Board at its annual session 2010, bearing in mind the importance of linkages between evaluation and the UNFPA strategic plan, 2008-2011;

(h) Provide a separate management response to key and recurring issues identified in the biennial report of the Division for Oversight Services;

(i) Ensure the transparent dissemination of evaluation results, including making reports broadly available to the Executive Board and to the public, except in those cases where the reasonable protection and confidentiality of some stakeholders are required;

9. *Requests* that the biennial reports of the Director of the Division for Oversight Services, to the Executive Board, address the function, findings and recommendations of evaluations, compliance, quality of evaluations, analysis of the factors affecting quality, and the follow-up to evaluations conducted by UNFPA;

10. *Recalling* the responsibility of UNFPA to serve its beneficiaries and to add value to national development plans and priorities, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/128 on the report of the International Conference on Population and

Development, and recognizing the linkages among evidence-informed methodology to improve programming, results-based management and evaluation, requests the Executive Director to develop guidelines on evidence-informed methodology to improve programming and to strengthen results-based management, and to include a section on these issues in the management response to the report presented by the Division for Oversight Services at the annual session 2010;

11. *Encourages* UNFPA to clarify roles and responsibilities within the Division for Oversight Services and with other divisions in UNFPA with regard to planning, implementation, supervision, quality assurance and follow-up, and elaborate how the evaluation function is distinguished from other oversight mechanisms, as well as clarify how evaluations differ from internal reviews;

12. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit a review of the UNFPA evaluation policy at the annual session 2012 of the Executive Board.

3 June 2009

## **2009/19**

### **Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its annual session 2009**

#### *The Executive Board*

*Recalls* that during its annual session 2009, it:

#### **Item 1**

##### **Organizational matters**

Approved the agenda and work plan for its annual session 2009 (DP/2009/L.2);

Approved the report of the first regular session 2009 (DP/2009/9);

Agreed to the following schedule of future sessions of the Executive Board in 2009:

Second regular session 2009: 8 to 11 September 2009;

Adopted the tentative work plan for the second regular session 2009 of the Executive Board;

Took an oral decision to postpone, from the second regular session 2009 to the first regular session 2010, consideration of the UNDP and the UNIFEM biennial support budgets, 2010-2011, and of the UNDP midterm review of the programming arrangements, 2008-2011.

#### **UNDP segment**

#### **Item 2**

##### **Annual report of the Administrator**

Adopted decision 2009/9 on the annual report of the Administrator, including the operationalization and extension of the UNDP strategic plan, 2008-2011;

Took note of the report of UNDP on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2008 (DP/2009/11/Add.1), and the statistical annex (DP/2009/11/Add.2) and its corrigendum (DP/2009/11/Add.2/Corr.1).

#### **Item 3**

##### **Funding commitments to UNDP**

Adopted decision 2009/10 on the status of regular resources funding commitments to UNDP and its funds and programmes for 2009 and onwards.

**Item 4****Evaluation (UNDP)**

Adopted decision 2009/11 on the annual report on evaluation in UNDP.

Took note of the following documents:

- (a) Evaluation of the third regional cooperation framework (2006-2009) for the Arab States (DP/2009/14);
- (b) Management response to the evaluation of the third regional cooperation framework (2006-2009) for the Arab States (DP/2009/15);
- (c) Follow-up to management responses on evaluations, including decentralized evaluations (DP/2009/16).

**Item 5****Human Development Report**

Took note of the update on *Human Development Report* consultations (DP/2009/17).

**Item 6****Country programmes and related matters (UNDP)**

Took note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Azerbaijan, Chile, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Serbia, Somalia and Zimbabwe (DP/2009/18, table 1);

Approved the second one-year extension of the country programme for Turks and Caicos Islands (DP/2009/18, table 2);

Approved the first two-year extensions of the country programmes for Barbados and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, Mozambique and the Philippines (DP/2009/18, table 2);

Took note of the following draft country programme documents and the comments made thereon:

***Africa***

Draft country programme document for Botswana (DP/DCP/BWA/1)

Draft country programme document for Burundi (DP/DCP/BDI/2);

***Arab States***

Draft country programme document for Lebanon (DP/DCP/LBN/1);

***Asia and the Pacific***

Draft country programme document for Afghanistan (DP/DCP/AFG/2);

***Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States***

Draft country programme document for Armenia (DP/DCP/ARM/2)

Draft country programme document for Bosnia and Herzegovina (DP/DCP/BIH/2)

Draft country programme document for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (DP/DCP/MKD/2)

Draft country programme document for Kazakhstan (DP/DCP/KAZ/2)

Draft country programme document for Tajikistan (DP/DCP/TJK/1)

Draft country programme document for Turkmenistan (DP/DCP/TKM/1)

Draft country programme document for Uzbekistan (DP/DCP/UZB/2);

***Latin America and the Caribbean***

Draft country programme document for Ecuador (DP/DCP/ECU/1);

**Item 7**

**United Nations Capital Development Fund**

Adopted decision 2009/12 on the annual report of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and the progress report on the implementation of the strategic partnership between UNCDF and UNDP;

**Item 8**

**United Nations Development Fund for Women**

Adopted decision 2009/13 on the annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the extension of its strategic plan.

**UNOPS segment**

**Item 9**

**United Nations Office for Project Services**

Adopted decision 2009/14 on the annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office for Project Services.

**UNFPA segment**

**Item 12**

**Annual report of the Executive Director**

Adopted decision 2009/16 on the report of the UNFPA Executive Director for 2008: progress in implementing the strategic plan, 2008-2011.

**Item 13**

**Funding commitments to UNFPA**

Adopted decision 2009/17 on funding commitments to UNFPA: report on contributions by Member States and others to regular and co-financing resources for 2009 and future years.

**Item 14**

**Country programmes and related matters (UNFPA)**

Took note of the following draft country programme documents and the comments made thereon:

***Africa***

Draft country programme document for Botswana (DP/FPA/DCP/BWA/5)

Draft country programme document for Burundi (DP/FPA/DCP/BDI/7);

Approved the two-year extension of the country programme for Mozambique (DP/FPA/2009/6);

***Arab States***

Draft country programme document for Lebanon (DP/FPA/DCP/LBN/3)

Took note of the one-year extension of the country programme for the Occupied Palestinian Territory (DP/FPA/2009/7) and its corrigendum (DP/FPA/2009/7/Corr.1);



***Asia and the Pacific***

Draft country programme document for Afghanistan (DP/FPA/DCP/AFG/3)

Approved the two-year extension of the country programme for the Philippines (DP/FPA/2009/8, table 2)

Took note of the one-year extension of the country programme for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DP/FPA/2009/8, table 1)

Took note of the one-year extension of the country programme for Iran (Islamic Republic of) (DP/FPA/2009/8, table 1)

***Eastern Europe and Central Asia***

Draft country programme document for Armenia (DP/FPA/DCP/ARM/2)

Draft country programme document for Bosnia and Herzegovina (DP/FPA/DCP/BIH/1) and its corrigendum (DP/FPA/DCP/BIH/1/Corr.1)

Draft country programme document for Kazakhstan (DP/FPA/DCP/KAZ/3)

Draft country programme document for Tajikistan (DP/FPA/DCP/TJK/3)

Draft country programme document for Turkmenistan (DP/FPA/DCP/TKM/3)

Draft country programme document for Uzbekistan (DP/FPA/DCP/UZB/3)

Took note of the one-year extension of the country programme for Azerbaijan (DP/FPA/2009/9, table 1)

Approved the two-year extension of the country programme for Kyrgyzstan (DP/FPA/2009/9, table 2);

***Latin America and the Caribbean***

Draft country programme for Ecuador (DP/FPA/DCP/ECU/5).

**Item 15****Evaluation (UNFPA)**

Adopted decision 2009/18 on the UNFPA evaluation policy.

**Joint segment****Item 10****Internal audit and oversight (UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS)**

Adopted decision 2009/15 on the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and oversight.

**Item 11****Field visits**

Took note of the following reports:

(a) Report on the joint field visit to Cambodia (DP-FPA/2009/CRP.1) and its corrigendum (DP-FPA/2009/CRP.1/Corr.1);

(b) Report of the UNDP/UNFPA field visit to Nepal (DP/2009/CRP.2-DP/FPA/2009/CRP.1).

**Item 16**

**Other matters**

Held the following briefings and consultations:

**UNDP**

- (a) Briefing on peace-building and early recovery;
- (b) Informal consultation on the UNDP biennial support budget and the midterm review of programming arrangements;

**UNFPA**

- (a) Special event on the 2009 United Nations Population Award;
- (b) Informal consultation on the UNFPA evaluation policy;
- (c) Briefing on reproductive health commodity security and the female condom, and the UNFPA-UNICEF joint programme on female genital mutilation;

**UNDP/UNFPA**

Luncheon event on the global financial and economic crisis;

**UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS**

Joint briefing on the implementation of the international public sector accounting standards.

3 June 2009

**2009/20**

**Annual review of the financial situation, 2008**

*The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the annual review of the financial situation, 2008 (DP/2009/28 and Corr.1), and the detailed information contained in its addendum (DP/2009/28/Add.1);
2. *Encourages* all Member States to support UNDP in reaching the resource targets set out in the strategic plan and reiterated in decision 2007/32, and to commit, as early as possible, their contributions to UNDP regular resources for the years 2009 and onwards, through multi-year pledges if possible;
3. *Recognizes* the importance of funding predictability in helping effective programme planning by UNDP since the timeliness of payments of contributions is essential to avoid liquidity constraints in regular resources;
4. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, *reiterates* that regular resources form the bedrock of UNDP finances;
5. *Underlines* the need to meet the resource projections contained in the strategic plan, 2008-2011, and *recognizes* the important contribution to the achievement of the strategic plan made by other resources, including local resources, bilateral donors' contributions, multilateral sources and resources from system-wide funds;
6. *Calls upon* UNDP to include, in future reports on the financial situation, a table illustrating the financial results compared to those originally budgeted for, as contained in the strategic plan, and also to include more information in the cost recovery policy;

7. *Recalls* decisions 2003/22 and 2007/18, *reiterates* that cost recovery should bear the support costs associated with other resources-funded activities, *recognizes* that financial data presented in the financial reports forms an important part of the information sources necessary for the effective communication and assessment of the financial situation of UNDP, and *requests* that UNDP include information on cost recovery income and expenditure in its future annual financial reviews.

11 September 2009

## 2009/21

### United Nations system technical cooperation expenditures, 2008

#### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the report on United Nations system technical cooperation expenditures, 2008 (DP/2009/29), and its statistical addendum (DP/2009/29/Add.1);
2. *Supports* the integration of information from the report and its addendum into the report on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for the development of the United Nations system, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 63/232;
3. *Notes* that, effective 2010, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs will implement resolution 63/232 and prepare a comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for the development of the United Nations system.

11 September 2009

## 2009/22

### Methodology and approach to the UNDP biennial support budget, 2010-2011

#### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the report on the methodology and approach to the UNDP biennial support budget, 2010-2011 (DP/2009/30);
2. *Endorses* the proposed approach for the 2010-2011 biennial support budget, with the provisions outlined in the present decision, which is centred on driving cost efficiencies, investing in the organization and improving accountability and transparency;
3. In the context of improving transparency, *recommends* four broad classifications of activities and costs: (a) development, (b) management, (c) United Nations development coordination, and (d) special-purpose;
4. In that regard, *requests* UNDP to propose how to treat costs relating to United Nations development coordination as a separate cost category within its budget instruments;
5. In the context of improving transparency, accountability, and harmonization, *endorses* the UNDP decision to base post cost classification on the 'whole post' approach (whereby each individual post is paid from a single cost category) for all posts charged against budget categories and functions within the budget instrument(s) of the organization with the exception of the posts relating to the United Nations development coordination;
6. *Emphasizes* that the present decision should be part of overall efforts to contain management costs efficiently, and *requests* UNDP to provide, in its annual report to the

Board, information on workload studies related to its United Nations development coordination function and associated costs;

7. *Also emphasizes* that, in the development of the budgets and budget methodologies, it is important to maintain the quality and integrity of the management oversight functions of the organization through, inter alia, the provision of sufficient resources for oversight offices to carry out their work plans;

8. In the context of development activities and costs, *endorses* two sub-classifications of activities and costs: (a) programmes, and (b) development effectiveness;

9. In the context of programmes and development effectiveness activities and costs, and based on the definitions provided, *endorses* those categories of activities and costs that are more appropriately considered 'programmes', and those that are more appropriately considered 'development effectiveness';

10. In the context of development effectiveness activities and costs, *endorses* two categories of activities and costs: (a) programme development and implementation, and (b) programme policy advisory services;

11. In the context of special-purpose costs and activities, *endorses* three sub-classifications of activities and costs: (a) General Assembly-mandated activities, (b) capital investments, and (c) non-UNDP operations administered by UNDP;

12. *Requests* UNDP, in applying the present decision, to strengthen harmonization in cooperation with UNFPA and UNICEF;

13. *Underlines* that these changes will not cause a reduction in the allocation for programme activities, and *stresses* the need to clearly outline the costs relating to the sub-classifications shifted between budget instruments;

14. *Requests* UNDP to be actively engaged in an informal consultation process with the Executive Board with a view to taking action on the biennial support budget, 2010-2011, at the first regular session 2010;

15. *Also requests* the Administrator to continue to improve the method of budgeting in collaboration with UNFPA and UNICEF, with a view to presentation by each organization of a single, integrated budget that includes all budgetary categories to complement the next strategic plan, and, in that regard, *requests* a joint preliminary briefing note on steps taken and progress achieved at the second regular session 2011 and a joint report at the annual session 2012;

16. *Further requests* the Administrator to collaborate with UNFPA and UNICEF towards greater harmonization in the UNDP biennial support budget, 2012-2013, and, at the second regular session 2010, to submit a joint report on:

(a) improved results focus and enhanced linkages with the institutional results of the strategic plan; and

(b) further harmonized budget methodologies, including the attribution of costs between programme and support budgets, and determine a common method for the treatment of similar cost items across and within respective budgets and funding frameworks, taking into account the differences in the business models of UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF;

17. *Further requests* the Administrator, as a step towards the single, integrated budget for UNDP, to improve the UNDP biennial support budget, 2012-2013, by:

(a) improving the linkages between biennial support budget resources and results;

(b) providing summary explanations of any proposed budgetary changes and their attribution to volume and to nominal and statutory changes; and

(c) providing information on cost recovery by describing how projected cost recoveries from extrabudgetary resources are calculated, including updated information on UNDP variable indirect costs to allow for appropriate analysis of the cost-recovery rate;

18. *Stresses* the need to provide information on actual expenditure information in the reporting on the annual financial review in a format similar to that of the resource plan in the biennial support budget;

19. *Emphasizes* the need for consultation with Executive Board members in making improvements to the UNDP biennial support budget, 2012-2013, and to the single, integrated budget for each organization, beginning in 2014, and, in that regard, *requests* UNDP, in collaboration with UNFPA and UNICEF, to present, for information, a note outlining a 'road map' for achieving the objectives identified in the present decision, at the first regular session 2010.

11 September 2009

## 2009/23

### **Evaluation of the cooperation agreement between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and UNDP**

#### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the joint terminal evaluation of the implementation of the cooperation agreement between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and UNDP (DP/2009/32),

2. *Commends* the collaboration between the UNDP and UNIDO evaluation offices;

3. *Requests* UNDP to implement the recommendations of the evaluation, taking into consideration the deliberations of the General Conference of UNIDO in December 2009;

4. *Encourages* UNDP to replace the existing partnership agreement with UNIDO with a memorandum of understanding that describes the thematic areas of interest and simplifies and standardizes cooperation, including administrative arrangements, to ensure flexible and relevant support to national priorities.

11 September 2009

## 2009/24

### **Assistance to Myanmar**

#### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the Administrator's note on assistance to Myanmar and of the report submitted by the independent assessment mission to Myanmar, in particular the strategic challenges and recommendations mentioned therein;

2. *Requests* that the Administrator take account of and implement the findings of the independent assessment mission, as appropriate, under the Human Development Initiative;

3. *Endorses* the proposed one-year extension of the Human Development Initiative, phase 4, until 2011;

4. *Authorizes* the Administrator to allocate for the revised period (2008-2011) an estimated \$38.9 million from regular ('core') resources, and to mobilize other ('non-core')

resources up to a total of \$65 million. Both amounts are inclusive of the \$24.1 million core and \$24.9 million non-core resources authorized by decision 2007/36.

11 September 2009

**2009/25**

**United Nations Office for Project Services strategic plan, 2010-2013**

*The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note with appreciation of* the consultative process employed in formulating the UNOPS strategic plan, 2010-2013 (DP/2009/36);
2. *Endorses* the strategic plan as proposed by the Executive Director of UNOPS in DP/2009/36;
3. *Reaffirms* the mandate of UNOPS, in the context of coherence and the furtherance of United Nations objectives, to act as a service provider to the United Nations system agencies, funds and programmes, international and regional financial institutions, intergovernmental organizations, donor and recipient governments and non-governmental organizations;
4. *Reconfirms* the role of UNOPS as a central resource for the United Nations system in procurement and contracts management as well as in civil works and physical infrastructure development, including the relevant capacity development activities;
5. *Recognizes* the potential for value-adding contributions that UNOPS can make in providing efficient, cost-effective services to development partners in the areas of project management, human resources, financial management and common/shared services;
6. *Authorizes* the Executive Director to sign, in consultation with the resident coordinator or the humanitarian coordinator, as appropriate, direct service agreements with governments;
7. *Further authorizes* the Executive Director to appoint UNOPS representatives and, where UNOPS is not covered by a framework agreement of another United Nations entity, to sign host-country agreements on behalf of the United Nations with governments regarding the activities of UNOPS in the host country, having previously informed the resident coordinator or the humanitarian coordinator, as appropriate;
8. *Requests* the Executive Director to inform the Executive Board in the annual report of the UNOPS Executive Director on the use of the authority given in paragraph 7;
9. *Takes note with appreciation of* the annual statistical report on the procurement activities of the United Nations system organizations (DP/2009/37), and *welcomes* the data presentation and analysis contained in the report.

11 September 2009

**2009/26**

**Estimates for the UNFPA biennial support budget, 2010-2011**

*The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the functions, management outputs, indicators and resource requirements in the estimates for the UNFPA biennial support budget, 2010-2011, as contained in document DP/FPA/2009/10;
2. *Takes note of* the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, as contained in document DP/FPA/2009/11;

3. *Requests* UNFPA to further improve the indicators of the biennial support budget, 2010-2011, in order to make them more specific and measurable and, in that regard, to revise and improve relevant indicators by the first regular session 2010, through the submission, for information, of a corrigendum of the results matrix;
4. *Recalls* Executive Board decision 2007/15 which requests an update on the UNFPA policy on indirect cost recovery, and, in that regard, requests UNFPA to provide a report, at the first regular session 2010, on actual cost recovery for 2007 and 2008, and on the level of variable indirect costs;
5. *Approves* gross resources in the amount of \$274.5 million, representing the total biennial support budget, 2010-2011, and *notes* that the estimated net resources total \$236.3 million;
6. *Decides* that the appropriated amount should be used towards the 16 functions specified in document DP/FPA/2009/10, to achieve the management outputs in the UNFPA strategic plan, 2008-2013;
7. *Authorizes* an additional expenditure of \$5.7 million from regular resources to further develop and implement the enterprise resource planning (Atlas) project and the international public sector accounting standards;
8. *Also authorizes* an additional expenditure of \$5.8 million from regular resources to replenish the security reserve;
9. *Further authorizes* an additional expenditure of \$5.9 million from regular resources for the relocation of UNFPA headquarters, as a one-time occurrence, and *requests* an informal status report once relocation has been completed;
10. *Further authorizes* the reduction by \$4 million of the approved one-time costs for the new UNFPA organizational structure (decision 2008/6), which results in a revised total of \$24.4 million;
11. *Notes* that the set-up of some of the permanent regional office premises may be extended to 2010. In such instance, UNFPA will carry over a corresponding amount of the approved one-time cost levels to 2010;
12. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue to improve the method of budgeting in collaboration with UNDP and UNICEF, with a view to presentation by each organization of a single, integrated budget that includes all budgetary categories to complement the next strategic plan and, in that regard, *requests* a joint preliminary briefing note on steps taken and progress achieved at the second regular session 2011, and a joint report at the annual session 2012;
13. *Further requests* the Executive Director to collaborate with UNDP and UNICEF towards greater harmonization in the UNFPA biennial support budget, 2012-2013, and, at the second regular session 2010, to submit a joint report, on:
  - (a) improved results focus and enhanced linkages with the management results of the strategic plan; and
  - (b) further harmonized budget methodologies, including the attribution of costs between programme and support budgets, and determine a common method for the treatment of similar cost items across and within respective budgets and funding frameworks, taking into account the differences in the business models of UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF;
14. *Further requests* the Executive Director to improve the UNFPA biennial support budget, 2012-2013, as a step towards a single, integrated budget for UNFPA, by:

- (a) improving the linkages between resources and results;
- (b) providing summary explanations of any proposed budgetary changes and their attribution to volume and to nominal and statutory changes; and
- (c) providing information on cost recovery by describing how projected cost recoveries from extrabudgetary resources are calculated, including updated information on UNFPA variable indirect costs to allow for appropriate analysis of the cost-recovery rate.

15. *Stresses* the need to provide information on actual financial performance in the reporting on the annual financial review in a format similar to that of the resource plan in the biennial support budget;

16. *Emphasizes* the need for consultation with Executive Board members in making improvements to the UNFPA biennial support budget, 2012-2013, and to the single, integrated budget for each organization, beginning in 2014, and, in that regard, *requests* UNFPA, in collaboration with UNDP and UNICEF, to present, for information, a note outlining a 'road map' to achieve the objectives outlined in the present decision at the first regular session 2010.

11 September 2009

#### **2009/27**

#### **Revision of the financial regulations and rules of UNFPA**

##### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the report on the revision of UNFPA financial regulations and rules (DP/FPA/2009/12);
2. *Approves* the revisions to the UNFPA financial regulations, as contained in document DP/FPA/2009/12, taking into account the provisions of the present decision;
3. *Requests*, for purposes of clarity and specificity, an amendment to the definitions of 'commitment' and 'obligation' in regulation 2.2, whereby the phrase "shall mean an engagement, such as ..." is replaced by the phrase "shall mean an engagement arising from";
4. *Takes note of* the changes to the financial rules as contained therein;
5. *Emphasizes* the continuing role of the Executive Board in the governance and oversight of UNFPA;
6. *Reiterates* the request of the Executive Board in decisions 2000/8 and 2002/6 for UNFPA to track its involvement in sector-wide approaches, to share this knowledge with the Executive Board, and to outline progress achieved in the annual report of the Executive Director.

11 September 2009

#### **2009/28**

#### **Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA at its second regular session 2009**

##### *The Executive Board*

Recalls that during its second regular session 2009, it:



**Item 1****Organizational matters**

Approved the agenda and work plan for the second regular session 2009 (DP/2009/L.3);

Approved the report of the annual session 2009 (DP/2009/26);

Agreed to the following schedule of sessions of the Executive Board in 2010:

Election of the Bureau for 2010:	6 or 11 January 2010
First regular session 2010:	11 to 14 January <i>or</i> 19 to 22 January 2010
Joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP:	15 and 18 January 2010
Annual session 2010:	21 June to 2 July 2010 (Geneva)
Second regular session 2010:	13 to 16 September 2010.

**UNDP segment****Item 2****Financial, budgetary and administrative matters (UNDP)**

Adopted decision 2009/20 on the annual review of the financial situation, 2008;

Adopted decision 2009/21 on United Nations system technical cooperation expenditures, 2008;

Adopted decision 2009/22 on the methodology and approach to the UNDP biennial support budget, 2010-2011.

**Item 3****Evaluation in UNDP**

Adopted decision 2009/23 on the evaluation of the cooperation agreement between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and UNDP.

**Item 4****Country programmes and related matters (UNDP)**

Adopted decision 2009/24 on assistance to Myanmar;

Approved the following final country programme documents on a no-objection basis, without presentation or discussion, in accordance with decision 2006/36:

**Africa:** Botswana and Burundi;

**Arab States:** Lebanon;

**Asia and the Pacific:** Afghanistan;

**Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States:** Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan;

**Latin America and the Caribbean States:** Ecuador;

Took note of the one-year extension of the country programme for the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya;

Took note of the following draft regional programme documents and draft country programme documents and the comments made thereon:

**Africa**

Draft country programme document for Uganda (DP/DCP/UGA/2)

**Arab States**

Draft regional programme document for the Arab States (DP/RPD/RAS/2)

**Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States**

Draft country programme document for Romania (DP/DCP/ROU/1)

**Latin America and the Caribbean**

Draft country programme document for Argentina (DP/DCP/ARG/2)

Draft country programme document for Guatemala (DP/DCP/GTM/2)

**Item 5**

**United Nations Capital Development Fund**

Heard an oral report on the United Nations Capital Development Fund cost recovery approach.

**Item 6**

**United Nations Office for Project Services**

Adopted decision 2009/25 on the United Nations Office for Project Services strategic plan, 2010-2013;

Took note of the annual statistical report on the procurement activities of United Nations system organizations (DP/2009/37).

**Item 7**

**United Nations Development Fund for Women**

Took note of the report on the criteria and methodology for regular resources allocation (DP/2009/38).

**Joint segment**

**Item 8**

**Follow-up to the meeting of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board**

Took note of the report on the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (DP/2009/39-DP/FPA/2009/14).

**Item 9**

**Internal audit and oversight**

Heard oral reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of decision 2008/37 on internal audit and oversight.

**UNFPA segment**

**Item 10**

**Financial, budgetary and administrative matters**

Adopted decision 2009/26 on the estimates for the UNFPA biennial support budget, 2010-2011;

Adopted decision 2009/27 on the revision of the financial regulations and rules of UNFPA;

Took note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (DP/FPA/2009/11) on the estimates for the UNFPA biennial support budget, 2010-2011;

Took note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (DP/FPA/2009/13) on the revision of the financial regulations and rules of UNFPA.

#### **Item 11**

##### **Country programmes and related matters (UNFPA)**

Approved the following country programmes on a no-objection basis, without presentation or discussion, in accordance with decision 2006/36:

**Africa:** Botswana and Burundi;

**Arab States:** Lebanon;

**Asia and the Pacific:** Afghanistan;

**Eastern Europe and Central Asia:** Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan;

**Latin America and the Caribbean:** Ecuador;

Took note of the following draft country programme documents and the comments made thereon:

##### **Africa**

Draft country programme document for Uganda (DP/FPA/DCP/UGA/7)

##### **Latin America and the Caribbean**

Draft country programme document for Guatemala (DP/FPA/DCP/GTM/6)

#### **Item 12**

##### **Other matters**

Held the following informal briefings and consultations:

##### **UNDP**

Held an informal consultation on the methodology and approach to the UNDP and UNIFEM biennial support budgets, 2010-2011, and the implementation of UNDP cost recovery;

Held an informal consultation on the UNDP evaluation policy;

Held a thematic debate on UNDP support to national capacity development.

##### **UNFPA**

Held a briefing on the 2010 round of censuses.

##### **UNOPS**

Held an informal consultation on UNOPS field operations.

*11 September 2009*

**2009/29**

**Interim allocation for the UNDP biennial support budget, 2010-2011**

*The Executive Board*

1. *Approves* an interim budget allocation for January 2010, in the amount of \$38.1 million, pending final approval of the UNDP biennial support budget for 2010-2011;
2. *Agrees* that the interim budget allocation will be part of and not incremental to the biennial support budget for 2010-2011.

*17 November 2009*

**2009/30**

**Interim allocation for the UNIFEM biennial support budget, 2010-2011**

*The Executive Board*

1. *Approves* an interim budget allocation for January 2010, in the amount of \$1.2 million, pending final approval of the UNIFEM biennial support budget for 2010-2011;
2. *Agrees* that the interim budget allocation will be part of and not incremental to the biennial support budget for 2010-2011.

*17 November 2009*

## Annex II

### Membership of the Executive Board in 2009

(Term expires on the last day of the year indicated)

African States: Angola (2009); Central African Republic (2009); Malawi (2009); Mauritania (2011), Senegal (2009); Sierra Leone (2011) Somalia (2009); United Republic of Tanzania (2010).

Asian and Pacific States: Bhutan (2009); China (2009); India (2009); Iran (Islamic Republic of) (2011); Lao People's Democratic Republic (2010); Republic of Korea (2010); Yemen (2011).

Latin America and Caribbean States: Antigua and Barbuda (2009); Colombia (2010); Cuba (2011); Haiti (2010); Mexico (2011).

Eastern European and other Status: Azerbaijan (2010); Russian Federation (2011)\*; Serbia (2009); Slovakia (2010).

Western European and other States group (WEOG)\*\*: Austria; Denmark; Finland; France; Germany; Netherlands; New Zealand; Norway; Sweden; Turkey; United Kingdom; United States.

\* Re-elected.

\*\* WEOG has its own rotation schedule, which varies every year.

