



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited  
3 December 2014

Original: English

**For decision**

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## United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Board

**First regular session 2015**

3-5 February 2015

Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

### Extensions of ongoing country programmes

#### Note by the secretariat

##### *Summary*

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2009/11, this note informs the Executive Board of the one-year extensions of the country programmes for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the six-month extension of the country programme for Ethiopia, all of which were approved by the Executive Director.

The note further presents the reasons for the proposed two-year extensions of the country programmes for Myanmar and Papua New Guinea. The Executive Board is requested to approve these programme extensions.

##### *Draft decision*

##### *The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note* of the one-year extensions of the country programmes for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the six-month extension of the country programme for Ethiopia, all of which were approved by the Executive Director, as presented in table 1;

2. *Approves* the two-year extensions of the country programmes for Myanmar and Papua New Guinea, as presented in table 2.

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\* E/ICEF/2015/1.



Table 1

**Extensions of ongoing country programmes of one year or less approved by the Executive Director**

<i>UNICEF-assisted country programme</i>	<i>Original programme period</i>	<i>Year/Period approved for extension</i>	<i>Reasons for extension</i>
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	2011-2015	2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– To align with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) country programme cycles for which one-year extensions have been requested.</li> <li>– To allow the United Nations to conduct a more thorough review of the current United Nations Strategic Framework and conduct a quality country analysis. UNICEF will also be able to upgrade the situation analysis and conduct evaluations of the tuberculosis and malaria and Expanded Programme on Immunization programmes.</li> <li>– Many planned activities were postponed due to difficulties United Nations agencies experienced in 2014 in transferring funds into the country for humanitarian and development activities.</li> </ul>
Ethiopia	2012-2015	January-June 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– To align with the Ethiopian fiscal year, which runs from July to June.</li> <li>– To align with the extended United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) cycle.</li> </ul>
Lao People's Democratic Republic	2012-2015	2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– To align with the extended UNDAF cycle.</li> <li>– The Government began to develop its 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan in 2014. The extension will allow the United Nations to align its work with the priorities being formulated in the national plan.</li> </ul>

Table 2

**Extensions of country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is requested**

UNICEF-assisted country programme	Original programme period	Period proposed for extension	Reasons for extension		
			In-country development	United Nations harmonization	Implementation or other issues
Myanmar	2011-2015	2016-2017	<p>Multi-party elections are scheduled for 2015. The analysis from the census, conducted for the first time in 30 years, is expected in 2015.</p> <p>The extension will allow alignment with the electoral cycle and to the latest data, to facilitate evidence-based programming.</p>	The extension will allow the UNICEF to align with the new United Nations interim strategy covering the period 2015-2016 and provide harmonization with the UNDP and UNFPA proposed two-year extensions.	The extension will allow UNICEF and partners to accelerate and sustain results agreed upon in the 2011-2015 country programme.
Papua New Guinea	2012-2015	2016-2017	The Government formally requested the United Nations to extend the current UNDAF for two years, to align with the revised national Medium Term Development Plan time frame and ensure better coordination with the Government's planning cycle.	The extension will allow alignment with the proposed UNDP and UNFPA two-year extensions.	The extension will allow particular focus on accelerating the unfinished business of universal immunization; early childhood care and development; education for girls; ending violence against children; and strengthening access to justice for children.