Item 7a: Proposals for UNICEF Programme Cooperation
– Draft country Programmes and Common Country Programme Documents

(AS DELIVERED)

Mr President,

I wish to make this statement on the Common Country Programme Document for Rwanda on behalf of Belgium, Germany, The Netherlands and my own country, Sweden.

As supporters of the Delivering as One process in Rwanda, having observed and supported the efforts of the United Nations in Rwanda, we would like to acknowledge and commend the leadership and ownership shown by the Government of Rwanda in supporting this process.

We express our support for the Common Country Programme document, as well as the development of the One UN programme on which the CCPD is based. The CCPD builds upon the UN’s comparative advantages and focuses on policy and capacity development, which we welcome, as well as the intended strengthening of the Monitoring and Evaluation resources and systems.

We would also like to highlight the continuing challenges at the country level when implementing the Delivering as One model, and call on each agency’s headquarters and relevant bodies to create incentives for reform and for support to the UN country teams that are pursuing this model.

With regard to the CCPD’s results framework, it is assessed as reasonably good. The challenges are mainly structural with this type of aggregated frameworks. It is encouraging that attempts have been made to identify indicators at the outcome-level.

On gender equality, we believe the document could be further strengthened. For example, the link between child protection and gender based violence could be shown clearer through a coordinated approach, and more focus could also be directed towards prevention of violence, not only reactive through victims support. The environment and climate change component has a rather weak gender indicator and, in general, we urge the UN team to look closer at the recommendations from the country led 2010 evaluation on gender equality to improve the document on this front.

Finally, we trust the UN will continue working with the same dedication and commitment it has shown to date, and we look forward to continue to cooperate closely.

Thank you, Mr President.