Joint statement on the common elements of the strategic plans of the UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN Women

UNICEF Executive Board, June 13 – 17, 2017

Mister President,

I make this statement on behalf of Albania, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Lichtenstein, Mexico, Moldova, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Romania, Sweden, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States, Vietnam and my own country Switzerland. The same statement is delivered for the UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN Women Strategic Plans.

1. Thank you very much for the draft strategic plan, including the draft common chapter. With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, member states made a clear call for a different way of working and collaboration to deliver on sustainable development. The QCPR, which is the main system-wide instrument for the UN Development System to follow up on its support to Member States towards the implementation of the Agenda 2030, further stressed the importance of delivering in a coherent and integrated manner. The draft Common Chapter and the informal discussions so far are steps in the right direction.

2. Recalling statements made at the First Regular Session, we call for the four Funds and Programmes to include more information on the innovative and collaborative ways of working together, reflecting the new context of the 2030 Agenda in accordance with each entity’s mandate and taking into consideration different agency and country realities and priorities. We expect to see this approach articulated with detailed and practical actions on areas on collaborative advantage both in the common chapter as well as in the individual strategic plans, partnerships, budgets and integrated resource and result frameworks.

3. New ways of working together should be supported by harmonized approaches to results reporting including common results statements and indicators, as well as practical implementation modalities to achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness both collectively and individually in their work.
4. We look forward to revised plans and frameworks that better reflect increased coherence, efficiency, and effectiveness in the programmatic and operational work of the Funds and Programmes.