We commend UNICEF for its engagement in the Structured Dialogue on Financing and we welcome UNICEF's proposals for strengthening this consultation format.

We also commend UNICEF for the considerable increase in total revenue, in OR as well as in RR.

UNICEF needs diversified revenue sources and we welcome the progress in increasing contributions from the private sector, from the public sector and from pledge donors – even though challenges remain, for example looking at trends for the share of OR to RR or when looking at the goals for resources from pooled funds.

Adequate funding is key for UNICEF to fulfill its mandate, addressing all children, everywhere – in development and humanitarian contexts – and to implement the Strategic Plan 2018-2021.

Regular Resources are in this regard of special relevance for UNICEF and we welcome in particular UNICEF's efforts in making results from RR-funding more visible in order to increase the attractiveness of this funding stream.

Furthermore, a strong, agile, transparent and – of course – highly collaborative UNICEF is crucial to support the implementation of resolution 72/279.

We value UNICEF for being one of the most transparent organizations within the UNDS (3rd – Aid Transparency Index 2018), and for the strong transparency and accountability mechanisms the organization has in place.

Germany has expanded its partnership with UNICEF considerably over the past years. As a partner to UNICEF, but more broadly speaking as an engaged member state of the United Nations, we have a strong interest in strengthening the organization further to ensure its flexibility and to ensure that UNICEF's unique core functions as per its mandate and its corresponding comparative advantages are adequately funded.

We are therefore pleased to hereby announce that the German parliament has given the green light to a considerable increase of Germany’s contribution of regular resources to UNICEF: In 2018, Germany will be transferring 50 Mio. EUR to UNICEF, an increase of 35 Mio. EUR in absolute terms.
compared to 2017.

• With this increase, we want to demonstrate our commitment to UNICEF and our trust in its ability to implement the Strategic Plan 2018-2021.

• UNICEF is playing a crucial role in being on the ground in some of the most difficult contexts but also in those countries and situations where donor attention and thus earmarked funds are lacking. Furthermore, UNICEF has a leading role to play, globally but also in country, in fulfilling its normative function vis-à-vis the well-being of children, including generation and provision of data, generation of knowledge, provision of policy advice and convening relevant actors across the globe. In addition, UNICEF as an organization central to the UN System is key to ensuring and strengthening coordination and collaboration among UN entities.

• We expect UNICEF to excel at these tasks.

• And we expect UNICEF to show strong commitment to increasing its transparency, demonstrate its effectiveness and impact, and strengthen its efficiency. Importantly, this of course holds true not only for RR but also to OR, of which Germany continues to contribute considerable amounts. We expect a high level of accountability, of transparency and of responsiveness in our partnership around programme funding at country level.

• To conclude, let me emphasize that with this increase in RR funding, we also mean to send clear signal in response to the SG’s “funding compact”, and towards the goal of bringing core resources to a level of at least 30 per cent in the next five years.

• We would like to encourage other member states to consider increasing their core contributions as well.