Joint Segment of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board:
Update on the Implementation of the GA Resolution 72/279 on the Repositioning of the UNDS

Statement by Ulrika Modeer (as delivered)

- It is my pleasure to update the Executive Board on UNDP’s efforts and progress made in implementing the General Assembly resolution 72/279, along with our colleagues from UNFPA and UNOPS. Today’s joint session reflects the spirit of collectivity and collaboration to meet our mutual commitments to the Funding Compact and our collaborative work to reposition the UNDS.

- The Secretary-General’s vision to reform and reposition the UN development system is a response to his diagnosis of today’s global order and the UN’s ability to respond to the complex development challenges of the 21st century.
  - Many of the global and local challenges are growing in scale and complexity, including the increasing frequency and intensity of climate change-induced disasters, protracted humanitarian crises, widening inequality, and challenges to basic human rights, to mention just few.
  - A principled and effective multilateral system can offer a unique platform to tackle these challenges by fortifying the trust between Member States and UNDS, and the UNDS reform cannot just be a mere technocratic exercise, but a respond to tackle the challenges people are faced with on the ground.

- In this context, the Funding Compact offers an incredible opportunity that reaffirms our collaboration to reposition the UNDS—and safeguard multilateralism more broadly.
  - The Funding Compact is a pivotal political commitment by Member States and the UNDS that promises to improve the quality of funding and change of funding behavior so our multilateral system can continue to deliver to Member States and their citizens.
  - The set of commitments in the Funding Compact require both Member States and the UNDS entities to step up on the efforts to ensure that sufficient, predictable and quality funding is provided and utilized to respond to today’s development challenge.

- UNDP, along with our partner agencies, continues to expand and improve our efforts to be transparent and held accountable for our activities.
  - As you have noticed, UNDP has been sharing our progress made on the Funding Compact commitments that are specific to us through our interactive dialogues. Through our Structured Funding Dialogue and the related report shared with you, UNDP detailed our efforts to track how we are doing to meet the targets set out in the Funding Compact.
- For example, we shared with you in Annex of the Structured Dialogue report, detailing where UNDP stands against the Compact commitment indicators.
  - UNDP is also working closely with partner agencies and DCO and DESA by reporting our data and information for the Secretary-General’s QCPR report.

- Compiling and tracking progress on the collective indicators under the Funding Compact can be a challenge, especially considering such divergent business models and operating structures individual UNDS entities have. Despite this challenge, UNDP appreciates the DCO and DESA’s leadership on a system-wide reporting on our progress and will continue to work together to improve the way we jointly and collectively track and report on our progress better.

- I would like to take this opportunity to address some points that were raised by Member States during our previous dialogues, especially regarding UNDP’s performance under the Funding Compact.
  - Some Member States have inquired UNDP’s plan or way-forward in our efforts to meet the Funding Compact commitments, such as the utilization of pooled funds and how the Funding Compact would affect UNDP’s country-level work.
    - We would like to assure you that UNDP is cognizant of the importance of pooled funding mechanisms. They are not only strong investment vehicles designed to support the transformative change needed to achieve the SDGs, but they also enable us to work more jointly and holistically, encouraging more joined up efforts, as also elaborated by Laura in her previous statement.
      - UNDP has been improving the way we work with partner agencies and donors to increase pooled funding while seeking out new opportunities.
      - We are also searching for ways to better present a more accurate and wholesome picture on how UNDP utilized pooled funding and how it can be better reflected under the Funding Compact target. We are also providing more visibility to pooled funding contributors.
        - As some of you have suggested, UNDP will strive to strengthen our capacity to conduct more qualitative analysis on donors’ contributions and paint a better picture to understand the value of each dollar spent on UNDP.
        - UNDP is also working closely with Country Offices to improve our communication and information-sharing, for example through webinars. We hope this will allow the Funding Compact – and the UNDS reform – to make a better impact at the country level.
          - Even though the country-level implementation of the Funding Compact is at an infant stage, UNDP believes it can help Country Offices expand and
widen opportunities for collaboration and partnerships with new donors and partners in the field.

- Laura already highlighted this point, but I say this to really reiterate: The Funding Compact is a mutually reinforcing commitment that requires both Member States and the UNDS entities to do their work. I cannot stress enough how your efforts to meet the Funding Compact commitments—and a resulting change in funding behavior—will allow us to be more effective and responsive
  - Member States’ commitment of the Funding Compact allows UNDP to develop our approach to SDG integration, so we can work with partner agencies in the UNDS to work with countries to solve the most pressing development challenges together.
    - The SDG integration approach will allow us to find next generation solutions, and they will be crafted in collaboration with our sister agencies by collating and harnessing the best ideas, skills and opportunities from across the UNDS. And we see this as directly supporting SG’s call for a revitalized UN system.
  - With Member States’ support, UNDP—and the UNDS—can be more strategic in our programme planning and delivery.
    - It is the improved quantity of core and stronger quality of non-core contributions from Member States that allow us to work with countries, especially those that experience special challenges—conflict- and crisis-affected ones.
    - Therefore, the fulfillment of Member States commitments under the Funding Compact will help us safeguard the normative values of the multilateral system—protecting global peace and security, basic rights, and environment.

- In closing, I would like to remind us all that the Funding Compact’s effectiveness is based on trust and voluntary commitment to stick to our promises.
  - The success of the Funding Compact relies on our recognition of the shared responsibility and trust that will help the UNDS to better deliver an ambitious 2030 Agenda while safeguarding the future of multilateralism more broadly.
  - UNDP is deeply appreciative of all Member States’ support, and we promise to do our best to build stronger trust between the UNDS and Member States.