



Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

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Organizational matters

Report on the annual session of 2013, 25 to 27 June 2013

I. Organizational matters

1. The annual session of 2013 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) was held at United Nations Headquarters, New York, from 25 to 27 June 2013.
2. The Executive Board adopted the annotated provisional agenda and workplan for the annual session ([UNW/2013/L.3](#)), as presented by the Secretary of the Board, and approved the report on its first regular session and resumed first regular session, held on 23 and 24 January and on 8 February 2013 ([UNW/2013/2](#)). The Executive Board also approved the proposed provisional agenda and workplan for the second regular session of 2013, to be held from 16 to 18 September.
3. The Executive Board adopted two decisions (2013/3 and 2013/4) as contained in annex I to the present report. Following the adoption of those decisions, one delegation expressed regret that the revised strategic plan for 2014-2017 did not reflect the suggestion to emphasize country ownership and leadership, and hoped that this element would be reflected in decisions adopted at the second regular session of the Executive Board in September.

II. Opening statements

4. The President of the Executive Board, Normans Penke (Latvia), in his opening remarks, acknowledged having witnessed during his tenure the strong dedication of Member States and UN-Women in ensuring that gender equality and the empowerment of women remain an integral area of work within the United Nations system. This was evident, he said, citing examples of recent intergovernmental milestones such as the outcome of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women on the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls; the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development; and General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review. He stated that further dedication would be necessary to translate those intergovernmental agreements into actions at the United Nations, regional and country levels.



5. The President mentioned that during the joint field visit of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/the United Nations Population Fund/the United Nations Office for Project Services ([UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS](#)), of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), of UN-Women and of the World Food Programme (WFP) to Bangkok and Myanmar in March 2013, he had the opportunity to learn about operational issues facing UN-Women and other operational agencies in implementing the quadrennial comprehensive policy review on the ground. In concluding, he urged Member States to align their political commitments towards gender equality and the empowerment of women, with financial support for their implementation.

Strategic plan

6. In her opening remarks, the Acting Head of UN-Women, Lakshmi Puri, highlighted the progress made in the implementation of the strategic plan, 2011-2013 ([UNW/2013/3](#)).

7. After highlighting several examples of the Entity's achievements in all of its priority areas over the past year, the Acting Head noted that the Entity was committed to building on results achieved in the draft update of the strategic plan for 2014-2017. She mentioned that in the updating process, UN-Women was guided by the principles of strengthening capacity; responding to demand; promoting inclusiveness, including the role of men and boys; focusing on the poorest and most excluded; and promoting sustainable development, within the context of the universal mandate of the Entity. The updated strategic plan would allow UN-Women to benefit from new developments at the global level and of the Entity's strengthened presence at the field level.

8. The Acting Head mentioned the critical theme of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women, referring to the text of the agreed conclusions as progressive and forward-looking (see [E/2013/27-E/CN.6/2013/11](#)). She thanked Member States and their Governments for standing firmly for women's rights and for having worked together towards forging this consensus. UN-Women had played a central role in the organization of the session and worked strategically and systematically with a wide range of partners to ensure a successful outcome. Such close collaboration brought credit to the Entity in terms of its added value in the establishment and strengthening of international norms and standards. It also demonstrated the strong linkage between the normative and operational work of UN-Women.

9. The Acting Head gave examples of where the Entity took advantage of its intergovernmental support functions, as well as its advocacy role, to break new ground across sectors, such as the achievements at the eighteenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on gender balance in climate change negotiations; the adoption of the first General Assembly resolution on women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control (resolution [65/69](#)); and gender-specific language in resolutions on trade and development, agricultural development, migration and sustainable development.

10. The engagement of UN-Women in these forums was also instrumental in ensuring that significant attention was paid to gender equality and the empowerment of women in the quadrennial comprehensive policy review on operational activities of the United Nations system. The Acting Head recalled the President's mention of

General Assembly resolution [67/226](#), noting its positioning of gender equality as a pivotal element of sustainable development; its affirmation of the system-wide role of UN-Women, and request to the United Nations system to roll out specific accountability mechanisms, such as the System-Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

11. Regarding the draft integrated budget for the biennium 2014-2015, the Acting Head stressed that the budget reflects the minimum critical mass of core funding needed to deliver on the Entity's mandate. Its implementation would largely depend on the resources received by UN-Women. She called on all Member States to increase funding in recognition of the strong performance of the Entity and the results achieved "as a force multiplier for gender equality and the empowerment of women." Member States can provide funding to UN-Women not merely based on the ideals the Entity defends but also on the basis of the achievements and results achieved to date.

12. The Acting Head emphasized the importance of early pledges, followed by early payments. It was time to front-load contributions to UN-Women, she said, and thanked all Member States that made early pledges and payments while urging others to do the same.

13. In response to the opening statements, Member States expressed appreciation for the leadership of the former Head of UN-Women, Michelle Bachelet, and for Ms. Puri for ably undertaking the role of Acting Head. They reaffirmed their full commitment to UN-Women and in addressing the strategic plan, 2011-2013, commended the Entity for the progress made on its implementation, noting the encouraging results attained over a relatively short time frame. Member States mentioned that UN-Women had begun to emerge as a global leader for gender equality and the empowerment of women, noting the Entity's role in advocacy, strengthening norms and standards, coordination and programme work. It was noted that UN-Women has become a successful story and a model for reform in the United Nations.

14. Regarding the draft strategic plan, 2014-2017, delegations thanked UN-Women for responding to their call for additional briefings in preparation for the annual session. They stressed the importance of aligning the updated strategic plan with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, and appreciated that indicators and targets were developed in a way that already reflected relevant recommendations from that review.

15. Speakers appreciated the enhanced results-based approach reflected in the updated strategic plan. One delegation stressed that results-based management should be a key principle of the strategic plan, recalling that the quadrennial comprehensive policy review gives guidance in this regard. Another speaker looked forward to learning more about the rationale behind the targets chosen, and underscored the need to find the right balance between realism and ambition.

16. Delegations called for a greater focus on poverty eradication, and the special situation of the least developed countries and small island developing States. Some delegations also welcomed the increased focus on humanitarian assistance and disaster risk reduction, as well as the link between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and mitigation in programming, in addition to promoting a long-term resilience approach. A Member State requested that collaborative work

with the other United Nations entities be identified more clearly in the updated strategic plan, stating that this work should be intensified and accelerated. The Entity was urged to give greater prominence to its role in system-wide gender mainstreaming.

17. A delegation suggested that the focus on prevention of violence against women should be strengthened in the updated strategic plan, particularly in relation to changing norms, behaviours and attitudes, and in relation to addressing their connection to the economic empowerment of women, their political participation and sexual and reproductive health and rights.

18. Several speakers highlighted the significant role played by UN-Women in supporting the incorporation of gender perspectives in the post-2015 development framework and advocating for a stand-alone goal on gender equality and the mainstreaming of gender equality in other goals. A delegation further urged the inclusion of sustainable development goals at the time of the midterm review of the strategic plan.

19. Member States commended the leadership role of UN-Women in supporting the strengthening of international norms and standards on gender equality issues, including combating violence against women, and enhancing political participation and leadership and access to economic empowerment opportunities. Most delegations expressed appreciation for the efforts of the Entity in preparation for, and important contributions to, the outcomes of fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women. Some Member States additionally acknowledged the gains achieved in the area of gender equality stemming from the engagement of UN-Women at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

20. Delegations urged UN-Women to further elaborate on challenges met and lessons learned in future reports. In this regard, one Member State suggested the convening of an Executive Board briefing in the coming months. In addition, there was a request for an informal briefing on the humanitarian affairs strategy of UN-Women.

21. Many delegations commended the efforts of UN-Women in forging partnerships and strengthening collaboration with civil society.

22. Member States also called for greater collaboration, coordination and partnerships with United Nations system partners so as not to duplicate efforts, particularly in the light of the Entity's limited resources. Many acknowledged existing partnerships and initiatives of UN-Women with other United Nations agencies. A speaker pointed out that in order to clearly position UN-Women among partners, further clarity is needed on how results directly attributed to the work of the Entity can be demonstrated. Delegations welcomed the adoption of the system-wide action plan as a major step forward in the way the United Nations system holds itself accountable in the area of gender mainstreaming. They looked forward to the continued strengthening of the role of UN-Women in this area, particularly at the country and regional levels.

III. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

Integrated budget

23. The Acting Head and the Director, Division for Management and Administration of UN-Women, gave an overview presentation on the draft integrated budget for the biennium 2014-2015. It was highlighted that the main emphasis of the proposed budget, totalling \$690 million, would allow UN-Women to focus on its mandate across all development areas with the necessary structure that the regional architecture provides, which is reliant on the level of resources that UN-Women receives. It was reiterated that the budget reflects the minimum critical mass needed for the Entity to deliver on its mandate.

24. Member States were reminded that the full integrated budget proposal would be presented in the following days to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and then presented to the Executive Board at its second regular session, in September 2013. Speakers requested the Entity to share its new resource mobilization strategy with the Executive Board.

25. A delegation requested further information on the rationale behind the distribution of resources among the outcome areas. There was also a request for further detail on the assumptions behind reduced spending on programmes and increased spending on management as compared with the budget for the biennium 2012-2013, and for clarification on the actual expenditure of that budget (as opposed to estimates).

26. A speaker appealed to other Member States, particularly to the members of the Executive Board, to support the budget put forward by UN-Women and ensure that the Entity would be in a position to execute its functions, particularly at the field level.

27. In her response, the Acting Head recalled the strong commitment underscored by all Member States for the mandate of UN-Women, celebrating the successes achieved by the Entity and stressed that the integrated budget would allow UN-Women to further build on those achievements. She stressed that delegations were not merely referring to the potential to achieve but rather to the realization of that potential, which would be the driver of the next stage of the resource mobilization strategy of UN-Women.

Pledging event

28. Remarks were made by the Acting Head and the Director, Strategic Partnerships Division of UN-Women.

29. Several Member States reiterated their strong support for UN-Women. Some speakers expressed concern that the Entity was funded well below the critical mass needed to carry out its basic tasks and implement its mandate, and called upon other Member States to increase contributions to the core budget. They acknowledged efforts towards the broadening of the donor base and the expansion of partnerships, including with the private sector.

30. Dozens of speakers announced funding commitments during this event that generated several pledges (see annex II). These pledges included 10 from Member States that would increase their contributions to the core budget of UN-Women and

14 delegations announced multi-year pledges. Delegations pledging to UN-Women for the first time included Burundi, Malawi, Mali, Monaco and Romania.

31. Among those announcing increases was Finland, pledging to double its current contribution, from 7 to 14 million euros in 2014, making it one of the top donors to UN-Women. “We want already to take the opportunity, at this crucial moment in the life of UN-Women, to indicate our intention to double our contribution to UN-Women next year ... hoping that it will encourage others to do the same,” said the Permanent Representative of Finland, Jarmo Viinanen. “This is not ‘business as usual’. This is an extremely significant signal on the importance that we place on gender issues, on the crucial role of UN-Women, and our high expectations for its work.”

32. With regard to non-core funding, many speakers expressed their continued support to UN-Women programmes. Several also announced their Governments’ contributions to the Fund for Gender Equality and the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence Against Women. The delegation of Japan introduced their collaborative efforts with UN-Women to raise awareness of the Trust Fund in order to expand its donor base, including through foundations and private sector donors.

33. A Member State recommended that UN-Women consider altering its approach to resource mobilization in a manner that would be more strategic and focused. Member States emphasized the need to use targeted strategies and diversified lines of reasoning for resource mobilization. It was suggested that the profile of UN-Women is raised not necessarily by championing its role in advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women, but as an example of portraying UN-Women as a successful model of reform within the United Nations. It was also proposed that the Entity should highlight the reports of other institutions, such as those of the World Bank, the World Economic Forum and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, which substantiate that investing in gender equality is “smart economics”, particularly as they reach out to ministries of finance for support.

IV. Evaluation

34. Remarks were made by the Acting Head followed by a presentation of the report on UN-Women evaluation function for 2012 ([UNW/2013/4](#)) by the Officer-in-Charge of the Evaluation Office of UN-Women. The Officer-in-Charge emphasized the role of evaluation within UN-Women and the steps the Entity has taken to strengthen this role. The role of UN-Women in leading the harmonization of evaluation reports through the system-wide action plan was also emphasized.

35. Speakers congratulated UN-Women on the progress detailed in the report and the work of the Evaluation Office. Several delegations acknowledged the improvement of decentralized evaluation.

36. Comments were made on how results of the evaluation should feed into the strategic plan, including advanced planning for evaluation. Speakers expressed the need for clarification on the completion rate of evaluations. Several suggestions were made for improving future evaluation reports, for example, by including a greater focus on overarching lessons learned, and providing trends and comparative data from previous years. Delegations also called for the increased prevalence of joint evaluations, in collaboration with other entities of the United Nations system,

and the need for capacity-building of national partners to carry out evaluations. In addition, delegations called for timely adherence to all deadlines indicated in the management responses and proposed that an overview of all planned evaluations over the coming year should be outlined in the report.

V. Informal briefings

A. Briefing on the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

37. The Chair and Vice-President of the Executive Board, Roberto de León Huerta, (Mexico), made opening remarks and introduced the panellists: the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Social and Economic Affairs, Nikhil Seth, and the Acting Head of UN-Women.

38. The Acting Head spoke of the centrality of gender equality and the empowerment of women for the achievement of sustainable development, and shared an overview of the engagement of UN-Women in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the gains reflected in the outcome document. She elaborated on the work of UN-Women in the follow-up processes to the Conference, including the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and shared other work being undertaken in this area, including in the contexts of the General Assembly; the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Rio Conventions); the fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women; and, programmatically, at the country and regional levels.

39. The Director of the Division for Sustainable Development provided further details on the Conference, highlighting the increased political commitment to realize sustainable development and the recognition of the relevance of gender equality and the empowerment of women in relation to: the feminization of poverty; land rights issues; employment and gender-wage parity; education; and sexual and reproductive health and rights, among others. He indicated that support for a twin-track approach, where gender equality is captured as a stand-alone goal, as well as in targets and indicators for other goals, had been voiced in the discussions of the Open Working Group, and that gender equality featured prominently in the report of the Secretary-General's High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, "A new global partnership: eradicate poverty and transform economies through sustainable development" and the report of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, "An action agenda for sustainable development".

40. The need for increasing the collection and use of gender-sensitive or sex-disaggregated data is also clear in these discussions. UN-Women is encouraged to engage in other ongoing processes related to sustainable development, such as the high-level political forum on sustainable development, the International Conference on Small Island Developing States, to be held in 2014, and the discussions on moving beyond GDP as a measure of development.

41. Some Member States posed questions on avoiding duplication of gender mainstreaming efforts in sustainable development work, on lessons learned from the engagement of UN-Women in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and on the need to translate gains made at the normative level into firm implementation on the ground.

42. On the question of duplication of efforts, the Acting Head of UN-Women responded by explaining that the comparative advantage of UN-Women lies in its focus on the six thematic areas in its strategic plan, and the work of the Entity does not absolve any other entity from the responsibility of delivering on gender equality and women's empowerment. On lessons learned from the Conference, she highlighted the convening power of the Entity in bringing together the voice of civil society and women's groups.

B. Briefing on the implementation of the regional architecture

43. The Chair and Vice-President of the Board, Vincent Herlihy (Ireland), opened the meeting and introduced the Deputy Executive Director of UN-Women, John Hendra.

44. The Deputy Executive Director noted that the objective of the regional architecture was to strengthen the field capacity of UN-Women, allowing for enhanced delivery on its mandate. The achievements of the regional architecture were also reflected in three main results, namely, the operationalization of regional offices; stronger, more responsive country offices; and improved efficiency and effectiveness of UN-Women.

45. Speakers reiterated their positive feedback on the regional architecture and delegation of authority and some requested additional clarifications on the increased delegation of authority at the regional and country levels. A delegation inquired about the challenges UN-Women had experienced in implementing the regional architecture.

C. Briefing on the operational response of the Entity at the country level

46. The briefing opened with remarks by the Acting Head on the work of UN-Women at the country level in South Sudan, followed by a presentation by the Deputy Minister of Gender, Child and Social Welfare of South Sudan, Priscilla Joseph Kuch. The Deputy Minister stated that women and men of South Sudan worked side by side during the fight for independence, and that women's participation in nation building would continue to be central in maintaining peace and building a prosperous democratic society. She elaborated on the strong and well-funded presence of UN-Women in 6 out of the 10 states of South Sudan, and expressed appreciation for the support the Entity has been providing by ensuring that women are part of the country's development. This work has included supporting the mainstreaming of gender in legal and policy instruments of the Government, strengthening the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare, supporting awareness-raising of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women as a strategy for its ratification, and the development

of a baseline study on the implementation of Security Council resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#), among other interventions.

47. Following the presentation of a short film on the UN-Women programme in South Sudan, several delegations thanked UN-Women and the panellists for sharing concrete examples of achievements and progress on the ground. A speaker commented that the film demonstrated that gender equality and the empowerment of women are preconditions for development, and illustrated the ability of UN-Women to translate normative gains into practice on the ground. Another delegation stated that successes of programmes on the ground and at the global level demonstrated the integrity of UN-Women and the Executive Board.

48. Some Member States requested clarification about how UN-Women engages and coordinates its work with other United Nations agencies and partners working in South Sudan. A delegation asked whether the voices of local women's organizations are also being strengthened. On adult literacy, delegations mentioned that women often have difficulty following these programmes owing to lack of time and asked whether lessons are being passed on to girls.

49. In response to these comments, the Deputy Minister mentioned that UN-Women is supporting the Government with the mapping of local non-governmental organizations, as well as with conducting a survey of the economic status of women in South Sudan. She provided information on a partnership with the World Bank to support local women's organizations in their economic activities. On literacy, she underlined that this is consistently found to be a priority for women in South Sudan, and that the programme aims at promoting functional literacy and numeracy linked to skills.

50. The representative of UN-Women in the South Sudan country office elaborated on the question of coordination, sharing information on the work of UN-Women in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UNDP, UNFPA and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) in the areas of adult literacy, rule of law and gender-sensitive crime statistics, centres for education on sexuality and empowerment, and in communities with high rates of HIV/AIDS infection, respectively. In further elaborating on the literacy programme, she stated that UN-Women identifies the trainers and ensures that the trainings take place at the time that women request, resulting in an attendance rate of 95 per cent. She also spoke about supporting the establishment of a steering committee on the implementation of Security Council resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#); capacity-building for small non-governmental organizations and local consultants; and the mobilization of women as part of a collective healing process, and thanked bilateral donors for their support.

VI. Report on the joint field visit of the Executive Boards

51. The report on the joint field visit of the Executive Boards [UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS](#), UNICEF, UN-Women and WFP to Bangkok and Myanmar, which took place from 7 to 18 March 2013 ([DP/FPA/OPS-ICEF-UNW-WFP/2013/CRP.1/Rev.1](#)), was presented by the delegation of Australia on behalf of all participating delegations. All speakers thanked the delegate of Australia, Christopher Stokes, for the presentation of the report and welcomed the key findings and recommendations.

52. The delegation of Myanmar welcomed the greater interest shown by United Nations agencies in providing assistance to the country, and looked forward to deepening cooperation with the Entity. The delegation of Thailand expressed support for the focus areas on women, peace and security, violence against women and data collection, all of which are important challenges in the region, and welcomed the implementation of the new regional architecture, noting that this has strengthened UN-Women country offices. The delegation of Thailand was pleased to note the focus placed on data acquisition, capacity-building and technical assistance.

53. Speakers supported the appointment of a senior gender advisor to the United Nations resident coordinator, though the need for a strong country presence in Myanmar was also highlighted, especially in addressing the 24 recommendations from the report. They further stated that particular attention must be given to United Nations country team coordination. Delegations also underlined that national ownership in the development process is crucial.

54. The Deputy Executive Director endorsed all the recommendations that were highlighted, noting the intention to appoint a senior gender advisor to the resident coordinator. He acknowledged the advantages of country offices as compared to the provision of assistance from regional offices, and mentioned that if resource mobilization targets were to be reached, UN-Women would consider moving to country-level support. He referred to the work of the Entity in the development of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, including on gender audits and the gender marker, and stated that the Entity is underscoring the importance of disaggregated data to country teams. On coordination, he stated that UN-Women is committed to “Delivering as one” and noted that the United Nations country teams work effectively on such cross-cutting themes as gender equality and the empowerment of women.

55. Closing remarks were made by the Acting Head of UN-Women. She thanked the President and Member States, as well as the Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations for hosting a reception on the occasion of the annual session. It was noted that the annual session had paved the way for a successful second regular session, where it was expected that the strategic plan, 2014-2017 and the integrated budget estimates for the biennium 2014-2015 would be adopted. She stated that the session was a turning point for UN-Women and noted the success of the pledging event. She also expressed gratitude for the praise directed at UN-Women and acknowledged the constructive advice and recommendations that would be invaluable as the Entity moved forward. She assured Member States that UN-Women would continue to focus on resource mobilization and on widening the resource base so as to approach the critical mass of funding needed, and surpass its financial targets.

56. The President of the Executive Board made additional remarks, thanking the members of the Board and the secretariat for the successful session. He encouraged UN-Women to take into account comments made by Member States in the update of the strategic plan, 2014-2017, and supported the recommendation for a briefing on lessons learned from the implementation of the strategic plan, 2012-2013. He further encouraged UN-Women to explore an aggressive resource mobilization strategy and apply a results-based approach on the ground. He thanked the two facilitators of the draft decisions, Vice-Presidents Janet Karim (Malawi) and Junichi Sumi (Japan), and the UN-Women Executive Board team.

Annex I

Decisions adopted at the annual session of 2013

2013/3

Report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director on progress made on the strategic plan, 2011-2013

The Executive Board,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director on the progress made on the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women strategic plan, 2011- 2013 for the year 2012;^a
2. *Welcomes* the progress made on the implementation of the UN-Women strategic plan, 2011- 2013, as described in the report;
3. *Commends* UN-Women for the results focus in the report, and further encourages UN-Women to continue to improve its results reporting in the next progress report on the implementation of the strategic plan, 2011-2013, to be presented at the annual session of 2014;
4. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to update the strategic plan, 2011-2013 for the period 2014-2017, in close consultation with Member States, building on the lessons learned from the implementation of the current plan;
5. *Takes note* of the efforts by UN-Women to include the mandates of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system^b in the next UN-Women strategic plan, 2014-2017, and requests UN-Women to continue contributing to discussions with the United Nations funds and programmes toward developing a common approach to tracking implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review.

2013/4

Report on the evaluation function, 2012

The Executive Board,

1. *Takes note* of the report on the evaluation function of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, 2012 and of the programme of work for 2013 proposed by the Evaluation Office;^c
2. *Welcomes* the efforts made by UN-Women and progress achieved in upgrading the evaluation function;
3. *Commends* the efforts of UN-Women to lead system-wide gender evaluation efforts that promote learning and accountability;
4. *Requests* UN-Women to continue to strengthen its evaluation capacities and to allocate recommended human and financial resources to the Evaluation Office and the overall evaluation function;

^a UNW/2013/3.

^b See General Assembly resolution 67/226.

^c UNW/2013/4.

5. *Also requests* UN-Women to ensure that its evaluation workplan for 2014 is fully aligned with the priorities of the next strategic plan, 2014-2017;

6. *Emphasizes* that programme countries should have greater ownership and leadership in the evaluation of all forms of assistance, and requests UN-Women, in cooperation with other United Nations system organizations, to continue its efforts to facilitate the building of national evaluation capacities, where applicable;

7. *Requests* UN-Women to address issues raised by past evaluations, and to continue to improve the rate of management response rate evaluation reports, as well as the rate of implementation of follow-up actions, and to report thereon;

8. *Also requests* UN-Women to prepare a management response and to include such response where appropriate in its reporting to the Board in 2014;

9. *Looks forward* to the peer review in 2014 and to the comprehensive external review of the evaluation policy in 2015 as originally mandated in the Evaluation policy of UN-Women;^d

10. *Welcomes* the active participation of UN-Women in joint evaluations as well as its leadership in coordinating the implementation of the System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, and calls on UN-Women to further promote the use of joint evaluations for gender equality and for women's empowerment.

^d UNW/2012/12.

Annex II

Pledges received at the annual session of 2013

<i>Member State</i>	<i>Currency</i>	<i>Pledge to core resources (in thousands)</i>	<i>Year/period</i>
Andorra	United States dollars	51.2	2013
Armenia	United States dollars	5	2013-2014
Australia	Australian dollars	48 500	2013-2016
Austria	United States dollars	382.2	2013
Belgium	Euros	10 150	2013-2015
Burkina Faso	Euros	3	2013-2015
Burundi	United States dollars	4.5	2013-2015
Canada	Canadian dollars	10 000	2013
Chile	United States dollars	33	2013
Dominican Republic	United States dollars	15	2013-2015
Estonia	Euros	60	2014
Finland	Euros	21 000	2013-2014
France	Euros	300	2013
Germany	United States dollars	2 700	2013
India	United States dollars	2 000	2014-2015
Ireland	United States dollars	1 900	2013
Israel	United States dollars	250	2013
Italy	Euros	1 000	2013
Japan	United States dollars	946.8	2013
Kuwait	United States dollars	150	2013-2015
Lao People's Democratic Republic	United States dollars	1	2013
Liechtenstein	Swiss francs	210	2013-2015
Luxembourg	Euros	1 000	2013
Malawi	United States dollars	1	2013
Maldives	United States dollars	1	2013
Monaco	Euros	15	2013
Netherlands	United States dollars	5 200	2013
New Zealand	New Zealand dollars	2 500	2013
Norway	United States dollars	16 300	2013
Panama	United States dollars	15	2013
Republic of Korea	United States dollars	3 000	2013
Saudi Arabia	United States dollars	2 000	2012
Solomon Islands	United States dollars	2.4	2012-2015
Timor-Leste	Euros	15	2013
Turkey	United States dollars	1 000	2013

Note: In addition to the Member States listed above, Mali and Romania also made pledges to the core resources, the details of which are to be confirmed.

Pledges to the Fund for Gender Equality

<i>Member State</i>	<i>Currency</i>	<i>Pledge (in thousands)</i>	<i>Year/period</i>
Germany	United States dollars	500	2014-2015
Ireland	United States dollars	338.9	2013
Netherlands	Euros	1 000	2013
Switzerland	Swiss francs	2 000	2013

Pledges to the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

<i>Member State</i>	<i>Currency</i>	<i>Pledge (in thousands)</i>	<i>Year/period</i>
Austria	United States dollars	130.9	2013
Italy	Euros	150	2013
Japan	United States dollars	1 000	2013
Liechtenstein	CHF	30	2013-2015
Netherlands	Euros	2 000	2013