

Decision 2016/1 - Report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on progress made on the strategic plan, 2014-2017, including the midterm review of the strategic plan

As adopted on 28 June 2016

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The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the Report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on progress made on the strategic plan, 2014-2017, including the midterm review of the strategic plan, welcomes the progress made in the implementation of the strategic plan, and commends UN-Women on its strong performance to date;

2. *Recognizes* the contribution made in the fulfillment of the Strategic Plan 2014-2017 to the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and acknowledges the central role of UN-Women in supporting Member States, upon their request, in their implementation;

3. *Commends* UN-Women on effectively leveraging its mandate as a composite entity in assisting Member States, upon their request, and in ensuring coherence, consistency and coordination between the normative and operational aspects of its work; recognizes that UN-Women's support functions have increased; and reaffirms the important role of UN-Women in leading, coordinating and promoting the accountability of the United Nations system in its work on gender equality and women's empowerment and on gender mainstreaming across the United Nations system;

4. *Requests* that UN-Women improves its programmatic focus and strengthen its programme delivery and normative-operational linkages through multi-stakeholder partnerships, in particular within the Flagship Programming Initiatives and through synergies with the Fund for Gender Equality and the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women;

5. *Takes note* of the revised development results framework and organizational effectiveness and efficiency framework, contained in Annex II of the report, and notes with appreciation UN-Women's efforts in this regard;

6. *Takes note* of the financing strategy contained in the report and requests UN-Women to continue to improve its funding model, staffing structure and business processes in accordance with its regional architecture, in order to ensure the Entity's operational efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability;

7. *Takes note* with interest of the strategic initiatives contained in the report, including the Flagship Programming Initiatives contained in Annex VII of the report; requests UN-Women to inform on the results of their implementation in the context of the annual reporting on the Strategic Plan 2014-2017 in 2017 and 2018; and encourages UN-Women to partner as appropriate with relevant United Nations entities and other stakeholders in their implementation;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening the capacity of UN-Women, including through adequate funding, noting the ongoing funding gap in regular resources, and encourages countries in a position to do so, to increase their voluntary contributions, especially to regular resources, to ensure the full and effective implementation of the strategic plan, 2014-2017;

9. *Takes note* of the information on cost recovery contained in the report and urges UN-Women and its contributors to fully adhere to the cost recovery policy by the Executive Board decision 2013/2 including the recovery of indirect costs and charging direct costs arising from the implementation of projects and programmes funded from other resources, and requests UN-Women to follow up, during the second regular session 2016 of the Executive Board, on the joint UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP and UN-Women independent review of the cost recovery methodology as agreed in decision 2013/2;

10. *Requests* UN-Women, in accordance with its mandate, to start early preparations for the next strategic plan, in full consultation with the Executive Board, while taking into account gender mainstreaming throughout the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, other inter-governmentally agreed outcomes, the outcome of the 2016 quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and the findings and lessons learned from the midterm review; and further requests UN-Women to present a road map at the 2016 second regular session of the Executive Board for the consultations planned for the preparation of the next strategic plan;

11. *Decides* to transmit the report to the Economic and Social Council.