

2022/1

Financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 and report of the Board of Auditors

The Executive Board,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2020;
2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the tenth unqualified audit opinion issued by the Board of Auditors on the financial statements of UN-Women for the year ended 31 December 2020;
3. *Takes note* of the management response of UN-Women to the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2020;
4. *Acknowledges* the progress made by UN-Women in implementing the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and *requests* UN-Women to continue its ongoing efforts to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;
5. *Encourages* UN-Women to harmonize further its management response to the report of the Board of Auditors with other United Nations funds and programmes and the implementation of the recommendations, as appropriate, in alignment with UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UNICEF, WFP and UNCDF.

15 February 2022

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UN-Women policies and procedures to tackle sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment

The Executive Board,

1. *Takes note of* the update by UN-Women on actions to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment (SEA/SH);
2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the implementation of all the recommendations contained in the Independent review of UN-Women's policies and procedures for tackling Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Sexual Harassment (SH) of UN-Women's policies and procedures on tackling SEA/SH at headquarters, regional and country offices;
3. *Notes* the progress made and the need for continued effort to prevent and respond to SEA and SH in UN-Women's policies, procedures and operations at HQ, regional and country office levels and in this context *encourages* UN-Women to continue to take action, properly resourced, within existing resources, to ensure a victim/survivor-centred, long-term, joint, system-wide approach aligned with the UN system to tackle sexual exploitation, while leveraging its mandate, including during the COVID-19 response and recovery;
4. *Requests* UN-Women to continue to promote a culture change to address the root causes of sexual exploitation and abuses, and sexual harassment at HQ, regional and country offices and to this end strengthen efforts to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment there through measures such as, but not limited to, raising awareness, education and training; and *Urges* UN-Women to ensure that leadership at all levels continue to be aware of their PSEA/SH

responsibilities, and that staff with specific PSEA/SH duties participate in inter-agency coordination mechanisms, as appropriate;

5. *Urges* UN-Women to continue to ensure through OIOS and in accordance with its internal procedures the provisions of timely, and thorough victim/survivor-centred investigations, and to continue to ensure prompt reporting on allegations of SEA and SH to the members and observers of the Executive Board through the annual report on internal audit and investigation activities;

6. *Takes note of* the development of UN-Women's SEA and SH framework and annual submission to the United Nations Secretary-General of action plans on preventing and responding to SEA that are implemented at headquarters, regional and country office levels, and requests UN-Women to share headquarters-level action plans with the Executive Board annually;

7. *Requests* UN-Women to continue to present its annual certification on SEA and SH to the Executive Board at each annual session in accordance with decision 2018/3 (para 10) and to present annually, within existing reporting, an update on how UN-Women is improving its organizational culture to address the underlying causes of SEA and SH, and its actions to prevent and respond to SEA and SH in its policies, procedures, operations, including analysis of its implementation of system-wide initiatives and asks that this includes analysis of their implementation of UN system-wide initiatives, including of the Implementing Partners Protocol, the Implementing Partner Capacity Assessment and ClearCheck;

8. *Requests* an update from UN-Women, at the first regular session of the Executive Board 2023, on metrics used to measure progress on tackling SEA/SH and how its integrated results and resources framework indicators on SEA/SH have aligned with relevant QCPR indicators and those of other United Nations development system agencies and encourages that all relevant data obtained is subsequently analysed in order to inform UN-Women strategies, policies and procedures.

15 February 2022