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

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## **Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its second regular session 2013, 16- 18 September**

### Contents

<b>2013/5:</b> The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women Strategic Plan, 2014-2017.....	2
<b>2013/6:</b> Integrated Budget of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women for the biennium of 2014- 2015.....	3
<b>2013/7:</b> Report on internal audit and investigation activities for the period 1 January to 31 December 2012 and Report of the Audit Advisory Committee for the period 25 October 2012 to 31 May 2013.....	5

## **Decision 2013/5**

### **The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women Strategic Plan, 2014-2017**

The Executive Board:

1. *Welcomes* the consultative efforts of UN-Women to update the strategic plan, 2011-2013 for the period 2014-2017 and endorses the UN-Women strategic plan, 2014-2017;
2. *Reaffirms* that the goals set out in the Charter of the United Nations, General Assembly resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and applicable United Nations instruments, standards and resolutions that support, address and contribute to gender equality and the empowerment of women, form the framework of the strategic plan;
3. *Takes note* with appreciation of the efforts by UN-Women to align its strategic plan, 2014 – 2017, with the mandates of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations, including a common approach and indicators for monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review;
4. *Underlines* that UN-Women in implementing its strategic plan will provide assistance in the field of gender equality and the empowerment of women, with the agreement and consent of the host country, in accordance with national priorities, and adopt a national ownership principle in field activities;
5. *Requests* UN-Women to implement the strategic plan, taking into account the guidance provided by General Assembly resolution 67/226 and to continue to contribute to strengthening the accountability, effectiveness and coherence of the United Nations development system;
6. *Requests* the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director to submit to the Executive Board, beginning at its annual session in 2015, an annual progress report on the implementation of the strategic plan, 2014-2017, and to provide updates at its regular sessions in 2015, 2016 and 2017;
7. *Requests* the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director to undertake a mid-term review of the UN-Women strategic plan 2014-2017 that includes an assessment of results achieved, cost-effectiveness, evaluations, and progress made in achieving the vision of the strategic plan, and report to the Executive Board at its annual session in 2016.

## Decision 2013/6

### **Integrated Budget of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women for the biennium of 2014-2015**

The Executive Board:

1. *Welcomes* the Integrated Budget of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, 2014-2015, which presents a single integrated budget that includes all budgetary categories, to complement the strategic plan for 2014-2017, and responds to its request (decision 2011/1) to collaborate closely with the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund towards the harmonization of budget and results methodologies, including in their work towards achieving an integrated budget in 2014;
2. *Commends* the continued focus on results and the enhanced linkages with the results and harmonized methodology in the strategic plan 2014-2017, including with regard to cost classification, attribution and recovery;
3. *Takes note* of the details included within the Integrated Budget document (2013/7), the supportive report of the ACABQ (2013/8) thereon, and the related responses of UN-Women to the ACABQ report (2013/CRP.6);
4. *Takes note* of the results and resource requirements in the UN-Women integrated budget estimates for 2014-2015, and welcomes progress on linkages between results and resources;
5. *Takes note* that UN-Women is maintaining a two year budget cycle and requests UN-Women to keep the Executive Board informed on steps towards the move to a four year budget cycle;
6. *Approves* gross resources in the amount of \$176.9 million to support organizational effectiveness and efficiency and requests the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director to report comprehensively on measures to improve the organizational efficiency and effectiveness containing information on timeframe and benefits that accrue to the Entity in the Report on Progress made on the UN-Women strategic plan to be submitted to the annual session of the Executive Board;
7. *Notes* that in the event that actual cost recovery is higher than the estimates included in the budget proposal, the additional amount may be used for management activities to allow more regular resources to be used for programme activities, requests the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director to report to the Executive Board on its utilization in the context of the next budget proposal, and asks UN-Women to further strive for an overall reduction of the ratio of its management costs;
8. *Takes note* with concern of the current and projected funding gap for the period 2014-15, urges all countries in a position to do so to increase their voluntary contributions, especially in

regular resources, and welcomes UN-Women's proposals to enhance its resource mobilization strategy.

## **Decision 2013/7**

### **Report on internal audit and investigation activities for the period 1 January to 31 December 2012 and Report of the Audit Advisory Committee for the period 25 October 2012 to 31 May 2013**

The Executive Board:

1. *Takes note* of the report on internal audit and investigation activities for the period 1 January to 31 December 2012 (UNW/2013/9) as well as the report of the Audit Advisory Committee for the period 25 October 2012 to 31 May 2013 and the management response thereto contained in its annex (UNW/2013/9/Add.1);
2. *Expresses* its support for strengthening the capacity of the UN-Women internal audit unit within the Office of Audit and Investigations;
3. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Audit Advisory Committee in its role as independent and external advisor to the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director in fulfilling her oversight functions;
4. *Notes* the importance of the internal audit function, and in this regard, requests UN-Women to ensure that the UN-Women internal audit unit has the level of resources, including staffing, to respond adequately to the needs for internal audit and advisory services;
5. *Requests* UN-Women to continue its efforts in implementing the internal audit and audit advisory committee recommendations, which will contribute to strengthen business processes and operations management;
6. *Notes* with appreciation UN-Women's intensified efforts to implement outstanding recommendations from previous reports and encourages UN-Women's management to achieve the timely, full, complete, and sustained implementation of all outstanding and new audit recommendations, particularly those ranked as high priority;
7. *Encourages* UN-Women to work collaboratively with the funds and programmes to find opportunities for joint audits, where appropriate.