

Decision 2017/2 - Annual Report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director on the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2014-2017

As adopted on 28 June 2017

ADVANCE UNEDITED COPY

The Executive Board,

1. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Under-Secretary General/Executive Director on the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2014-2017, welcomes the progress made in the implementation of the Strategic Plan, and commends UN-Women on its strong performance to date;
2. *Takes note of* the efforts undertaken by UN-Women to implement the strategic initiatives contained in the midterm review of the Strategic Plan 2014-2017;
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; 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. *Recognizes* the interagency efforts made to harmonize the report methodology and format, and requests UN-Women to continue consultations with United Nations funds and programmes for further alignment of reporting where applicable, bearing in mind UN-Women's mandate as a composite entity;
5. *Urges* UN-Women to continue to align, as appropriate, its results frameworks with the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Sustainable Development Goals, and to coordinate with United Nations funds and programmes, to help measure performance in supporting gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda;
6. *Recalls* decision 2016/1 in which the Executive Board requested UN-Women to improve 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;
7. *Takes note* with appreciation of UN-Women's efforts to work collaboratively and strengthen inter-agency cooperation and division of labour in line with the principles of the QCPR, and requests UN-Women to present its contributions in this regard in the Strategic Plan 2018-

2021; further requests UN-Women to include in its annual report on the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2018-2021, information on how the individual flagship programme initiatives contribute to the five outcome areas, identify their cooperating partners and indicate the role and contribution of these partners;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening the capacity of UN-Women, including through adequate and sustainable 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. *Requests* UN-Women to take into account lessons learned from the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2014-2017, including tracking of the progress made towards the achievement of expected results, findings and recommendations of corporate and country-level evaluations and audits, in the development of the Strategic Plan 2018-2021;

10. *Emphasizes* the need for UN-Women to continue to improve transparency in the use of resources to achieve programme results and to enhance organizational effectiveness and efficiency and requests UN-Women to present in its future financial planning and reports a higher level of detail on the way regular (core) resources are attributed and used, inter alia with regard to staff costs, programming arrangements, programmatic budget lines, oversight functions, development effectiveness and the special purpose activities budget line;

11. *Recalls* decision 2013/2 in which the Executive Board requested UN-Women to recommend adjustments to the approved cost-recovery rates, as required, to be presented at the 2016 annual session of the Executive Board, notes that this process has been delayed and requests UN-Women, together with UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF, to continue the consultations with Member States with regard to the cost-recovery policy and to present evidence-based proposals for harmonized cost-recovery policies of UNDP, UNFPA, UN-Women and UNICEF, with adjustments if required, for consideration by the respective Executive Boards no later than their annual sessions in 2018;

12. Encourages UN-Women contributors to adhere to the aspects of the cost-recovery policy approved by the Executive Board in decision 2013/2;

13. *Recalls* that in line with UN-Women's founding resolution A/RES/64/289*, the annual report on operational activities of UN-Women is to be transmitted to the Economic and Social Council for consideration during its operational activities segment.