

**Decision 2018/2 - Report on the evaluation function of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, 2017**

As adopted on 20 June 2018

*ADVANCE UNEDITED COPY*

*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, 2017, and the programme of work and budget for 2018 of the Independent Evaluation Service;

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by UN-Women to establish a credible and useful evaluation function and its contribution to system-wide gender-responsive evaluation efforts, emphasizes that evaluation should be country-driven and that programme countries' ownership and leadership should be ensured 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;

3. *Requests* UN-Women to ensure the adequate functional integrity and independence of the evaluation function within the Independent Evaluation and Audit Services and to report on how this has been done in its next report;

4. *Expresses* its support for the strengthening of the Independent Evaluation function, including building capacity of UN-Women's evaluation specialists, and requests UN-Women to continue increasing the implementation rate, coverage and use of evaluations and to address the drop in the implementation of management responses in this regard;

5. *Requests* UN-Women to continue the gender-responsive evaluations of country programmes in order to improve programming at country level;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of the evaluation function of UN-Women in providing high-quality, independent and impartial evaluations, and requests UN-Women to take into account the findings of its evaluations in the implementation of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021;

7. *Requests* that the Independent Evaluation Service seeks out opportunities with respective evaluation bodies of the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies for joint evaluations of system-wide activities as well as the evaluation of the Common Chapter of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, and calls upon the Independent Evaluation Service and UN-Women to brief the Executive Board at the second regular session 2018 on progress on these matters, including their contributions to the function of system-wide independent evaluation measures;

8. *Takes note* of the progress made on implementing decision 2016/2 which requested UN-Women to enhance the coverage of evaluations, the implementation rate of planned evaluations, financial resources invested in the evaluation function and the submission of management responses to the Global Accountability and Tracking of Evaluation system and use evaluation recommendations in its work; and *further requests* UN-Women to make progress in implementing the recommendations of the Global Evaluation Advisory Committee (GEAC) and to update the Executive Board on progress by the annual session 2019;

9. *Strongly encourages* UN-Women management to work with the Independent Evaluation Service to continue efforts to strengthen the quality and process of corporate and decentralized evaluations, the implementation rate and coverage of decentralized evaluations, and to use the evaluations as learning and knowledge management tools to enhance future programmes and to ensure appropriate resourcing for centralized and decentralized evaluations;

10. *Notes* the decrease in total spending on evaluations and *strongly encourages* UN-Women to reach the target of allocating 3 per cent of the total UN-Women programme budget to the evaluation function by the end of the period of the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021;

11. *Requests* UN-Women to present an oral update to the Executive Board on its new Global Evaluation Strategy, 2018-2021, at the first regular session of 2019;

12. *Takes note* of UN-Women's work in evaluating its contribution to women's political participation and leadership and encourages UN-Women to take into account lessons learnt in its work.