

Decision 2018/7 – Working methods of the Executive Boards

As adopted on 11 September 2018

ADVANCE UNEDITED COPY

The Executive Board,

1. *Reaffirms* the rules of procedure of the Executive Board of UN-Women;
2. *Takes note* of the joint response prepared by the secretariats of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services, the United Nations Children's Fund, and the World Food Programme to their respective second regular sessions 2018;
3. *Requests* the UN-Women Executive Board Secretariat to circulate draft decisions at least two weeks prior to the session so that the draft decisions are available at the pre-session, and strongly encourages the President to appoint, at that time, the facilitators for the respective draft decisions, in full respect to equitable regional representation, and in this regard strongly encourages Member States to provide their comments on draft decisions, if possible, prior to the first informal consultations, with a view to starting informal consultations on the draft decisions a working day in advance of the session;
4. *Requests* UN-Women and the Members of its Executive Board to make efforts to start all formal and informal meetings on time and to plan them during United Nations working hours and avoid parallel consultations to better facilitate the effective and constructive participation of all Member States in the work of the Executive Boards;
5. *Also requests* the UN-Women Executive Board Secretariat to identify a set of common agenda items, together with UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UNICEF, and WFP, with a view to harmonizing the consideration of those agenda items with these agencies, beginning from the first regular session 2019 onwards;
6. *Further requests* the UN-Women Executive Board Secretariat to develop, in consultation with UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, and UNICEF, a joint online calendar of all Board meetings, to be updated in real time and made available to the Executive Board;
7. *Requests* UN-Women management to provide a written response to questions raised at informal consultations on the reports (informal briefings), upon request by Member States, before the start of the following formal session;
8. *Requests* UN-Women to continue to enhance documentation in order to make it more strategic and analytical, and to include best practices, actions being taken to address lessons learned, challenges and risks, building on the interactions with the Board, as appropriate;

9. *Requests* UN-Women to further enhance accessibility and ensure that Executive Board documents' file names are clearly spelled out and indicate the documents' content, that these documents can be downloaded in their entirety by agency and that they include full text searchability;
10. *Requests* UN-Women to engage with the Executive Board, and with UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UNICEF, and WFP, on the efficient and effective implementation of the guidelines for Executive Board field visits and reporting requirements;
11. *Requests* UN-Women and its Bureau to give due consideration to gender balance in panels for all meetings;
12. *Requests* the Bureau of UN-Women, in collaboration with the Bureaux of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, and WFP, to launch a joint consultative process with Member States starting at the first regular session 2019, with a view to examining the efficiency and quality of its current sessions, as well as the functions of the joint meeting of the Boards, building on the joint response prepared by the secretariats.