



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

INTERVENTION

by H.E. Mr. Gheorghe Leucă

Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova

at the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board

on the agenda item no. 9 entitled “Evaluation of the UNFPA engagement in the reform of the United Nations development system, and management response.”

(New York, 2nd February 2023)

Mr. Chairman,

I am pleased to take the floor on the evaluation of UNFPA’s engagement in the reform of the United Nations development system (UNDS).

While aligning to the joint statement just delivered by Germany on behalf of several countries, allow me to make a few remarks in my national capacity.

UNDS reform has placed high hopes on the Member States for a more efficient, effective, transparent, and better coordinated support in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Goals at the country level.

The delegation of the Republic of Moldova welcomes the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General on the repositioning of the United Nations development system and the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, and acknowledges the progress achieved thus far in advancing all reform tracks contained in relevant General Assembly resolutions, while encouraging further efforts to ensure the implementation of the remaining mandates undertaken on the matter.

While noting that this is the first of its kind exercise in the UN system, we comment the Fund and its leadership for assuming this formative evaluation which generated important findings and conclusion on the UNFPA’s contribution to the design, development, and operationalization of the reform as well as recommendations on how the Fund can contribute more effectively to the implementation of the reform and benefit, respectively, from its results.

The Republic of Moldova welcomes the Organization's support for the UN development system at all levels by engaging in the architecture and operationalization of the reform. We acknowledge, in particular, the major contribution of the Fund in promoting some of the cross-cutting issues such as gender, youth and leaving no one behind principle which are crucial for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

It is important to learn from this exercise that, for the large part, the UNDS reform has strengthened UNFPA, including by making it more effective and efficient to deliver on its mandate and strategic plans. We note that the common country analyses and cooperation frameworks as well as inter-agency groups at the country and regional level have provided an enabling environment for the Fund to position its strategic priorities and leverage joint programming for results, while the application of the principle of mutual recognition and participation in the business operations strategy are helping the Organization to generate efficiencies.

While acknowledging the strong engagement of the Fund in the operationalization of the UNDS reform, we note from the formative evaluation that there are potential risks, some of them not necessarily under direct control of UNFPA, which require to be properly managed to further harness the benefits of the reform with a view to pursue effectively the three transformative results which the Fund is committed to achieve by 2030, namely: - ending preventable maternal death; - ending unmet need for family planning; and - ending gender-based violence and harmful practices.

In this view, we welcome the UNFPA's response to the recommendations of the evaluation. The Fund's commitment to, *inter alia*, articulate a more systemic and strategic approach to the UNDS reform, further deepen its institutionalization, address human resources challenges, and strengthen knowledge of the humanitarian staff on the reform is commendable.

Building upon the important lessons learned from this exercise, we would appreciate it if the Fund could elaborate on the potential catalytic enablers for an increased impact of the UNDS reform on the programmatic activity on the ground.

In closing, I would like to assure UNFPA of my country's support in its further engagement in the reform process with the goal of securing the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals for all.

Thank you.