



DP/FPA/2017/CRP.5

17 April 2017

## **UNFPA Management Response**

Report of the Ethics Office 2016 (DP/FPA/2017/7)

Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS Ethics Offices

Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS  
Annual session 2017  
New York

1. UNFPA is pleased to present its management response to the Report of the Ethics Office 2016 (DP/FPA/2017/7).
2. The management of UNFPA acknowledges with appreciation the work of the UNFPA Ethics Office and the accomplishment of its mandated activities for 2016, and commends the Ethics Office for its continuing work to promote a culture of integrity and to encourage ethical behavior among all staff.
3. In particular, management would like to commend the Ethics Adviser for responding to 372 requests, noting that the slight decrease from 390 cases in 2015 is being attributed to decreases in the number of financial disclosure queries and formal coherence activities this year.
4. Further, management would like to share its appreciation for the work of the Ethics Office, which, even more than in the past, included the provision of training and education programmes away from Headquarters. It has also noted with great interest that a new online training programme, 'Ethics and Integrity at UNFPA', was finalized in 2016 and prepared for launch in January 2017. Also, it is noted that UNFPA developed an online training on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, which is expected to launch in the first half of 2017 and will be mandatory for all staff to complete. It further approves of the Ethics Office's strong collaboration within the Ethics Panel of the United Nations and the Ethics Network of Multilateral Organizations. UNFPA management also wants to thank the Ethics Office for its work in providing advice and guidance; conducting the financial disclosure programme; strengthening protection of staff against retaliation, which resulted in a finding of prima facie case of retaliation; and supporting standard-setting and policy development.
5. Management supports the Ethics Office's request for continued support by management at headquarters and for the Ethics Adviser's missions to the field, including offices in humanitarian and fragile settings, in view of the shared perception of the importance of such outreach.
6. Management also will take into account the recommendation and examine opportunities to mainstream not only its humanitarian operations, but also those systems that provide security, support and relief to staff and other personnel working in these difficult settings.
7. Management also encourages all heads of office to proactively engage the Ethics Office any time when doing so will help to ensure that ethical considerations are built into all that the UNFPA must do to achieve its mission.
8. As in previous years, UNFPA compliments the Ethics Office on continuing to strengthen the services it provides under its mandated areas of work and, in turn, will continue to provide strong support to its work. It continues to encourage the Ethics Office to maintain its diligence in undertaking its mandated activities, to continue working with staff, managers and senior management to advise and guide staff and to foster a culture of ethics and integrity in UNFPA. Management looks forward to further discussing the recommendations made by the Ethics Adviser and to a continuing fruitful collaboration.

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