MEMBER STATE COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT UNFPA COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR IRAQ

First regular session 2020

Comments by Germany	UNFPA regional/country office response
We are pleased with the progress made by UNFPA in Iraq as delineated in the Country Programme Performance Summary.	UNFPA appreciates the interest and comments of the Member State on the draft country programme of Iraq.
We note with concern the continued high prevalence of GBV in Iraq and expect that the foreseen measures in the UNFPA Draft Country Programme Document for Iraq will be implemented with full sensitivity to traumatic experiences suffered by survivors of GBV both among returnees (as well as "stayees") in liberated areas in Iraq and among those still internally displaced either living in camps or in host communities.	UNFPA is cognizant of the prevalence and severity of gender-based violence (GBV) in Iraq and its deep-rooted nature in communities, as well as the impact of conflict and humanitarian crisis on women and girls, in particular in Sinjar. The new CPD addresses the issue through different strategies, including service provision in camps and outside of camps under the humanitarian programme and returnees under the development programme, evidence generation for policy change, and capacity development of the national authorities to provide a multisectoral response. UNFPA, through its long experience and strong partnership with Government and CSOs in the country, has developed approaches that are responsive to the needs of GBV survivors, taking into account local contexts and sensitivities. These approaches and strategies will guide programme implementation to address GBV issues in Iraq comprehensively, leveraging the support of our donors.