

7 August 2026

Excellencies,

Recalling the decisions of the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board and the UN-Women Executive Board adopted at their annual sessions 2026 on “Engagement with UN80 initiative”, specifically the following paragraphs:

UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board Decision 2026/16	UN-Women Executive Board Decision 2026/15
14. <i>Further notes</i> that the information provided thus far is insufficient to enable the Board to make recommendations on a potential merger between UNFPA and UN-Women at this time and requests outstanding evidence, analysis and information to fully address decision point 2026/2, paragraph 8, as well as any additional analysis identified as necessary, including, inter alia:	15. <i>Notes</i> that since the information provided is currently insufficient, the Executive Board is not in a position to make a recommendation of support for a potential merger between UNFPA and UN-Women at this time, acknowledging inter alia that the protection of mandates cannot be guaranteed, but remains committed to engage constructively with the UN80 initiative, and requests outstanding evidence, analysis and information to fully address decision point 2026/6, paragraph 9, as well as any additional analysis identified as necessary, including, inter alia:
a. Provision of alternative options to a merger for enhanced alignment, impact and efficiency to the Executive Board, as a matter of priority, at least six weeks before the second regular session 2026;	a. Provision of alternative options to a merger for enhanced alignment, impact and efficiency to the Executive Board, as a matter of priority, at least six weeks before the second regular session 2026;
b. Further elaboration on operational models regarding a potential merger and alternative options, with particular attention to added value, efficiency gains and improved operational results and delivery with respect to their existing mandates;	b. Further elaboration on operational models regarding a potential merger and alternative options, with particular attention to added value, anticipated efficiencies and expected impact on operational results and delivery with respect to their existing mandates;
c. Provision of further details on the anticipated costs associated with a potential merger and alternative options, including	c. Provision of further details on the anticipated costs associated with a potential merger and alternative options, including

verifiable one-time implementation and transition costs and impact on human resources as well as possible recurrent costs, and to clearly identify resources that could be mobilized to cover these costs;	disaggregated and verifiable one-time implementation and transition costs, recurrent costs, anticipated savings and impact on human resources, together with assumptions used to derive such estimates, and to clearly identify resources that could be mobilized to cover these costs;
	d. Provision of information and analysis on the impact at the country, regional and programmatic levels, including operational implementation and delivery, country office configuration in each region, mandate-specific technical capacities and responsiveness to national priorities;

UN-Women and UNFPA are pleased to submit for your attention the following document, “***Further evidence and analysis on both the merger scenario and on alternative options to enhance alignment, impact and efficiency***” (*Executive Summary*).

Please note that further documentation will be forthcoming next week. The Secretary General’s office will be sharing with Member States answers to a matrix of questions on a potential merger between UNFPA and UN-Women. UNFPA and UN-Women will be submitting the full analytical foundations that underpin the findings in the Executive Summary submitted today.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Diene Keita
Under-Secretary-General and
Executive Director, UNFPA



Sima Bahous
Under-Secretary-General and
Executive Director, UN-Women

cc: Members of the Bureaus, Members and Observers
of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS and UN-Women