



**Executive Board of the
United Nations Development
Programme, the United Nations
Population Fund and the United
Nations Office for Project Services**

Distr.: General

21 November 2018

Original: English

First regular session 2019

21-25 January 2019, New York

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

UNFPA – Country programmes and related matters**United Nations Population Fund****Extensions of country programmes***Summary*

The present note contains information on the extensions of UNFPA country programmes. First-time extensions of country programmes up to one year are approved by the Executive Director, and presented to the Executive Board for information. All other requests for extensions of country programmes are submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

The Executive Board may wish to approve the second, one-year extension of the country programme for South Africa, as presented in the table below.



Table
Country programme extensions for which the approval of the Executive Board is sought

Country	Original programme period	Period proposed for extension	Reason for extension		
			In-country development	United Nations harmonization	Implementation or other issues
South Africa	2013-2017 1 January 2018 to 31 March 2019 (first extension)	1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 (second extension)	South Africa has made progress in sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights: maternal mortality declined from 310 per 100,000 live births in 2010 to 138 per 100,000 live births in 2013. The country has good antenatal care coverage (94%) and skilled birth attendance (96%), while the contraceptive prevalence rate is estimated at 64%. However, gaps in access to services persist, with quality of care, compounded by a lack of appropriately trained human resources, a major challenge. South Africa carries the largest burden of HIV/AIDS pandemic, with an estimated 13.1% of the population HIV positive, impacting disproportionately adolescent girls and young women, as gender inequality and gender-based violence continue to be major challenges.	The Government of South Africa and the United Nations country team had previously extended the United Nations Strategic Cooperation Framework (UNSCF) for 15 months to align the next programming cycle with the Medium-term Strategic Framework (MTSF) 2019-2024 and the fiscal year of the Government (1 April to 31 March). However, development of the new MTSF has been delayed; it is expected to be completed by the end of 2019. Therefore, an additional one-year extension is requested.	During the extension period, UNFPA will continue to focus on priorities and results identified within the fourth country programme between UNFPA and the Government of South Africa.