

**UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS Executive Board, 26 – 30 January, New York,**

**Statement EB UNFPA: Item Scaling up UNFPA humanitarian response funding**

- Thank you Chair for giving me the floor.
- I am pleased to deliver this statement on behalf of Australia, Finland, Iceland, Switzerland, and my own country the Netherlands.
- We are concerned about the rapid deterioration of the international security situation, ongoing natural disasters, health crises and the growing numbers of refugees and displaced persons relying on humanitarian aid to survive. In our view the international community has a collective responsibility to save lives and reduce human suffering.
- We would like to reaffirm the UN's indispensable role as global coordinator in the humanitarian response system. In order to keep responding to the ever growing needs, we must be bold enough to look at ourselves from a different angle. Which processes and products can be changed to become more cost-efficient and effective? We would like UNFPA to join actively in the discussion with other UN bodies with a view to come to joint, system-wide solutions. We are convinced that the system can benefit from innovations and increased use of the private sector's expertise and experience.
- It is widely known that in all humanitarian crises women and girls are particularly vulnerable and run a higher risk of sexual and gender based violence. This can have major consequences. For us this is not acceptable, nor is the fact that unnecessary deaths, disease and disability related to pregnancies occur. Therefore we want to ensure that every possible effort is made to protect women and girls and that appropriate measures are taken to prevent them from being disproportionately affected.
- As key supporters of sexual and reproductive health and rights for all we think it is vital to make sure that comprehensive SRHR, which includes HIV/Aids, family planning, safe abortions, especially after rape, emergency obstetrics and the prevention of sexual and gender based violence are included in the efforts in humanitarian situations. UNFPA remains a crucial partner in this field and we encourage UNFPA to closely coordinate its efforts with all humanitarian actors, including other UN bodies, for effective and efficient humanitarian assistance. We also encourage UNFPA to play a crucial role in the alignment of prevention measures through the Road Map which operationalizes the Call to Action on Protection from GBV in Emergency situations.
- We are pleased to support UNFPA's proposals included in section 3 of document DP/FPA/2015/2.
- Thank you Chair.