

United Nations Children's Fund

From: Romel Galvez [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2022 4:48 PM

To: Consultations <consultations@worldbank.org>

Cc: Andrea Suley [REDACTED]; Sarah Eyman [REDACTED]; Nobuko Takahashi [REDACTED]

Subject: UNICEF Comments to World Bank Financial Intermediary Fund for Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response

[External]

Dear colleagues,

Warm greetings and hope all is well. Please find attached for your kind attention UNICEF's comments to the proposed FIF for pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response.

Please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Andrea Suley or Ms. Sarah Eyman who are both copied here should you have any questions. Many thanks.

Best regards,

Romel R. Galvez

Senior Executive Associate

Office of the DED, Programmes

United Nations Children's Fund

3 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA

Email: [REDACTED]

Office: [REDACTED]

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Dear colleagues,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF) for pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response. UNICEF welcomes the new FIF as a critical step in enhancing the world's ability to withstand public health emergencies and is pleased to provide our attached feedback to the white paper, "A Proposed Financial Intermediary Fund (FIF) for Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response Hosted by the World Bank."

Today, the FIF offers an important opportunity to meaningfully invest in pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response through a new, multilateral financing mechanism that enables additional, flexible, and sustainable support for low- and middle-income countries. UNICEF appreciates the FIF's grants-based model and encourages the World Bank to ensure the FIF maintains a country-driven approach and supports multisectoral interventions. As learned during previous public health-emergencies, it is crucial that the FIF's investments improve the ability of national systems to deliver health and social services, as well as support the domestic governance and financing capacities that underly them.

The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated how underinvestment in prevention, preparedness, and response has ripple effects across the whole system, undermining each of the development goals and detrimentally impacting children and their communities. As public health emergencies increase in frequency and severity, there is an urgent need for international cooperation to ensure all countries can withstand current and future crises. UNICEF appreciates the opportunity to share our feedback on the

future FIF and looks forward to collaborating further with the World Bank and partners to operationalize the fund.

Sincerely,

Mr. Omar Abdi, Deputy Executive Director, Programmes