



**THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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Joint Meeting of the Executive Boards  
of UNDP and UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP  
Agenda item 2: Feedback on "Delivering as One"

Check against delivery

STATEMENT  
by  
H.E. Mr. Pavle Jevremovic,  
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Serbia  
to the United Nations

New York, 25 January 2008

Mr. President,

The first year of the implementation of the "Delivery as One" pilot initiative is coming to an end and we are grateful to have in front of us the stocktaking of progress in the pilot countries. Since the first implementation year has passed in the preparation process it is premature for us to give a full-fledged evaluation of the results.

Serbia welcomes the effort of "One UN" pilot countries to prepare the stocktaking report as a useful tool for understanding all the challenges and opportunities in this early phase. We also find important that the World Health Organization, UNIDO and, in particular, UNEP have prepared reports on their experiences and invite the other agencies to join them.

After this first year it is evident that the experience of the engagement with the "One UN" pilots has been mixed. We understand that the beginning of every reform process is always most painful and we might need more time in order to put this complex structure to work. We note that there should be more clarity in cooperation between agencies. As this should be seen as an inclusive process, Resident Coordinators have to put more effort in involving all agencies in country-level work, especially in this period when the UN structure on the ground is changing. It is very important to highlight that the reform process changes not only the UN engagement, but also the mechanism of cooperation and coordination with host country authorities. In that sense proper training for counterparts in governments and national steering committees is also essential for this common effort.

We note that the pilot projects have attracted increased donors attention. Although this is important, emphasis has to be on financial sufficiency and predictability. After the initial interest, donors attention should not move to other priorities. This is why timely and predictable funding should continue to be provided on a multi-year basis. On the other hand, after the initial costs of the reforms, we expect to see a clear signal that "One UN" can use available resources more efficiently.

Let me also underline that we consider that "Delivery as One" has to confirm national leadership and ownership. It also should enhance the ability of the United Nations system to ensure strategic and focused use of all relevant resources to meet national needs. Finally, reduction of costs to partners and the United Nations has to be our priority.

Mr. President,

In conclusion, let me point out that we have noted with satisfaction that deliberations of the member-States on System-wide coherence will resume soon. Likewise, an evaluation of the pilot initiative should continue. In that sense, a formal self-assessment in 2008/2009 and an evaluation of process results and of the impact on development will be particularly important.

Thank you.