

**Introductory Remarks for the Fifth Committee on the Report of the Secretary-General on
UNOP (A/66/188)**

7 October, 2011 – Talking points

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The UNOP report covers three areas:

I. United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP)

- UNFIP was established in 1998 to serve as the interface for partnerships between the UN Foundation and the United Nations system.
- In 2010, UNFIP, through the UN Foundation, focused on working in coordination with issue-based coalitions, leveraging resources from all sectors, and supporting UN causes through policy and advocacy.
- **As at 31 December 2010, the cumulative allocations to UNFIP projects reached approximately \$1.17 billion, out of which: \$0.4 billion (38%) represents core Turner funds and \$0.7 billion (62%) was generated from other partners.**
- More than 507 projects have been implemented by 43 United Nations entities in 124 countries since 1998. The distribution of projects by implementing partners and themes is contained in Annex 1 of the report.

Main UNFIP Programmes are as follows:

A. Women's and children's health

- The UN Foundation and UNFIP have worked with WHO, UNICEF, and others to develop and expand initiatives to improve children's and women's health. In 2010, UNF/UNFIP dispersed over \$72 million in support of this area. Select key projects include:
- Polio Eradication continued to be a priority. UNFIP and UNF worked closely with a WHO-led fundraising team to raise the resources for the eradication programmes of the new Global Polio Eradication Initiative Strategic Plan 2010-2012.
- The Measles Initiative targeted 27 countries in Africa, Asia and Europe, with the aim of vaccinating approximately 200 million children.
- Malaria prevention: The Foundation has continued, through Nothing But Nets campaign, to engage a diverse set of partners to fund the purchase and distribution of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets to protect the most vulnerable populations in Africa.

B. Women and population

- The UN Foundation continued to work with the United Nations, in collaboration with UNFIP, and other partners to promote gender equality and empower women and girls. In 2010, UNF/UNFIP dispersed over \$3.4 million in support of this area. Select key projects include:
- The United Nations Adolescent Girls Task Force has provided a critical avenue for the UN Foundation and UNFIP to enhance support of global coordination on adolescent girl issues.
- The UN Foundation continued to support UNFPA's Campaign to End Fistula. The Foundation and UNFIP also supported UNFPA's efforts in Haiti after the devastating

earthquake by providing funding to rebuild reproductive health wards and provide solar street lights to keep women safe at night.

C. Sustainable energy and climate change

- In 2010, UNF/UNFIP dispersed over \$2.4 million in support of this area. Among other projects, the Foundation worked with WHO, UN-Energy, UNEP, UNHCR, and WFP to encourage development and distribution of clean cookstoves.

D. Other programmes

- The UNF and Vodafone Foundation Technology Partnership has reached the final year of an initial five-year, \$30 million commitment. The Partnership has made significant inroads in leveraging mobiles to improve health outcomes and enhance communications after humanitarian crises.
- In the aftermath of the Haiti crisis in 2010, the UNF helped the UN efforts by channelling over \$1 million of assistance for projects benefiting the Central Emergency Response Fund, UNDP's cash-for-work programme, and for the deployment of supplies through UNFPA.

II. UNITED NATIONS DEMOCRACY FUND (UNDEF)

- In 2010, the UN Democracy Fund followed its annualised program of assessing project applications, conducting quality control and consulting with stakeholders before submission of recommended proposals to the UN Secretary-General for approval. The Secretary-General accepted the recommendations of the Advisory Board and approved the short list of 65 projects for the Fourth Round of Funding. A breakdown of the approved projects by region is as follows:

Sub-Saharan Africa:	32.8%
Asia and the Pacific:	28 %
The Americas:	12.5%
Arab States:	12.5%
Europe:	8 %
Global:	6.2%

- A new Advisory Board began its two year term in January 2010. The composition of this Board and that of UNFIP are included in Annex V and III of the report.
- The UN Democracy Fund is supported in its work by the UNDEF Programme Consultative Group, which brings together seven UN Departments, Offices, Funds and Programmes active in fields related to democracy, governance and human rights. The Chair of the Programme Consultative Group changed in 2010 and the new chair is Elizabeth Spehar, Director of the Europe Division of the UN Department of Political Affairs.
- The Advisory Board approved the holding of a fifth round of funding and in November and December 2010 UNDEF received a record high of more than 3,700 applications – almost twice as many as the average in previous years. The project proposals originated from organizations in 149 countries, the vast majority local NGOs in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas.
- The UN Secretary-General issued a UN-wide Guidance Note on Democracy in September 2009. In the April 2010 Journal of Democracy, UNDEF Executive Head Roland Rich described the character and significance of the document.

- The 10th anniversary of the Community of Democracies was celebrated in Krakow, Poland, on 2-4 July 2010. The event drew 87 official delegations from around the world, including 40 at the ministerial level. UN Secretary-General was represented by Mr. Rich, who delivered a message on his behalf. The message stressed the partnership between the Community and the United Nations in areas ranging from poverty, development and democracy to gender equality and empowering civil society.

III. Partnership advisory services and outreach

- UNOP has worked in close collaboration with the UN Foundation to further promote and implement partnership advisory services and outreach initiatives, as well as fostering innovative strategies for engaging non-state actors in supporting the UN's objectives.
- In 2010, UNOP provided advisory services to private sector companies, foundations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, and philanthropists. Most of the offered collaboration was in the areas of poverty reduction, education, health, disaster relief, and humanitarian assistance. Several agreements and memoranda of understanding were established to formalize these partnerships in support of the MDGs.