



9 November 2021

Dear Ms. Ribeiro,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well.

I write to thank you and the United Nations Country Team in Zimbabwe for your continuous support and commitment to gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, and to the implementation of the UNCT-System Wide Action Plan for Gender Equality Scorecard (UNCT-SWAP GE Scorecard). Specifically, I commend the Zimbabwe UNCT for meeting or exceeding gender mainstreaming requirements for 11 out of 15 performance indicators.

To this end, please find attached our analysis of notable achievements by the Zimbabwe UNCT and of follow-up on key actions included in the Zimbabwe UNCT Action Plan to strengthen performance (Annex 1).

In this context, I am pleased to share with you the [Secretary-General's report on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system \(E/2021/52\)](#), which presents an overview of system-wide accomplishments, challenges, and good practices; as well as the subsequent [resolution adopted by ECOSOC](#).

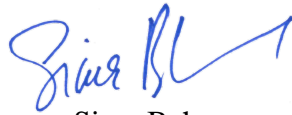
Importantly, UN Women takes this opportunity to recognize the dedicated efforts of the Interagency Assessment Team led by the RCO and UN Women in preparing the UNCT-SWAP GE Scorecard annual progress report in Zimbabwe. Their contributions were essential to ensuring the accuracy and relevance of the assessment and to updating the Action Plan.

Finally, we invite the UNCT in Zimbabwe to further implement the UNCT-SWAP through preparing and submitting its next annual progress report. The online UNCT-SWAP reporting platform will be available for the next round of annual progress reporting in mid-November. The platform is accessible via <https://unswap.unwomen.org>. Guidance on reporting can be requested from gendrescorecard.helpdesk@unwomen.org.

Ms. Maria do Valle Ribeiro
United Nations Resident Coordinator
in the Republic of Zimbabwe

Ms. Aparna Mehrotra, Director of our UN System Coordination Division, together with her team who lead the UNCT-SWAP Technical Secretariat at UN Women, and Ms. Delphine Serumaga, UN Women Country Representative in Zimbabwe, are available to provide support and guidance as needed to the Zimbabwe UNCT.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sima B.', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Sima Bahous
Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director

Annex 1: Zimbabwe UNCT-SWAP GE Scorecard Annual Progress Report - 2020

Notable achievements: With specific reference to the Zimbabwe UNCT-SWAP GE Scorecard Annual Progress Report results for 2020, UN Women commends the Zimbabwe UNCT for meeting minimum requirements for 7 performance indicators and exceeding requirements for 4 performance indicators, including the following achievements:

- Communication and Advocacy Address Areas of Gender Inequality – The UNCT has progressed from meeting to exceeding minimum requirements, with the Annual Work Plan of the UN Communications Group visibly including communication and advocacy on gender equality and women’s empowerment and multiple gender equality focused joint UN communications and advocacy activities taking place during the past year, including on the gendered dimensions of COVID-19.
- UNCT Collaborates and Engages with Women’s/Gender Equality Civil Society Organizations – The UNCT has progressed from approaching to exceeding minimum requirements, collaborating with GEWE CSO and women’s rights advocates on multiple joint initiatives that foster GEWE, most notably the Spotlight Initiative, and key processes of the Cooperation Framework. The UNCT has also contributed to strengthening GEWE CSO participation in gender related SDG implementation.
- Gender Parity in Staffing is Achieved – The UNCT has progressed from approaching to meeting minimum requirements, demonstrating positive trends towards achieving parity commitments and having in place a mechanism for monitoring gender parity in staffing that is regularly used to monitor parity levels.

Key actions to strengthen gender mainstreaming performance: To build on the momentum of the achievements of the Zimbabwe UNCT, and to ensure enhanced performance, UN Women encourages full implementation of the activities in the Zimbabwe UNCT-SWAP GE Scorecard Action Plan, including the following key actions:

- Gender Equality Mainstreamed in Cooperation Framework Outcomes – Ensure that all next ZUNDAF (now Cooperation Framework) outcomes are gender mainstreamed and/or gender targeted.
- Cooperation Framework Indicators Measure Changes on Gender Equality – Ensure at least 50 percent or more of ZUNDAF (now Cooperation Framework) indicators measure changes in gender equality in line with SDG priorities, including SDG 5.
- Cooperation Framework Monitoring and Evaluation Measures Progress Against Gender Equality – Build capacity of groups that perform ZUNDAF (now Cooperation Framework) monitoring and evaluation functions (Programme Management Team, Results Groups) in gender sensitive monitoring and evaluation.