

PALABRAS DEL REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DE COLOMBIA GUILLERMO FERNANDEZ DE SOTO MISION PERMANENTE DE COLOMBIA ANTE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PUNTO 9 – APROBACION CPD - JUNTA EJECUTIVA – PNUD

Nueva York, 3 de septiembre de 2020

Verificar contra el discurso pronunciado

Excellencies, Members of the Bureau of the UNDP Executive Board,

Allow me to begin this brief intervention to express, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Colombia, our gratitude to the Presidency and the Secretariat for the inclusion of this important topic on the agenda of this Second Ordinary Session of the Executive Board.

The Government of Colombia has been deeply committed to the reform process of the United Nations Development System. It is worth noting that in the UNDP Colombia team, we have found clear support for said reform.

On March 19th, my Government and the UNDP signed the new Cooperation Framework for Sustainable Development (UNSDCF) 2020-2023. This is the main instrument to guide cooperation with the UN System for the next few years. That is going to happen in three areas of interest:

- I. Stabilization "Peace with Legality;
- II. Migration as a factor of development and
- III. Technical assistance for the acceleration of catalytic SDGs



In response to the Reform mandates, the Government of Colombia, the Office of the Resident Coordinator, and the UNDP Office formulated, during the first semester of this year, the new Country Program Document -CPD - for the period 2021-2024.

The Document that has been approved by you today, is aligned with the strategic areas agreed in the UNSDCF, as well as with other key instruments such as the National Development Plan of Colombia 2018-2022, the UNDP Global Strategic Plan and the recent National Strategy for the Response to COVID-19.

Like the UNSDCF, our CPD leads to a territorial concentration of field work that we hope will allow a greater impact. It is equally worth saying that UNDP will work in areas where it has a comparative advantage.

Under this new Country Program, UNDP will focus on issues such as the comprehensive reintegration of former combatants; the reactivation of local development and community strengthening in the 170 municipalities most affected by the conflict; the support for families that implement productive projects for the substitution of illicit crops; the socioeconomic integration of migrants from Venezuela through job creation; and the acceleration of the Sustainable Development Goals, with an emphasis on environmental management, sustainable consumption and production, and youth entrepreneurship, among others.



It is important to point out that in these areas, the Government of Colombia is already making huge inter-institutional coordination efforts at the national and territorial levels. Those initiatives will be supported and supplemented, in a subsidiary manner, by UNDP.

I also want to highlight the valuable synergy that was generated in the process of formulating this document. We could count with the participation of several entities of the national order responsible for the International Cooperation of Colombia, as well as UNDP through its Country and Regional Offices.

Excellencies,

The Government of Colombia recognizes UNDP as a key ally to support national efforts in responding to the various challenges that my country faces in terms of sustainable development.

UNDP's mandate to reduce poverty and inequalities, coupled with its expertise on the ground, represents a true comparative advantage with added value for our Government. For this reason, we trust that through this new cycle of cooperation we will continue to strengthen our historical relationship and bring true impact results, in a sustainable way, to the territories with the greatest difficulties.



Likewise, we deeply wish that UNDP continue to be the lead agency of the Country Team in Colombia for the implementation of the reform. This in order to minimize duplication of activities and resources, as well as to promote inter-agency work under a demand approach, based on the priorities of the national government.

I am grateful once again for the work of all those who made this new Country Program Document for Colombia possible.

Thank you very much.