

UN 80 – CH Position

A. General messages for international Geneva

1. **Geneva: A Unique Multilateral Ecosystem.**

Reform is essential and Geneva's unique ecosystem contributes daily to effective multilateralism. This must be preserved, and can be further expanded, for example in the area of leveraging technologies. Nowhere else do experts and decision-makers in health, human rights, humanitarian affairs, environment, trade, science and technology interact so closely. This daily proximity sparks genuine cross-fertilization and creates solutions for tomorrow. An investment in Geneva is an investment in an efficient and focused multilateralism.

2. **Geneva: Synergies that Multiply Impact.**

Geneva's unique density of decision-makers and experts creates powerful synergies that drive innovation and smarter global solutions. Here, 1+1 often equals 3.

3. **Geneva: Where the World Meets, and Every Voice Counts.**

The vast majority of developing countries including SIDS have a Permanent Mission in Geneva, enabling their voices to be heard. Currently 18x (insert exact number) UN Member States are represented in Geneva, 43 international organizations, and 450+ NGOs, Geneva is the most inclusive hub for multilateral diplomacy — especially also amplifying the voices of small and medium-sized states.

4. **Switzerland: A Reliable Host, A Lasting Partner.**

Switzerland invests strategically and long term in Geneva — over USD 2 billion in four years —, issues visas for Member States and civil society in an efficient manner, and ensures the stability of this key UN platform with additional targeted support.

B. General position UN80 as a whole

5. **Switzerland: A Committed Partner for an Effective UN.**

Switzerland has always supported a strong, efficient and effective UN system. We welcome the Secretary-General's UN80 reform agenda as a chance to shape a future-oriented and inclusive multilateralism — more needed now than ever.

6. **Reform to Strengthen, Not Weaken.**

Reforms must reduce bureaucracy and complexity, streamline coordination, and refocus organizations on their core mandates and competencies — guided by the 2030 Agenda, SDGs, and international law. It must strengthen what works and adapt what must improve.

7. **Strategic Vision over Short-Term Pressures.**

Reform should follow a clear, long-term strategic direction. Political and short-term budgetary pressures must not define the future of the UN, with efficiency gains serving the broader goal of strengthening the UN's ability to deliver as "one UN" for Member States.

8. **Switzerland: Constructive Host and Partner.**

As host state, Switzerland wears a "double hat." We support well-justified and costed efficiency measures with offer long term gains and strengthen the system in a sustainable and lasting way.

C. General position per workstream

Workstream 1

9. **Reform for Impact, Not Duplication.**
Reform proposals must focus on reducing overlap and creating a more impactful, coherent UN system.
10. **Apply strategy, preserve Synergies.**
Any abolishment or relocation of posts must be based on a long-term strategy as well as solid reasoning and, in the case of relocations, carefully assess the loss of unique synergies created by geographic proximity in Geneva.
11. **Avoid Fragementation.**
Further fragmenting of the UN system is very likely to result in inefficiencies and additional costs — thereby undermining our common goal of a stronger, more effective UN.

Workstream 2

12. **Mandate Review to Eliminate Duplication: a crucial first step.**
Addressing overlapping mandates must be a top priority — through a clear mandate registry and stronger use of coordination platforms (e.g. Inter-Agency Standing Committee, the UN Sustainable Development Group and the UN System Chief Executives Board for Co ordination) — to reduce fragmentation, use scarce resources strategically and strengthen existing expertise.
13. **Build on What Works.**
Effective support services should be consolidated based on sound cost-benefit analyses — not simply broken up. Some functions benefit from being delivered in one location, other do not.
14. **Member States Share Responsibility.**
Ensuring system-wide coherence is ultimately in Member States' hands. We must act consistently across the General Assembly and specialized agency governance bodies. While UN80 is overall a Member State-driven process, the prerogatives of the UN Secretary General must be maintained. Proposals should clearly differentiate between actions that fall under the Secretary-General's authority and those requiring Member-State decisions, with concrete next steps and timelines specified for each.

Workstream 3

15. **Efficiency and Smart Integration.**
Switzerland supports measures that make the UN system more efficient and reduce duplication. For example, joint services can deliver better and more cost-effective solutions, though initial implementation costs must be considered. Workstream 3 must align with the first two pillars. Sequencing and prioritisation are key for sustainable results

16. Build on Existing Reforms, Protect Mandates, Ensure System-Wide Participation

New proposals should strengthen, not reinvent, existing reform initiatives. Integrations and mergers must be carefully assessed to preserve legal and operational agency mandates and ensure broad participation beyond New York entities.

17. Strengthen — Not Weaken — Geneva.

Reforms offer opportunities to further position Geneva in key areas such as humanitarian aid, human rights, training, and specialized agencies. Geneva offers significant potential in further leveraging a responsible use of new technologies for the benefit of the UN system

D. Tableau

| | | Risks | Opportunities | Priority (1,2,3) | Objectif (what do we want to achieve) | Possible alternatives / compromise |
|--------------|--|--|--|-------------------------|---|---|
| Workstream 1 | Revised Estimates Proposed Programme Budget 2026 | <p>Genfer Ökosystem könnte geschwächt werden.</p> <p>CH könnte als «Bremsen» der Reform wahrgenommen werden.</p> <p>Andere Staaten möchten die Stellenentscheide nicht im Detail diskutieren.</p> <p>Entscheide des 5C lösen weitere Stellenverschiebungen an andere Standorte (via XB) aus.</p> | <p>Zusammenlegung administrativer Funktionen und Payroll könnte zu langfristigen Effizienzgewinnen führen.</p> <p>Die Diskussionen ermöglichen es, genauer zu verstehen, was die UNO-Einheiten in Zukunft noch planen.</p> | 1 | Schädliche Entscheide für das Genfer Ökosystem abwenden | Gewisse Entscheide können abgewendet werden, gewisse werden akzeptiert werden müssen. |
| Workstream 2 | Mandate Creation | | | | | |
| | Mandate Implementation | | | | | |

| | Mandate Review | | | | | |
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| Workstream 3 | UN Interregional Crime & Justice Research Institute (UNICRI, Turin) <i>integrieren in</i> UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC, Wien) | | | | | |
| | UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR, Genf) <i>integrieren in</i> Office for Disarmament Affairs (ODA, NY) | | | | | |
| | UN Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement (Hudaydah, Jemen) <i>integrieren in</i> Office of the Special Envoy for Yemen (Amman) | | | | | |

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| | United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, NY) <i>fusionieren mit</i> United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS, Kopenhagen) | | | | | |
| | United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA, NY) <i>fusionieren mit</i> UN Women (NY) | | | | | |
| | UNAIDS (Genf) <i>beenden</i> | | | | | |
| | UN System Staff College (UNSSC, Turin) <i>integrieren in</i> UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR, Genf) | | | | | |
| | UN Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD, Genf) | | | | | |

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| integrieren in United Nations University (Tokio) | | | | | | |
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Questions to be asked

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| Workstream 1 | | <p>On relocations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide the rationale for each proposed relocation, together with the associated business case. Please provide details on the proposed relocations of extra-budgetary (XB)-funded posts. Regarding the proposed relocations, is there any linkage between decisions of the Fifth Committee and potential actions affecting posts funded by voluntary contributions? Specifically, could any XB-funded posts be relocated as a consequence of a decision taken on a Regular Budget post? If so, please indicate which posts would be affected. <p>On abolishments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide an overview of posts abolished in 2025 or scheduled for abolition in the near term, disaggregated by funding source (Regular Budget and Extra-Budgetary) and indicating the duty station/location as well as rationale and business case for abolishment. |
| W or | Mandate Creation | |
| | Mandate Implementation | |

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| | Mandate Review | |
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