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Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit

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Report by the Director General

> The present document provides information on the activities of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) in accordance with the follow-up scheme to recommendations in accordance with decision IDB.24/Dec.11.

Contents

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I. Introduction

1.   The Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) became a subsidiary organ of the Industrial Development Board by its decision IDB.1/Dec.22. A system of follow-up to JIU recommendations was outlined in document IDB.24/18 and subsequently approved in decision IDB.24/Dec.11. In accordance with the provisions therein, JIU reports will be considered by each regular Board session.

II. Reports and notes submitted by the Joint Inspection Unit

2.   A total of thirteen JIU reports[1] and one management letter were received[2] by the Organization since the previous Board document covering this subject (IDB.43/9). Ten reports and one management letter as listed below are of relevance to UNIDO:[3]

JIU/REP/2014/6: Analysis of the evaluation function in the United Nations system

JIU/REP/2014/8: Use of non-staff personnel and related contractual modalities in the United Nations system organizations — country case studies: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti and India

JIU/REP/2014/9: Contract management and administration in the United Nations system

JIU/REP/2015/2: Recommendations to the General Assembly of the United Nations for the determination of parameters for a comprehensive review of United Nations system support for small island developing States

JIU/REP/2015/4: Public information and communications policies and practices in the United Nations system

JIU/REP/2015/5: Review of activities and resources devoted to address climate change in the United Nations system organizations

JIU/REP/2016/2: Succession planning in the United Nations system organizations

JIU/REP/2016/3: Comprehensive review of United Nations system support for small island development States: Initial findings

JIU/REP/2016/4: Fraud prevention, detection and response in United Nations system organizations

JIU/REP/2016/5: Evaluation of the contribution of the United Nations development system to strengthening national capacities for statistical analysis and data collection to support the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other internationally-agreed goals

JIU/ML/2016/15: Review of the acceptance and implementation of JIU recommendations by UNIDO.

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[1] JIU reports and notes, as well as the JIU Annual Report to the General Assembly, in all official languages can be accessed via the JIU website www.unjiu.org.
[2] At the time this report was prepared.
[3] See annex for further details.

A further three reports issued by JIU were not of relevance to UNIDO:

JIU/REP/2015/3 — Cooperation among the United Nations regional commissions

JIU/REP/2015/6 — Review of the organizational ombudsman services across the United Nations system

JIU/REP/2016/1 — Review of management and administration in the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

3. In line with recommendations from the JIU's management letter (JIU/ML/2016/15) to UNIDO relating to reports to the Industrial Development Board, the present document has been changed to include hyperlinks to the JIU reports as well as hyperlinks to the relevant CEB comments on said reports. It is recalled that recommendations and statistics applicable to UNIDO, as well as UNIDO's compliance and comments on recommendations are available through the web-based tracking system (WBTS).[4] A summary of UNIDO comments on the reports is included in the annex to the present document.

4. The reports contain a total of 67 recommendations relevant to UNIDO. UNIDO accepted and complies with 55 of these, seven were not accepted, and five are under consideration.

III. Implementation of Joint Inspection Unit recommendations at UNIDO

5. Since the Unit enhanced its follow-up system through the WBTS, which is available at the JIU website, Member States can be granted "read-only" access to yearly consolidated data on the status of implementation of recommendations by registering with the JIU through the Focal Point for JIU matters in UNIDO, the Office of Internal Oversight and Ethics.[5]

6. In the last quarter of each year, the JIU requests from UNIDO, pertinent information on recommendations issued in the last three years, i.e. status of acceptance (accepted, rejected, under consideration), status of implementation (not started, in progress, implemented) and impact. The JIU then presents the aggregate outcome in its yearly activity report to the United Nations General Assembly.

7. The status of acceptance and implementation for UNIDO for the period 2013-2015 is presented in the table below (in percentage of recommendations issued).

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[4] Please refer to paragraph 5 for information regarding access to WBTS.
[5] Via e-mail: IOS@unido.org.

Table[6]

	Acceptance					Implementation			
	Not relevant	*Accepted/ approved*	*Rejected*	*Under consideration*	*No information provided*	*Not started*	*In progress*	*Implemented*	*No information provided*
UNIDO	2.67	86.67	8	2.67	0	4.62	33.85	58.46	3.08

8.   It should be noted that UNIDO remained one of the organizations showing a consistently strong performance regarding the status of acceptance (85 per cent and above) with regard to the status of considerations of reports by its governing bodies.

IV. Work programme 2016

9.   In accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 61/260 of 4 April 2007, by which the Assembly decided to consider jointly the annual report and programme of work of JIU during the first part of its resumed session, the Unit launched the preparation of its programme of work for 2016 in July 2015.

10.   The Unit invited participating organizations to submit their proposals, and JIU considered a shortlist of 15 topics, resulting from consultations with participating organizations and internal consultations, as well as 16 topics from the 2016-2017 roster.

11.   The programme of work for 2016 includes seven new projects, five of which are of system-wide or multiple-organization coverage and two relate to management and administrative review of a participating organization. UNIDO is one of the organizations JIU has included for a management and administrative review. Member States were informed of the review with an information note on 15 March 2016. The JIU's work plan also includes 11 projects carried forward from the previous workplan.

12.   Of the seven topics on the 2016 work programme, the below six would be of interest to UNIDO:

     (a)   Review of administrative services delivery in selected United Nations system organizations;

     (b)   Review of knowledge management in the United Nations system;

     (c)   Donor-led accountability and oversight review in United Nations system organizations;

     (d)   Comprehensive review of United Nations system support for small island developing States: final findings;

     (e)   Review of travel policies in the United Nations system;

     (f)   Review of management and administration in UNIDO.

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     [6] As per information contained in WBTS.

13.   UNIDO continues to note with appreciation the close cooperation between JIU and the Secretariat of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB).

V.   Action required of the Board

14.   In compliance with the provisions of the Statute of JIU Article 11(4), resolution 48/221 of 23 December 1993 of the United Nations General Assembly, and paragraph 9 of the system of UNIDO follow-up to JIU recommendations, the Board may wish to take note of the information contained in the present document and provide guidance for further concrete action.

Annex

Report	UNIDO comments	JIU hyperlink	CEB comments hyperlink — when available
JIU/REP/2014/6: Analysis of the evaluation function in the United Nations system	UNIDO welcomed the report and supported six of the seven recommendations related to UNIDO. This recommendation regards the suggested term limit of the head of the function, which could be a risk of not attracting qualified candidates.	https://www.unjiu.org/en/reports-notes/JIU%20Products/JIU_REP_2014_6_English.pdf	https://www.unjiu.org/en/reports-notes/CEB%20and%20organisation%20documents/A_70_686_Add1_English.pdf
JIU/REP/2014/8: Use of non-staff personnel and related contractual modalities in the United Nations system organizations — Country case studies: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti and India	UNIDO welcomed the report and supported ten of the twelve recommendations related to UNIDO. The one recommendation not supported relates to include long-serving non-staff to apply as internal candidates for vacant positions; UNIDO feels that this may be prejudicial to the interests of other external candidates. The other recommendation not supported relates to ensuring that non-staff personnel have access to appropriate formal internal justice mechanisms; UNIDO already has such a mechanism as part of the ISA framework.	https://www.unjiu.org/en/reports-notes/JIU%20Products/JIU_REP_2014_8_Final.pdf	https://www.unjiu.org/en/reports-notes/CEB%20and%20organisation%20documents/A_70_685_Add1_English.pdf
JIU/REP/2014/9: Contract management and administration in the United Nations system	UNIDO welcomed the report and supported all eleven recommendations related to UNIDO.	https://www.unjiu.org/en/reports-notes/JIU%20Products/JIU_REP_2014_9_English.pdf	https://www.unjiu.org/en/reports-notes/CEB%20and%20organisation%20documents/A_70_676-Add1_English.pdf
JIU/REP/2015/2: Recommendations to the General Assembly of the United Nations for the determination of parameters of a comprehensive review of United Nations system support for small island developing States	Received for information purposes only.	https://www.unjiu.org/en/reports-notes/JIU%20Products/JIU_REP_2015_2_English.pdf	
JIU/REP/2015/4: Public information and communications policies and practices in the United Nations system	UNIDO welcomed the report and supported the six recommendations related to UNIDO.	https://www.unjiu.org/en/reports-notes/JIU%20Products/JIU_REP_2015_4_English.pdf	
JIU/REP/2015/5: Review of activities and resources devoted to address climate change in the United Nations system organizations	UNIDO welcomed the report and supported the four recommendations related to UNIDO.	https://www.unjiu.org/en/reports-notes/JIU%20Products/JIU_REP_2015_5_English.pdf	https://www.unjiu.org/en/reports-notes/CEB%20and%20organisation%20documents/A_70_627_Add1_English.pdf

Report	UNIDO comments	JIU hyperlink	CEB comments hyperlink — when available
JIU/REP/2016/2: Succession planning in the United Nations system organizations	UNIDO welcomed the report and supported the three recommendations related to UNIDO.	https://www.unjiu.org/en/reports-notes/JIU%20Products/JIU_REP_2016_2%20_English.pdf	
JIU/REP/2016/3: Comprehensive review of United Nations system support for Small Island developing States: initial findings	Received for information purposes only.	https://www.unjiu.org/en/about-us/Documents/JIU_REP_2016_3_13_English.pdf	
JIU/REP/2016/4: Fraud prevention, detection and response in United Nations system organizations	UNIDO welcomed the report and supported the fifteen of the sixteen recommendations related to UNIDO. The recommendation relating to ensuring that proportionate fraud and prevention capabilities are an integral part of the ERPs was not accepted. UNIDO considers that the recommendation is desirable but fails to account for the high cost (and related go-live risks) of revising the existing functionalities and integrating potential improvements to the ERP system already in place. Factors such as soft controls pertaining to human behaviour cannot be automated through the ERP.	https://www.unjiu.org/en/reports-notes/JIU%20Products/JIU_REP_2016_4_English.pdf	
JIU/REP/2016/5: Evaluation of the contribution of the United Nations development system to strengthening national capacities for statistical analysis and data collection to support the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally-agreed goals	UNIDO welcomed the report and agreed with four of the five recommendations related to UNIDO. The recommendation relating to the establishment of a network or working group or task force depended on the assessment of the operational capacities and resources already allocated to statistics departments.	https://www.unjiu.org/en/reports-notes/JIU%20Products/JIU_REP_2016_5_Final_English.pdf	
JIU/ML/2016/15: Review of the acceptance and implementation of JIU recommendations by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	UNIDO welcomed the report and adjusted the report to the IDB on JIU activities accordingly.	https://www.unjiu.org/en/reports-notes/JIU%20Products/JIU_ML_2016_15_English.pdf	

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