



Industrial Development Board

Forty-eighth session

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Item 13 of the provisional agenda

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.

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 nine JIU reports¹ were received² by the Organization in 2019 since the previous Board document covering this subject (IDB.47/19). Seven reports as listed below are of relevance to UNIDO:³

JIU/REP/2018/6: Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings of the United Nations system;

JIU/REP/2018/7: Strengthening policy research uptake in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

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 I for further details.

For reasons of economy, this document has not been printed. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to meetings.



[JIU/REP/2019/2](#): Review of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women;

[JIU/REP/2019/3](#): Review of the integration of disaster risk reduction in the work of the United Nations system in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

[JIU/REP/2019/4](#): Review of change management in United Nations system organizations;

[JIU/REP/2019/5](#): Managing cloud computing services in the United Nations system;

[JIU/REP/2019/6](#): Review of audit and oversight committees in the United Nations system.

3. The present document is supplemented with a conference room paper (IDB.48/CRP.8) which includes hyperlinks to the respective JIU reports as well as hyperlinks to the relevant comments on said reports by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB). It is recalled that recommendations and statistics applicable to UNIDO are available through the web-based tracking system (WBTS).⁴ The WBTS also includes UNIDO's compliance and comments on recommendations. A summary of recommendations for consideration by the UNIDO Director General and UNIDO legislative bodies, as well as UNIDO comments, is included in IDB.48/CRP.8.

4. The reports contain a total of 40 recommendations relevant to UNIDO, of which 29 were accepted, while five were not accepted, and six were under consideration.

5. It is noted that recommendations emanating from the JIU review of audit and oversight committees in the United Nations system ([JIU/REP/2019/6](#)) are being addressed through a revision of the terms of reference of the UNIDO Audit Advisory Committee, to be considered by the Board in a separate document on this matter (IDB.48/21).

III. Implementation of Joint Inspection Unit recommendations at UNIDO

6. Member States can be granted read-only access to the consolidated data on the status of implementation of recommendations on the JIU's WBTS. Interested Member States can register with the JIU through the Focal Point for JIU matters in UNIDO in the Office of Evaluation and Internal Oversight via email to IOD@unido.org.

7. UNIDO updates the WBTS with pertinent information on recommendations issued in the last three years. This includes information on the recommendation status of acceptance, the status of implementation and the impact achieved.

8. The status of acceptance and implementation for UNIDO for the period 2017–2019 is presented in the table below. It is shown as percentage of recommendations issued.

Table⁵

	Acceptance					Implementation			
	Not relevant	Accepted/ approved	Rejected	Under consideration	No information provided	Not started	In progress	Implemented	No information provided
UNIDO	2.68	75.89	0	14.29	0	20	29.41	50.59	0

⁴ Please refer to paragraph 6 for information regarding access to WBTS.

⁵ As per information contained in WBTS.

9. It should be noted that with an acceptance rate of 75 per cent and above, UNIDO remained one of the organizations showing a consistently strong performance in this regard.

IV. Work programme 2020

10. As in previous years, the JIU invited participating organizations to submit their proposals for work to be performed by the JIU in the following year. Further to these and to internal consultations, the programme of work for 2020 includes six new reviews. Five of the new reviews are of system-wide relevance or cover multiple organizations, with one relating to management and administrative reviews of a participating organization.

11. The below five new reviews would be of interest to UNIDO:

(a) Cybersecurity in the United Nations system organizations: a review of policies and practices;

(b) Sustainable and environmentally friendly policies, practices and facilities across the United Nations system organizations;

(c) The use of blockchain applications in the United Nations system: a critical SWOT analysis;

(d) Comprehensive review of United Nations system support for the landlocked developing countries; and

(e) Current state of the ethics function in the United Nations system.

12. UNIDO continues to note with appreciation the close cooperation between the JIU and the Secretariat of the CEB.

V. Action required of the Board

13. In compliance with the provisions of Article 11(4) of the Statute of JIU, 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 review the recommendations addressed to the policymaking organs of UNIDO in the corresponding JIU reports, as summarized in IDB.48/CRP.8, and provide guidance on those recommendations as appropriate.