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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.

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. Since the previous Board document covering this subject (IDB.50/21), a total of one JIU note¹ was received² by the Organization in 2023. This note, listed below, is of relevance to UNIDO:³

[JIU/NOTE/2022/1/Rev.1](#): Review of measures and mechanisms for addressing racism and racial discrimination in United Nations system organizations: managing for achieving organizational effectiveness

3. The present document is supplemented by a conference room paper (IDB.51/CRP.5), which includes hyperlinks to the JIU note, as well as a hyperlink to

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 sustainability, this document has not been printed. Delegates are kindly requested to refer to electronic versions of all documents.



the relevant comment on said note 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 document IDB.51/CRP.5.

III. Implementation of Joint Inspection Unit recommendations at UNIDO

4. As mentioned in previous reports, 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 UNIDO Focal Point for JIU matters in the Office of Evaluation and Internal Oversight, via email to eio@unido.org.

5. 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.

6. The status of acceptance and implementation for UNIDO for the period 2020–2022 is presented in the table below. It is shown as percentage of recommendations issued.

Table⁵ (Status as at 14 April 2023)

	Acceptance					Implementation			
	Accepted	Not accepted	Not relevant	Under consideration	Not available	Implemented	In progress	Not started	Not available
UNIDO	54.79	2.74	9.59	31.51	1.37	55	25	7.5	12.5

IV. Specific Joint Inspection Unit recommendations needing attention by the Board

7. As informed in the previous Board document (IDB.50/21), in the JIU report on *Cybersecurity in the United Nations system organizations* (JIU/REP/2021/3), JIU “Inspectors recall a letter addressed to the Secretary-General in 2017, in which the representatives of the United Nations system oversight committees, on the occasion of their first ever joint meeting, identified among the three core concerns for the United Nations system organizations the need for management to give due consideration to new and emerging risks, in particular the global and business critical threats posed to cybersecurity, and the risks emerging from new ways of working as digital transformation gathered pace.”

V. Joint Inspection Unit work programmes 2022 and 2023

8. The JIU informed on the status of implementation of the work plan of the JIU for 2022. From the reviews that were of interest to UNIDO, the following seven ongoing reviews shall be completed by the JIU in 2023:

- Review of the internal pre-tribunal stage appeal mechanisms available to staff members in the United Nations system organizations;

⁴ Please refer to paragraph 4 for information regarding access to the JIU WBTS.

⁵ As per information contained in the JIU WBTS.

- Review of accountability frameworks in the United Nations system organizations;
- Flexible working arrangements in United Nations system organizations;
- Review of mental health and well-being policies and practices in United Nations system organizations;
- Review of the acceptance and implementation of Joint Inspection Unit recommendations by the United Nations system organizations, the process of handling the Joint Inspection Unit reports by the Joint Inspection Unit participating organizations and their consideration by their legislative organs and governing bodies;
- Review of the quality, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of health insurance schemes in the United Nations system organizations; and
- Review of the use of non-staff personnel and related contractual modalities in the United Nations system.

9. The JIU also informed on its programme of work for 2023, which comprises two management and administrative reviews of United Nations system organizations and one system wide review that is of interest to UNIDO, namely the Review of the Medical Services in the United Nations system.

10. The JIU informed that the limited number of reviews in the programme of work for 2023 is the result of several reviews in the JIU 2022 work plan being carried over into 2023, as well as limited budget resources. The delay in the completion of reviews in 2022 is attributable to various factors including the cumulative effect of difficulties that both the Unit and participating organizations experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic. The JIU further informed that highest priority was being given to ensuring that all reviews that have been carried over will be completed in 2023, with the majority issued in the first half of the year.

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

VI. Action required of the Board

12. The Board may wish to take note of the information contained in the present document and provide specific guidance on the recommendations addressed to executive heads of United Nations system organizations and legislative and governing bodies, as summarized in conference room paper IDB.51/CRP.5.