



Check Against Delivery

United Nations General Assembly Sixty-Sixth Session

Fifth Committee

**Introduction of the Note of the Secretary-General on the Report of the Joint Inspection
Unit annual report for 2011 and programme of work for 2012 (A/66/34)**

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

I am pleased to introduce, on behalf of the Secretary-General and the United Nations system Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), the note of the Secretary-General on the report of Joint Inspection Unit for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2011 and a description of its programme of work for 2012 contained in supplement document A/66/34.

This note responds to the request of the Assembly, in resolution 65/270, to the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to expedite the implementation of that resolution and provide support to the Joint Inspection Unit.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

As you will see in the report before you, the Joint Inspection Unit has completed 11 reports and one note which have been addressed to its participating organizations. Eight reports and a note were of a system-wide nature to which the CEB Secretariat coordinated input. One concerned several organizations, and two were "single organization" reviews.

For each report, the CEB Secretariat collects and collates responses from agencies, and prepares a Note of the Secretary-General synthesizing these comments. Before a consolidated report is finalized for consideration by governing and legislative bodies, it is circulated for confirmation from organizations of the United Nations system.

In response to the request from this body, and as we can see from the results achieved in 2011 contained in the report from the Unit, as well as the 2012 programme of work, the Unit has increased its study of issues that have a system-wide impact, and as a result the already close collaboration between our two inter-agency bodies has intensified.

We interact with the JIU throughout the cycle of preparing its programme of work to providing guidance to Inspectors and reviewing reports that have a system-wide impact.

For completed reports, the CEB Secretariat continues its efforts to more quickly produce its companion Notes of the Secretary-General to system-wide reports of the Joint Inspection Unit. Our close working partnership with the secretariat of the Joint Inspection Unit has allowed us to take steps to ensure that we receive these reports shortly after publication. And by urging organizations to provide a more timely response to our requests for comments, we are working to achieve a more effective process in preparing reports.

The subject of closer coordination between CEB member organizations and the Unit continues to be a priority. The CEB Secretariat encourages member organizations, among other actions, to ensure a good information flow between each organization and the Unit as well as coordinate action on the Unit's recommendations and programme of work.

With regard to the Unit's programme of work, while organizations of the United Nations system have always contributed to this process, the CEB Secretariat also assists the Unit in the identification of relevant and useful topics that it may consider adding to its programme of work for the year. As mentioned earlier, we strive to be useful to the JIU during the preparation of its reports, acting as expert subject-matter advisors as needed and also by facilitating input from organizations on the content of the reports.

It is increasingly common for the CEB Secretariat to work closely with the Unit's Inspectors during the preparation of draft reports, a process that helps contribute towards a more comprehensive and agreed-upon outcome.

In addition, CEB and its high-level committees continue to look at ways to further enhance cooperation between the Secretariat and the Unit, for example through inviting Inspectors to participate in meetings to exchange views during the preparation of the Unit's reports, as needed. The CEB Secretariat, I hasten to add, performs these actions within existing and very limited capacities.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

I would like to conclude by stating that the United Nations system places high value on the work of the Unit. We believe that our actions, in addition to continued dialogue between the Secretariats of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the Joint Inspection Unit, have measurably improved mutual cooperation and collaboration to further our collective efforts towards a stronger United Nations system working as one.

Looking ahead, the Secretary-General will continue to pursue a closer working relationship with the Joint Inspection Unit and examine further modalities to enhance cooperation, particularly in light of possible measures to strengthen the CEB Secretariat. We will be guided by the advice from this Committee and we look forward to supporting you on this process.

Thank you and I welcome any questions or comments.