

**Activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services
for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012**

(A/67/297 (Part I) and Add.1))

**Statement to the Fifth Committee by
Assistant-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services
David Kanja**

8 October 2012

Mr. Chairman, distinguished Members of the Fifth Committee,

I am pleased to introduce the report on the Activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012.

OIOS continued to make progress with various change management initiatives aimed at increasing efficiency and effectiveness. These initiatives included the commissioning of quality reviews for each of the three divisions. The review for the internal audit division was concluded last year, while the reviews for the Investigations Division and the Inspection and Evaluation Division are now in the final stages. During this past reporting year, OIOS also developed a clear vision that is based on stakeholders' expectations and started to develop strategies aimed at pooling resources and centralizing administrative functions. The Office is also in the process of repositioning its communication tools and activities to ensure effective outreach to stakeholders.

I am also pleased to share with you that over the past two years, we have slashed the overall OIOS vacancy rate by almost 12 per cent: in August 2010, the vacancy rate stood at 23 per cent and now, in September this year, it had dropped to almost 11 per cent. While this is a marked improvement, we will continue to pursue further reductions and will be periodically informing you of our progress.

During the reporting period, OIOS issued a total of 284 reports with 807 recommendations; of these, 65 were critical recommendations. In comparison, those figures were much higher last year, with 323 reports, 1,702 recommendations, and 398 critical recommendations.

This reduction in the number of recommendations is the result of the introduction of overall audit ratings of satisfactory, partially satisfactory and unsatisfactory and of audit recommendation categories of critical, important, and opportunity for improvement. OIOS is using the recommendation categories to ensure better follow-up based on the importance or criticality of deficiencies. The use of ratings and categories has also resulted in the strengthening of the overall audit review process and in better client relations. OIOS clients have also benefited since they now deal with less volume and thus have more time to focus on important and critical issues.

As requested by Member States, we conducted an internal audit risk trend analysis. And perhaps it is not surprising that information technology management, especially in view of the development of major systems, such as Inspira and Umoja, was among the higher risk profiles in 2011. In general, the highest risk areas in 2011 spanned across all operational

activities the Organization is involved in: programme and project management; safety and security; procurement and contract administration; information technology; human resources management; and strategic management and governance.

Mr. Chairman,

OIOS staff are guided by the OIOS vision of a strong and accountable United Nations fortified by world-class internal oversight, and by the OIOS mission of delivering objective oversight results that make a difference. I would like to thank all of them, at all levels and at all world-wide OIOS locations, for their hard work and the dedication they continue to show to internal oversight and the ideals of the United Nations in general.

I would also like to express my appreciation to you, the Member States, for your continued support and for the trust you place in OIOS.

The annual report before you covers a wide range of subjects of the work of the Internal Audit Division, the Inspection and Evaluation Division, and the Investigations Division in as much detail as is possible in the limited space allowed. I welcome your questions on any subject matter.

Thank you.