



United Nations General Assembly Sixty-Eighth Session

Fifth Committee

**Introduction of the Note of the Secretary-General on the Report of the Joint
Inspection Unit "Review of enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems in the
United Nations system"**

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

I am pleased to introduce, on behalf of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), the note of the Secretary-General, document A/68/344/Add.1, conveying his comments and those of CEB members on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Review of enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems in the United Nations system".

In their report, the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) examines the implementation and use of these applications by organizations of the UN system, including upgrades and extensions that have taken place since these systems were first introduced. The review analyses the project management practices, along with costs and benefits associated with ERP systems, with recommendations directed to executive heads, legislative bodies and the CEB.

Mr Chairman, distinguished delegates, agencies expressed appreciation for the comprehensive nature of the report, and noted in particular the report annexes which, which they note provide an in-depth overview of ERP implementation details.

Furthermore, as you can see in the note of the Secretary-General, while organizations had comments on several details of statements in the report, they largely accepted the analysis contained in the JIU report. Agencies also accepted the recommendations in the report, although these came with explanatory comments.

For example, while agencies accepted the need for ERP training, as called for in recommendation 1, they also pointed out that training was one component of a larger need for accountability in the use of the ERP system implemented by the organization. Similarly, in recommendation 3 the JIU stress the need for “regular monitoring and reporting mechanisms for ERP projects”. While agreeing with the recommendation, in their response agencies point out that all ICT-related projects require regular monitoring and reporting, and these should form part of ICT governance, following good practice and industry standards.

In closing, Mr Chairman, on behalf of the agencies of the UN system, I would like to thank the JIU for this report, which covered a topic of interest to CEB members and importance to the entire UN system. I reiterate that organizations of the system found much value in the report.

Of course, I stand ready to answer any questions you or the committee may have.

Thank you