



**JOINT INSPECTION UNIT**  
of the United Nations System

**CORPS COMMUN d'INSPECTION**  
du Système des Nations Unies

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

7 March 2022

STATEMENT TO THE FIFTH COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

First part of the 76<sup>th</sup> resumed session

Agenda item 144

**Report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2021 and Programme of Work for 2022**

A/76/34

Inspector Gopinathan Achamkulangare, Chair of the Joint Inspection Unit

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

I have the honor to introduce the report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2021 and the programme of work for 2022, as contained in document A/76/34.

Owing to the continuing global pandemic, the Unit's normal working methods remained disrupted in 2021, and some planned activities had to be curtailed or cancelled. Nevertheless, the Unit managed to adjust its work to meet the challenges and constraints, thereby enabling it to complete five system-wide reviews, one single organization review and issue one management letter. Four more projects launched in 2021 will be completed in the coming months.

I would like to draw the attention of the Committee to the review of management and administration in FAO, which had been included in the programme of work for 2021. Subsequent to the initiation of work on the review, the Director General of FAO requested that the review be deferred to spring 2024. Following consultation with FAO, the Unit decided to suspend the review with immediate effect. The Director General of FAO was informed that the Unit was unable to commit to his proposed date for the review but would consider the resumption thereof in future work programmes.

The Unit's programme of work for 2022 consists of six new projects, carefully selected through a consultative process, in line with the request of the General Assembly to continue to focus its reports on priority items of the participating organizations and the States Members of the United Nations.<sup>1</sup> The projects in the Unit's programme of work for 2022 are listed in annex VII of the report before you and comprise five system-wide reviews and one review of management and administration in a single organization.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution [75/270](#), paragraph 14.

The General Assembly, in its resolution 75/270, welcomed the implementation of the Unit's strategic framework for the period 2020–2029 and stressed the need to continuously update and improve the framework.<sup>2</sup> In this context, the inspectors committed to conducting a structured internal self-assessment to inform, among other things, the expected results, criteria, targets and measurements in the strategic framework. The self-assessment exercise will provide a basis for revising the Unit's strategic framework, particularly the performance plan and the specific indicators of performance and measures against which the Unit's performance can be reported.

While the Unit is committed to improving the quality of its reports, including their readability and timeliness, and to providing the General Assembly and other legislative organs of participating organizations with thematic reports and practical and action-oriented recommendations, the effectiveness and impact of the work of the Unit depends on the actions taken on its recommendations. In this regard, the Unit continued to engage with the executive heads, senior management and with the oversight entities of its participating organizations.

In annex IV of the report, the Unit provides the average rate of acceptance and implementation of recommendations (listed by intended impact category), as requested by the Assembly, and in annex II, it lists the recommendations made in the reports issued in 2021 which are addressed to legislative organs and governing bodies.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

The Assembly noted with appreciation the use of the Unit's web-based tracking system and encouraged the Unit to continue to enhance the system.<sup>3</sup> The maintenance challenges, the age of the system and unaddressed requests for enhanced functionality and access from Member State delegations and JIU participating organizations alike, have made the review of the system a priority for the Unit in 2022. After careful consideration of the issue, the Unit is convinced that without action taken to replace the system, it will run the risk of becoming obsolete and ineffective to the Unit and its stakeholders. The Unit therefore requests the approval of the General Assembly to seek extrabudgetary funding from Member States, as presented in paragraph 49 of the report. Approval is also sought for the Unit to include the cost of the annualized licensing and support in its annual budget proposal as from 2024.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

I thank you for your time and look forward to answering any questions you may have, either now or in the informal consultations.

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<sup>2</sup> Resolution 75/270, paragraph 9.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, paragraph 15.