

United Nations Nations Unies

BOARD OF AUDITORS

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Opening Statement to the Fifth Committee on the Reports of the Board of Auditors on Concise Summary, Volume I, ITC, UNCDF, UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UNITAR, UNHCR, UNODC, UNOPS, UNRWA, UNU, UN-Women, ICTY and IRMCT

Madam Chairperson,

Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the Chairman, Mr. Rajiv Mehrishi, Comptroller and Auditor General of India and the other Board Members Mr. Kay Scheller, President of the German Federal Court of Auditors, Mr. Mussa Juma Assad, United Republic of Tanzania, I have the honour to introduce the main findings from the Board of Auditors Concise Summary and the reports for the audit of Volume I, ITC, UNCDF, UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UNITAR, UNHCR, UNODC, UNOPS, UNRWA, UNU, UN-Women, ICTY and IRMCT for the period ended 31 December 2017.

mentioned above and the UN Peace Keeping Operations and UNJSPF.

Audit Opinion

All these entities received unqualified audit opinions. ICTY received an emphasis of matter to draw attention to the fact that it had ceased to be a going concern on 31 December 2017 on completion of its mandate.

Financial Performance

Volume I

Financial Management

The financial stat

As to the important issue of fraud and corruption prevention, the Board found that UNITAR's fraud definition differs from the definition used by the Secretariat. UNITAR should adopt the Secretariat's definition. The enterprise risk management system - which is currently under development - does not place a focus on fraud, corruption and misuse of resources by its staff.

UNODC

UNODC is transitioning to Umoja and more time will be needed until all functions will be fully operational. The Board highlighted incomplete review process of incoming donation agreements and a very complex process of full cost recovery. Though the Board noted that cash management had improved over the last year; further improvements are needed to fully align with the underlying rules and regulations.

The Administration had not set up an overall procurement plan for the last two years. The Board noted that there is no sufficient institutional structure to ensure that procurement planning is done in line with the procurement regulations and rules of the United Nations. The Administration had also not undertaken systematic fraud risk assessments.

UN-Women

As noted in past years, the Board observed that there was unsatisfactory assessment and selection of implementing partners. The Board also noted that although UN-Women conducted fraud risk assessments for the entire organization and rolled out the fraud risk assessments for selected headquarters functions and five field offices, there were no individual fraud risk assessment plans for any of the six field offices visited by the Board during the year.

UNDP

The Board continued to note recurring deficiencies in programme and project management. For

UNFPA

UN-Habitat

The Board noted that there were delays in releasing funds to implementing partners. The Board noted that a person who was not a staff and who had no delegated authority entered into a lease agreement for the provision of office and parking space on behalf of UN Habitat country office. The office building in question was not occupied by staff or assets of UN-