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Agenda item No. 142 Joint Inspection Unit

Fifth Committee, 73<sup>rd</sup> Session (resumed)

Opening statement to the Fifth Committee on the JIU Report

Review of whistle-blower policies and practices in United Nations system organizations

JIU/REP/2018/4

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## **Key Findings**

### **1. Not a single whistle-blower policy fully meets all best practices criteria**

The JIU, with the assistance of an external, independent expert, developed five best practices criteria and 22 corresponding indicators to assess the strength of PAR policies. 23 PAR policies covering 28 JIU participating organizations were then rated against these indicators, and the ratings were subsequently reviewed and validated by the organizations themselves. The exercise revealed that not a single policy fully met all best practices criteria. This may be largely due to the ad-hoc nature of policy design in some organizations.

### **2. Key functions that support the implementation of PAR policies may not be fully independent**

Such functions, including the head of oversight, head of ethics and

from retaliation; developing procedures for handling retaliation cases; ensuring channels for anonymous reporting