Management Response to the report of the Audit Advisory Committee

For the period 1 January to 31 December 2016
In line with the report of the Audit Advisory Committee, UN Women is:

➢ reviewing the typology of country presences;
➢ continuing to decentralize authority to the field, including increasing delegated authority to the field;
➢ strengthening the financial management capabilities;
➢ testing an e-recruitment system.

➢ UN Women launched a global workforce database, developed a performance management compliance dashboard, transitioned to a new learning management system, and piloted leadership development and mentorship programmes.
UN Women:
➢ welcomes the Committee’s continued support for the Flagship Programme Initiatives (FPIs) and support for its results management system, including its use in improving planning and reporting;
➢ agrees with the Committee’s recommendation on closely monitoring the management of advances made to implementing partners.

Enterprise risk management
➢ UN Women produced the first Corporate Risk Register that provides a view of organization’s top risks;
➢ Continues efforts to build capacity and awareness to sustain the practice of risk management.
Financial statements

➢ Appreciates the acknowledgement of the Committee on UN Women’s receipt of an unqualified audit opinion from the Board of Auditors for the fifth consecutive year.

Funding framework and resource mobilization

UN Women:

➢ Agrees with the importance of realistic targets and clear assignment of responsibility and accountability for resource mobilization;

➢ Agrees with the recommendation to focus on quality and capacity of partners rather than quantity of partners.

Ethics

➢ Increased communications with the UN Ethics Office
Internal oversight and assurance functions

UN Women
Evaluation
* Agrees with the Committee on the importance of evaluation assessing expected achievements.

Internal Audit
➢ Has updated the comparative cost analysis comparing current outsourcing arrangement with internalizing the function within UN Women and notes that internalizing shows significant cost savings;
➢ Welcomes the Committee’s suggestion to establish one oversight unit covering internal oversight and assurance functions.

Investigations
➢ Has taken measures to obtain timely updates on investigations.
UN Women fully agrees recommendation to ensure outsourced functions are performed appropriately;

UN Women led the group of UN entities receiving services to issue a request to UN entities providing services to share the list of provided services, performance indicators, and prices.