Management Response to Annual Report on Internal Audit and Investigations Activities

for the year ended 31 December 2019

Presented by:
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Overview of Internal Audit Activities and Management Response to Overall Recommendation

“No significant weaknesses were identified in the Entity’s governance, risk management, and control processes that would seriously compromise the achievement of UN-Women’s strategic and operational objectives”

**Overall Recommendations**

- Ongoing actions to consider pursuing effective preparation of relevant **Statement of Internal Control**

- ‘UN-Women 2.0’ continue to strengthen **Second Line of Defense** at Regional Offices and Headquarters

**99%**

Prior Years' Recommendations Implementation Rate

**Above** corporate target of **90%** for **5** years
Beneficial results from completing 2019 recommendations

- Main Business Process Owner accountable for effective partner management and lead development of an end-to-end partner monitoring system
- Improved programme results monitoring and timely project reports submission
- Programme implementation designed with exit strategy for project sustainability towards national ownership
- Aligned regional priorities and donor funding through Gender Equality Bilateral Partners Group consultations
- Regional programmes with cross-border significance and complemental results at the country level
- Human resources strategy and recruitment plan supports effective programme and project implementation
- Advocated establishment of UN Country Team’s gender scorecard and gender & human rights training
- Updated Risk Management Policy streamlined communication protocols for timely and efficient risk escalation to senior management
Status of prior years’ audit recommendations

Implemented one & completed one out of three long-outstanding recommendations

- Effectively functioning Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Plans under global health crisis
- Promulgated Resource Mobilization Partnership Policy
- On going System improvement on mapping of Results Management System with Atlas

Implemented
Completed
In-Progress
Response to Executive Board Decision 2019/3

All recurring issues and implementing partner related recommendations for 2018 are **Implemented**

- Appropriate partnership or IP capacity development for sustainable projects towards national ownership
- Increased assurance on proper use of project funding through improved advance liquidation review
- Minimized risks of not achieving programme results with rigorous IP capacity assessment
- Correct contract modality and proper engagement, monitoring and reporting by third parties on activities carried out
- Efficient risk-based and focused programme monitoring included in MERP and AWP

Last long outstanding recommendation and three high priority recommendations for 2018 are **Implemented**

- Small Grants Policy and Procedure Promulgated
- Marked improvement in Gender Scorecard for gender equality and women empowerment
- Synergized Private Sector resource mobilization strategy and clear roles and responsibilities
- Demonstrated continuity of business and agile operations amid global health crisis
Investigations Activities

Overall actions:

• Commitment to offer a positive and respectful workplace

• Workplace concerns dealt with in a holistic manner; identify issues and root cause of conflicts addressed

• Transparent 2019 Disciplinary Report; zero-tolerance policy

Strategy and Policy in place to promote ethical and respectful workplace:

• Inclusive Workplace Strategy that promotes diversity & inclusion and upholds UN Standards of Conduct

• Updated Policy on Prevention of Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Discrimination and Abuse of Authority
Thank you!

Questions?