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Joint Inspection Unit

Report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2021

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The present note was prepared pursuant to paragraph 17 of General Assembly resolution [65/270](#), in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), to expedite the implementation of that resolution, including through the expected provision of support to the Joint Inspection Unit by the secretariats of the participating organizations in the preparation of its reports, notes and confidential letters, and through the consideration of and action on the recommendations of the Unit in the light of pertinent resolutions of the Assembly, and to report to the Assembly on an annual basis on the results achieved.
2. In accordance with the statute of the Unit, the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB and through the secretariat of CEB, performs functions that support the work of the Unit, mainly in the preparation of reports that concern more than one organization.
3. In accordance with the Unit's mandate, once a report on an issue of a system-wide nature has been finalized by the Unit, the CEB secretariat circulates it to United Nations system organizations that are members of the Unit. The secretariat requests the organizations to make comments on the final version of the report, including on the methodology used by the Unit during its preparation and the content and value of the recommendations made therein. Although each organization addresses the recommendations within the framework of its governing bodies, the comments, which are collated and issued as United Nations documents under cover of a note by the Secretary-General, reflect the overall consensus of the United Nations system. During this process, and as a matter of normal practice, the secretariat requests organizations to respond within the deadline provided to produce the comments of the Secretary-General and those of CEB members within the mandated time frame. In this regard, throughout 2021, the secretariats of CEB and the Unit continued their constructive dialogue and exchanged updates regarding the timely preparation of the notes by the Secretary-General containing those comments.
4. In addition to those notes by the Secretary-General, the CEB secretariat continues to work closely with the Unit on the preparation of its annual programme



of work. It provides substantive input regarding specific proposals and facilitates the process as requested by the secretariat of the Unit.

5. The secretariats of CEB and the Unit continue to engage in a dialogue that ensures a smooth report preparation process as the Unit maintains its focus on issues of a system-wide nature. In 2021, for example, the CEB secretariat, often in consultation with CEB-related technical and issue-driven networks, provided comments on a number of draft reports being prepared by the Unit and met with inspectors, as well as the Unit's secretariat staff, to discuss issues pertaining to ongoing and future reports.

6. Dialogue between the secretariats was ongoing during the reporting period, mostly in a virtual format owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic-related limitations on travel, including in the context of the biennial meeting of Unit focal points held virtually on 15 and 16 September. Such exchanges with representatives of the Unit and the inspectors provided for constructive discussions about current and future collaboration.

7. Lastly, the Secretary-General, in consultation with members of CEB and in accordance with procedures set out in chapter 2, article 3, of the statute of the Unit, reviewed the qualifications of four inspectors proposed for appointment in 2022.

8. The Secretary-General remains committed to maintaining a close working relationship with the Unit and encourages all organizations to respond in a timely manner and in a spirit of cooperation to its requests.
