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Committee for Programme and Coordination Sixty-second session 31 May-1 July 2022

Draft report

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Addendum

Programme questions: evaluation (Item 3 (b))

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations from the programme evaluation of the offices of the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, on Sexual Violence in Conflict and on Violence against Children

1. At its 6th meeting, on 1 June 2022, the Committee considered the report of OIOS on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations from the programme evaluation of the offices of the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, on Sexual Violence in Conflict and on Violence against Children (E/AC.51/2022/11).

The representative of OIOS introduced the report and, together with other 2. representatives, responded to questions raised by the Committee during its consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Several delegations expressed appreciation to OIOS for carrying out the review and to the offices of the Special Representatives for their collaboration.

4. A delegation expressed appreciation for the fact that evaluation was part of the reform that the Secretary-General had put in place in 2017, including the need for greater accountability as part of an increased delegation of authority when it came to programme implementation. The delegation highlighted the importance of transparency in implementing the recommendations.





5. Several delegations emphasized the vital role played by the offices in protecting children who had been afflicted by sexual violence and conflict by complementing the work carried out by other partners in the United Nations system.

6. Several delegations welcomed the steps taken to implement the recommendations and the continued work to ensure full implementation, with one welcoming the efforts to better incorporate lessons learned and risk assessment into the offices' work.

7. Several delegations encouraged the offices to continue their close cooperation in joint work planning, information sharing, coordination, reporting and joint communications. A delegation sought clarification on the impact of coordination efforts between the offices in implementing their mandates. Another sought clarification on the institutionalized coordination between the offices, noting that formalization of any coordination did not require the establishment of a new committee.

8. A delegation highlighted the enhanced communication, effective sharing of advocacy messages and joint efforts among the offices and key partners. Another noted that, in 2005, the Security Council had already recognized the role of civil society in the protection of children in armed conflict. There were 400 million children in conflict areas at risk of abuse, and children could be abducted, raped, conscripted or sold. Girls and children with disabilities were particularly vulnerable. Accordingly, communication was very important and the United Nations must be more visible in terms of achievements and actions. In that regard, clarification was sought on recommendation 1 (para. 10), pertaining to the impact of the offices' presence on social media.

Conclusions and recommendations

9. The Committee considered the report of OIOS on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its fiftyninth session on the programme evaluation of the offices of the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, on Sexual Violence in Conflict and on Violence against Children.

10. The Committee noted the efforts of the offices to implement all the recommendations.

11. The Committee encouraged the offices to further enhance formal coordination between them in the future.