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Fifty-ninth session Fifth Committee Agenda item 118 Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following informal consultations

## **Reports of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services**

The General Assembly,

*Recalling* its resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994 and 54/244 of 23 December 1999,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 56/246 of 24 December 2001 and 58/101 B of 9 December 2003,

*Having considered* the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services for the period 1 July 2002 to 30 June  $2003^{1}$  and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the review of the structure and operations of United Nations information centres,<sup>2</sup>

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

2. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;<sup>1</sup>

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of Internal Oversight Services continues to provide internal oversight of the entire claims process of the United Nations Compensation Commission and to report regularly thereon in the context of the Office of Internal Oversight Services annual report;

4. *Recalls* rule 1.2 of the Staff Regulations and Rules, and requests the Secretary-General to provide information to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session in the context of its consideration of matters related to procurement reform

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A/58/364.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A/57/747 and Corr.1.

on actions taken to prevent recurrence of incidents of possible conflict of interest and inappropriate procurement practices;

5. *Notes* the description of the mission of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, as outlined in the annual report,<sup>1</sup> and, in this regard, stresses that the mission of the Office should be in full conformity with its mandate, as approved in its resolution 48/218 B;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees develops and utilizes comprehensive policy guidelines for the selection and management of consultants to ensure transparency and objectivity in their engagement, monitoring and evaluation as well as to make greater efforts to ensure a geographical balance in the use of qualified consultants, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

7. *Endorses* the relevant recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services regarding improvement of internal controls in management, accounting and reporting of assets of all United Nations field missions to establish reliable records, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixtieth session;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to codify appropriate procedures for the purchase and utilization of vehicles and other equipment by United Nations field missions to ensure compliance by all missions with the procedures and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixtieth session;

9. *Notes with concern* the contents of paragraph 97 of the annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services<sup>1</sup> on the management and control of United Nations laissez-passer, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the development of appropriate Organization-wide rules, policies and procedures for managing the laissez-passer and to report thereon to the General Assembly, as appropriate.

10. *Recalls* paragraph 38 of General Assembly resolution 58/101 B, and takes note of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the review of the structure and operations of United Nations information centres.