



 **UN
WOMEN** 



Planet 50-50 by 2030
Step It Up for Gender Equality



Management Response to Annual Report on Internal Audit & Investigations Activities



For the year ended 31 December 2017

- **Satisfactory opinion** - governance, risk management and control in the audits conducted were generally established and functioning well
- **Audit recommendation implementation rates**
 - ✓ **Measuring against prior year**

2017	2016
99%	98%

- **No long outstanding audit recommendations** for more than 18 months

Combined Assurance Providers



- Internal Audit: **15.2%** of Total Expenditures, **8 Field offices** (Full scope and Follow up) audits and **20 DIM Project** audits; **AND**
- UNBoA External Audit: **Headquarters and 6 field offices** with focus on financial statement; **AND**
- Global Auditors project audits: **44%** of Project Expenditures, **93 projects** with **218 partners**; **AND**
- Investigation activities: Global service; **AND**
- Independent Evaluation: **2 Corporate and 37 decentralized** evaluations

- **UN-Women implemented from 2016 internal audits:**
 - All Corporate recommendations
 - All recurring recommendations

- **Highlights of positive impact from actions taken to 2016 recommendations:**
 - Information Communication and Technology management
 - ✓ Ahead among other UN agencies, adopted cloud storage platform to protect corporate data
 - ✓ Reinforced security through regular user access rights review and updates

 - Travel management
 - ✓ Increased efficiency and value for money in travel management
 - ✓ Reduction by 30% in spending of country offices on air fares in 2017

- *Implementation of Recurring recommendations resulted in:*
 - Expanded to a broader donor base with updated Country Office Resource Mobilization Strategy
 - More rigorous partner selection through the new Call for Proposal process
 - Promoted increase in Joint Programming through issuance of improved guidance
 - Intensified safe guarding of assets and up-to-date asset registers

- *Implementation of Corporate High Priority recommendations resulted in:*
 - Streamlined Global Programming process with updated guidance
 - Sustained leadership / oversight of operations despite senior management vacancy through:
 - ✓ Detailed Assignment Guidelines
 - ✓ Rotation Policy

➤ *Implementation of Non-recurring High Priority recommendations resulted in:*

- Improved UN Country Team gender mainstreaming through UN-Women's leadership and coordination
- Decrease by 59% in long outstanding partner advances
- Ensured efficiency in procurement with the use of Standard Operating Procedures and checklists
- Maximized the use of the cloud storage platform for improved data back-up process
- Strengthened compliance to Safety and Security Requirements
- Streamlined review of implementing partner expenditure to ensure validity

- In its commitment to zero tolerance of SEA, sexual harassment and misconduct and fraud, UN Women continued its global workforce training on prevention of SEA and fraud, supplemented by mandatory online training, which is also available to partners and suppliers.
- Through training, early intervention, and informal dispute resolution, UN Women increased efforts to address workplace issues at the management level. This correlated with a decrease in workplace harassment cases in 2017.
- Full implementation of zero-tolerance policy in all substantiated cases including through contract termination.
- For financial loss recorded in 2016, full recovery of the balance of \$28,362 which represented 0.010% of total programme budget.



Thank you!
Q & A