

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

STATEMENT TO THE FIFTH COMMITTEE
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FOR INTERNAL OVERSIGHT SERVICES

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Mr. Chairman, distinguished members of the Fifth Committee

I have the honor to introduce to you OIOS' report on the **Audit of the management structures of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations**, contained in document A/61/743.

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 59/296, OIOS conducted this audit to assess whether the Department's existing organizational structures, strategies and key management functions adhered to sound management principles and practices, and whether the coordination with other partners in peace operations was effective. OIOS focused on DPKO's management structure for governance, accountability, doctrine, organizational structure, delegated authority in key administrative functions, training, mission support and partnering in peace operations.

OIOS identified several weaknesses in DPKO's management structures. For example, a comprehensive doctrine that includes formal processes and procedures specifying the accountability structure, management of delegation of authority and allocation of responsibilities within DPKO was lacking; there was insufficient use of results-based budgeting as a performance measurement system or as a strategic framework to govern the Department's operations; and the integration of operational processes in the Department was inadequate.

The audit also identified areas for further improvement in communication and coordination with the Department's partners in peace operations. These include a need for establishing a single point of communication in the Department and terms of reference for integrated mission task forces which are a key mechanism for ensuring coherent, consistent and coordinated engagement for UN system partners in the integrated mission planning process.

DPKO must address these weaknesses to fulfill its ever-increasing responsibilities and to make the most efficient use of budget resources provided by the Member States. The audit also underscored a topic that I have reiterated on previous occasions, that is the need for a formal and robust internal control framework. OIOS considers an internal control framework to be a building block of any accountability framework. OIOS is also strongly encouraging the establishment of a much-improved results-based management framework and a risk management framework, which should be integrated under one robust internal control framework.

OIOS issued 15 recommendations from this audit, aimed at improving management structures of DPKO including governance, accountability, integration and performance management. I am pleased to acknowledge that all OIOS' recommendations have been accepted and several are already in the process of implementation.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

This audit was concluded before the Secretary-General presented his proposals for restructuring DPKO to the General Assembly. Therefore this report does not take into consideration the impact of those proposals. All the same, the recommendations in this report are intended to ensure sound management principles under any organizational structure. In this regard, I am pleased to note that the General Assembly, in its resolution A/RES/61/256, requested the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report elaborating on the restructuring of the DPKO, taking into consideration, *inter alia*, the recommendations of this report.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.