

# **Report to Executive Board on Oversight Recommendations**

August 22, 2022

*Requests that UNOPS review and develop a timeline to implement all outstanding recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and the Joint Inspection Unit, and to present this to the Executive Board at the second regular session 2022*

1. This report is provided in response to Executive Board decision 2022/13, paragraph 4, dated 6 June 2022:

*“Requests that UNOPS review and develop a timeline to implement all outstanding recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and the Joint Inspection Unit, and to present this to the Executive Board at the second regular session 2022;”*

2. This report makes further reference to Executive Board Decision 2021/21, paragraph 4:

*“Requests that UNOPS address the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report DP/2022/2 (DP/OPS/2021/7), including on providing the Executive Board with prudent budget estimates, present further information on the calculation methodology of those estimates for the 2024-2025 biennium and thereafter, reassess the level of management fees with a view to establishing fees at levels which do not accumulate surpluses over and above the realistically assessed operational reserves, report back to the Executive Board at the second regular session in 2022 on these matters, and reflect any changes in the next budget estimates for 2024-2025;”*

3. UNOPS is committed to taking timely and appropriate action in response to recommendations from its external oversight bodies, the United Nations Board of Auditors (UNBOA) and the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU); and its internal oversight body, the Internal Audit and Investigations Group (IAIG). Further, under consideration of the Board’s decision 2021/21, UNOPS has reviewed recommendations contained in DP/2022/2 and identified appropriate steps.
4. Following the decision of the Board in June 2022, UNOPS submitted a ten-point action plan. This action plan included, as item A1, a dedicated effort to establish timelines for implementation of its outstanding oversight recommendations.
5. The result is summarized in Table 1, below.

| <b>Recommendation from</b> | <b>Closed<sup>1</sup> since 6 June 2022</b> | <b>Open as of 17 August 2022</b> | <b>Open timeline defined</b> | <b>Open timeline pending</b> |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>UNBOA</b>               | 26  | 45                               | 45                           | 0                            |
| <b>JIU</b>                 | 12  | 13                               | 13                           | 0                            |
| <b>ACABQ</b>               | 0   | 10                               | 10                           | 0                            |
| <b>IAIG</b>                | 75  | 82                               | 82                           | 0                            |

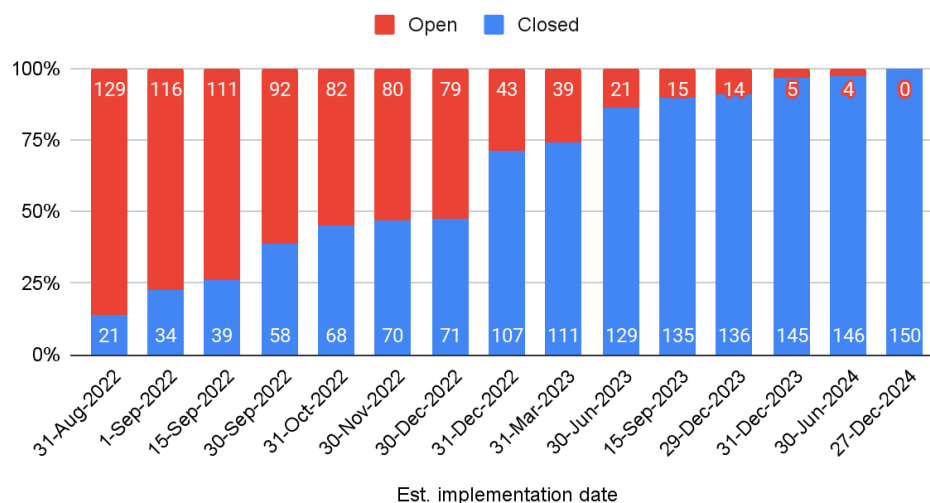
6. Of the 150 open recommendations, 107 are expected to be implemented by the end of 2022 for UNBOA (which includes recommendations in the report of the UNBoA issued July 2022 for the year

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<sup>1</sup> This includes UNBOA, JIU and IAIG recommendations verified as closed by the oversight function, and relevant ACABQ recommendations.

2021), JIU, ACABQ and IAIG recommendations. Another group of recommendations will be implemented within the first half of 2023. See table below:

### Projected closure progress as of 17 August 2022



7. Particular attention is given to prioritize the implementation of aged recommendations that will reach 24 months by the end of August 2022.
8. Some outstanding recommendations are subject to dependencies outside UNOPS full control. For example, a number of recommendations from the Joint Inspection Unit require joint action by members of the High Level Committee on Management, including UNOPS, as they aim to address more systematic issues. Other recommendations depend on the development of new IT systems or components, which by their nature are expected to require efforts over a longer time horizon, and need to be integrated into the work plan through the existing processes for prioritizing and resourcing such investments. These recommendations are currently estimated to require efforts, some time into 2024.
9. UNOPS will continue to take advice from partners in the implementation of recommendations, where relevant.
10. UNOPS will ensure that incoming new recommendations are likewise addressed in a timely manner.