

Information Note

Information note on the status of the distribution of excess reserves to paying entities, including undisbursed funds

December 2025

Executive summary

With EB decision 2025/31 the Board has paused the refund process of UNOPS liquid excess reserves until further notice. In its financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2024, UNOPS reported a total of USD 70.8m of liquid excess reserves.

I. Recent Decisions on UNOPS liquid excess reserves

In EB decision 2023/18, the EB requested UNOPS to propose to the Executive Board, for approval at every second regular session at which the UNOPS biennial budget is considered, starting in 2023, a fair and transparent methodology, and time frame for distributing – within 12 months following receipt of the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors – any excess reserves accumulated in the relevant budget cycle to paying entities, including those of the United Nations system, to be presented in an informal session prior to those second regular sessions.

In EB decision 2025/6, paragraph 19, the EB further decided to revisit the revised methodology for calculating liquid excess reserves for endorsement after receiving an assessment by the Board of Auditors and UNOPS following its piloted application the EB took note of the information note provided by UNOPS on the status, timelines, and methodology for the distribution and calculation of liquid excess reserves.

The EB subsequently, in decision 2025/31, approved the revised liquid excess reserve calculation methodology to be used on an annual basis, and the annual disclosure of liquid excess reserves presented in an annex of the UNOPS financial statements. It also endorsed the proposed distribution methodology and timeline presented for the biennium 2024-2025 pursuant to decision 2023/18 and decided, on an exceptional basis, to pause the distribution of the liquid excess reserves accumulated by UNOPS until a decision is taken by the Executive Board.

II. Status of UNOPS liquid excess reserves as of 31 December 2024

UNOPS reported in Annex II of its [Audited Financial Statements](#), following the approved liquid excess reserve calculation methodology, a total of USD 70.8m of liquid excess reserves for the year ending 31 December 2024.

III. Next update on UNOPS liquid excess reserves status

UNOPS will update the Executive Board on estimated development of the liquid excess reserves as of 31 December 2025 during an informal session before the first regular session of 2026. The final statement of liquid excess reserves as of 31 December 2025 will be presented after the conclusion of the audit of UNOPS's 2025 Financial statements in August 2026.