

Internal Audit and Investigations Group IAIG Activity Report for 2017

Annex 4

Summary of substantiated investigation cases in 2017

	Case no.	Region	Type of wrongdoing	Allegations	Loss (United States dollars)	Number of personnel referred to HRLO	Action taken
1	2016/17	South America	Fraud and financial irregularity	Four vendors failed to disclose their relationship when they participated in a UNOPS tender	None	0	The Vendor Review Committee (VRC) exonerated the four vendors.
2	2016/28	Africa	Fraud and financial irregularity	Two vendors submitted fraudulent invoices for payment. Six UNOPS consultants knowingly approved fraudulent invoices. They also failed to require the vendors to correct the faulty and defective work.	None	6	The VRC debarred the two vendors for three years. The Human Resources Legal Officer (HRLO) placed notes in the consultants' personnel files stating that they would have been charged with misconduct if they had not already separated from UNOPS on other grounds.
3	2016/29	Asia	Fraud and financial irregularity	A vendor reported false expenses and inflated costs to conceal kickbacks.	115,749	0	The VRC permanently debarred the vendor. UNOPS recovered the \$115,749 the vendor misappropriated.
4	2016/31	Africa	Fraud and financial irregularity	Three UNOPS vendors paid bribes to a UNOPS consultant. All three fully cooperated with the investigation and admitted their actions.	1,250	1	The VRC censured the three vendors. The HRLO placed a note in the consultant's personnel file stating that s/he would have been charged with misconduct if s/he had not already separated from UNOPS on other grounds.
5	2016/34	Africa	Fraud and financial irregularity	A consultant defrauded UNOPS by overseeing work done by a company s/he owned. ¹	None	0	

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¹ IAIG referred the consultant to the HRLO and VRC in 2016. These were reported in the IAIG 2016 annual report. Thus, IAIG did not count these referrals for 2017 statistics.



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6	2016/40	North America	Conflict of interest	A former consultant refused to cooperate with IAIG, which had an adverse impact on its investigation.	None	1	The HRLO placed a note in the consultant's personnel file stating that s/he refused to cooperate with a UNOPS investigation.
7	2016/43	Asia	Fraud and financial irregularity	Four vendors were connected and colluded in a procurement exercise. They also failed to cooperate with a UNOPS investigation.	None	0	The VRC debarred the four vendors for seven years.
8	2016/48	Africa	Fraud and financial irregularity	An external party misappropriated UNOPS funds by diverting a vendor's payment through identity theft.	109,956	0	UNOPS referred the case to national authorities.
9	2016/51	Africa	Fraud and financial irregularity	A consultant solicited a bribe from a UNOPS vendor, improperly executed an unauthorized contract on behalf of UNOPS, and forged an employment letter.	None	1	The HRLO placed a note in the consultant's personnel file stating that s/he would have been charged with misconduct if s/he had not already separated from UNOPS on other grounds.
10	2016/54	Africa	Fraud and financial irregularity	A consultant was simultaneously employed full-time by UNOPS and another United Nations organization.	20,400	1	The HRLO placed a note in the consultant's personnel file stating that s/he would have been charged with misconduct if s/he had not already separated from UNOPS on other grounds. UNOPS recovered the \$20,400 the consultant fraudulently received in salary.
11	2016/55	North America	Fraud and financial irregularity	Two staff members and three consultants cheated on a recruitment exam.	None	5	The two staff members lost two steps in their grade. The HRLO placed a note in two consultants' personnel files stating that they would



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							have been charged with misconduct if they had not already separated from UNOPS on other grounds The case of the third consultant is currently pending with the HRLO.
12	2016/59	Europe	Fraud and financial irregularity	Two consultants cheated on a recruitment exam.	None	2	The case is currently pending with the HRLO.
13	2017/03	Asia	Other	A vendor obstructed an investigation into allegations of misconduct by a UNOPS employee	None	0	The case is currently pending with the VRC.
14	2017/04	Africa	Fraud and financial irregularity	A consultant forged an official UNOPS document.	None	1	The HRLO placed a note in the consultant's personnel file stating that s/he would have been charged with misconduct if s/he had not already separated from UNOPS on other grounds.
15	2017/06	Africa	Fraud and financial irregularity	A vendor forged an official UNOPS document.	None	0	The VRC debarred the vendor for five years.
16	2017/07	Asia	Harassment/Abuse of authority	A consultant sent threatening text messages to his/her supervisor.	None	1	The consultant's contract was terminated.
17	2017/08	Africa	Fraud and financial irregularity	A vendor committed fraud when it failed to disclose that its subsidiary had been involved in the preparation of a UNOPS tender.	1,221	0	The case is currently pending with the VRC.



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18	2017/11	Europe	Fraud and financial irregularity	A consultant misrepresented information in his/her application for a UNOPS position	None	1	The case is currently pending with the HRLO.
19	2017/16	Africa	Conflict of Interest	A vendor failed to disclose its conflict of interest when it participated in a tender in which its owner was involved as a government focal point.	None	0	The VRC debarred the vendor and its principal for five years.
20	2017/19	Africa	Fraud and financial irregularity	A consultant stole UNMAS funds from the office's operational advance.	6,082	1	The case is currently pending with the HRLO.
21	2017/21	Africa	Fraud and financial irregularity	A former intern misrepresented his/her work experience with UNOPS in two employment certificates. (A) A consultant forged these employment certificates. (B) Another consultant misrepresented information on a reference form for the former intern. (C)	None	3	The HRLO placed a note in a former intern's file stating that s/he would have been charged with misconduct if s/he had not already separated from UNOPS on other grounds. (A) The consultant's contract was terminated. (B) The case of the third consultant is currently pending with the HRLO. (C)
22	2017/24	Asia	Fraud and financial irregularity	A vendor provided fraudulent certificates to a UNOPS vendor. The vendor submitted these certificates to UNOPS without verifying their authenticity.	None	0	The case is currently pending with the VRC
23	2017/25	Africa	External compliance (medical fraud)	A consultant submitted a fraudulent medical insurance claim.	None	1	The case is currently pending with the HRLO.



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24	2017/28	South America	Fraud and financial irregularity	A vendor submitted four fraudulent bank guarantees.	None	0	The case is currently pending with the VRC.
25	2017/31	Asia	Fraud and financial irregularity	A vendor submitted a forged document during a procurement exercise	None	0	The VRC debarred the vendor for five years.
26	2017/32	Africa	Fraud and financial irregularity	A staff member embezzled UNOPS funds by diverting vendor payments.	13,543	1	The case is currently pending with the HRLO.
27	2017/33	Africa	Fraud and financial irregularity	A consultant forged an employment certificate.	None	1	The consultant's contract was terminated.
28	2017/35	North America	Fraud and financial irregularity	Three candidates for a UNOPS position cheated on a recruitment exam.	None	3	The case is currently pending with the HRLO.
29	2017/41	Africa	Fraud and financial irregularity	Two consultants solicited bribes from other UNOPS personnel they supervised. They also failed to fully cooperate with the IAIG investigation.	None	2	The case is currently pending with the HRLO.
30	2017/42	South America	Fraud and financial irregularity	A consultant submitted forged fuel receipts with inflated amounts.	306	1	The case is currently pending with the HRLO.
31	2017/44	North America	Fraud and financial irregularity	A consultant fraudulently added his/her name to technical papers written by others.	None	1	The HRLO placed a note in the consultant's personnel file stating that s/he would have been charged with misconduct if s/he had not already separated from UNOPS on other grounds.



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32	2017/46	Europe	Fraud and financial irregularity	A vendor submitted a forged bank guarantee.	None	0	The case is currently pending with the VRC.
33	2017/47	Asia	Fraud and financial irregularity	A vendor submitted a forged bank guarantee.	None	0	The case is currently pending with the VRC.
34	2017/55	Asia	Fraud and financial irregularity	A vendor submitted a forged document during a procurement exercise.	None	0	The case is currently pending with the VRC.
				TOTAL	268,507	34	