PROGRAMME, BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD Eleventh meeting Provisional agenda item 7.3

EBPBAC11/6 19 November 2009

Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

Report by the Secretariat

- 1. In 2008, the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) issued six reports, one of which was not of direct relevance to WHO¹ or did not call for any specific action from WHO at this stage. Detailed comments by the Secretariat on the remaining five reports from 2008 have been transmitted to JIU and the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination, and these comments, together with JIU's main findings and recommendations, are summarized in a tracking sheet which is available upon request. Specifically, the comments concern the following reports: Junior Professional Officer/Associate Expert/Associate Professional Officer programmes in United Nations system organizations (JIU/REP/2008/2); Management review of environmental governance within the United Nations system (JIU/REP/2008/3); National execution of technical cooperation projects (JIU/REP/2008/4); Review of information and communication technology (ICT) hosting services in the United Nations system organizations (JIU/REP/2008/5); and Review of management of Internet web sites in the United Nations system organizations (JIU/REP/2008/6).
- 2. In 2009, JIU had issued one report by November, namely Review of management and administration in the United Nations World Tourism Organization (JIU/REP/2009/1). This report is not of direct relevance to WHO.
- 3. In addition, during 2008 and 2009, the JIU issued six Notes, one of which (Common services at Nairobi, JIU/NOTE/2008/1), was already included in the previous cycle of submissions of JIU reports and Notes to the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee.² The other Notes are: Common services at the locations of United Nations Regional Commissions (JIU/NOTE/2008/2); Review of the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) (JIU/NOTE/2008/3); Corporate consultancies in United Nations system organizations (JIU/NOTE/2008/4); Corporate sponsoring in the United Nations system: principles and guidelines (JIU/NOTE/2009/1); and Internships in the United Nations system (JIU/NOTE/2009/2).
- 4. The first two of the above Notes are not of direct relevance to WHO. Regarding the other three that are of some relevance, there is no need for additional comments by the Secretariat nor for action by the legislative organs, as follow-up to JIU Notes is a management responsibility under the JIU Statute.

¹ JIU/REP/2008/1: Review of management and administration in the Universal Postal Union (UPU).

² Document EBPBAC9/8.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS IN PREVIOUS REPORTS

- 5. Regarding progress made in implementing the recommendations of previous JIU reports considered by the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee at its ninth meeting in January 2009¹ and with respect to recommendation 2 of the JIU report on Knowledge management in the United Nations system (JIU/REP/2007/6), different WHO departments have carried out surveys of needs (such as online resources), knowledge management competencies and collaborative tools. A master list of publications has been established and a needs assessment for translation is currently under way. Knowledge management strategies have been approved by several WHO regional committees and the knowledge management strategy is being revised at headquarters.
- 6. With respect to recommendation 3 of the same report, the Department of Knowledge Management and Sharing has been established at headquarters and knowledge management units have been established in most regional offices. Finally, concerning recommendation 5, knowledge management is already acknowledged as an effective behaviour within the core competencies for leadership but still needs to be more formally recognized as a core competency for staff at all levels. A series of training courses is offered to enhance knowledge management skills and further training materials are in the process of development.
- 7. Copies of that JIU report and WHO's detailed comments thereon, which are contained in the recommendations tracking sheet that accompanied the Secretariat's last report to the Programme, Budget and Administration Committee on JIU reports, are available upon request.

ACTION BY THE PROGRAMME, BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

8. The Committee is invited to take note of this report.

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¹ Document EBPBAC9/8.