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EXECUTIVE BOARD

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UN JIU



REPORTS OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT

Report by the Director-General

In accordance with agreed procedures, two formal reports received from the Joint Inspection Unit are submitted, with the Director-General's comments thereon, for the Board's consideration.

1. Introduction

1.1 The Director-General is pleased to transmit to the Board, together with his comments, the following reports prepared by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU):¹

- (i) Cooperation between and management of libraries of the United Nations system (document JIU/REP/84/1 - Annex I to this document); and
- (ii) Publications policy and practice in the United Nations system (document JIU/REP/84/5 - Annex II to this document).

2. Cooperation between and management of libraries of the United Nations system (document JIU/REP/84/1 - Annex I)

2.1 The Director-General endorses the findings and recommendations of this report and wishes to make the following comments on the individual recommendations. An inter-library panel as suggested in Recommendation 1 (paragraph 163) would be most useful, and the topics seen as priority for the WHO Library are: bibliographic control of United Nations system documentation; improved human resources planning; strengthening the effectiveness of depository library networks; and inter-library cooperation at local duty stations. Recommendation 2 (paragraph 164) has already been put into practice in WHO. Recommendation 3 (paragraph 165) also corresponds to WHO practice, although it is recognized that an inter-library panel would provide added support. Recommendation 4 (paragraph 166) concerns only the United Nations library services.

2.2 The Director-General agrees that the goal is a progressive, responsive process of library management. The implication in the report that there is a passive-inactive tendency does not apply to the WHO Library. Although it is true that to date the WHO Library has not as yet been fully equipped with all possible computer support, it is intended to pursue such technical improvements, wherever it is relevant. The WHO Library's role in support of other bibliographic activities in the Organization's programmes will be steadily enhanced. Finally, it should be mentioned that the WHO Library maintains close relations with other libraries in the field of health.

2.3 The views of the Director-General have been taken into account in the collective comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) (United Nations document A/39/299/Add.2 and Add.2/Corr.1), which are attached as Annex III to the present document.

¹ The annexes mentioned are attached only to the copies of this document distributed to members of the Executive Board.

