

**Report No.**

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JIU/REP/2020/7	4	Blockchain Applications	The executive heads of the United Nations system organizations should ensure that any decision on using blockchain should be based on an appropriate determination of the business case and of the most suitable solution, using as guidance a decisionmaking matrix (as described in the present report, as well as any enhancements and/or adaptations).	Accepted	In progress	This recommendation is being implemented through the new Digital Governance structure, in particular the Digital Transformation Working Group (DTWG) responsible for decision-making on all new IT/digital projects.
JIU/REP/2020/7	6	Blockchain Applications	The governing bodies of the United Nations system organizations should encourage Member States to engage with the United Nations Commission on			



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JIU/REP/2019/9	3	Outsourcing of services to commercial service providers	The executive heads of United Nations system organizations should instruct all requisitioning offices to actively work towards assessing their use of sources of supply from vendors in developing countries and economies in transition, and increase it, as applicable, based on such assessment, with the provision that such activities shall not contravene policies established by organizations to ensure effective competition.	Under consideration	Not started	Will be examined closely, if applicable will need to be specified or modified in UNESCO Administrative Manual, as the manual at this stage is mainly oriented towards "value for money".
JIU/REP/2019/9	4	Outsourcing of services to commercial service providers	The executive heads of United Nations system organizations should encourage all offices to ensure that, by the end of 2021, the sourcing of any strategic, sensitive or high-value service and related goods from a commercial service provider is preceded by the conduct of a clearly-documented strategic analysis that includes short and long-term considerations and costs, and that the analysis has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate authority, prior to a formal decision on the sourcing option.	Accepted	In Progress	The mentioned activities are already partially implemented in the current processes. A current review of UNESCO procurement will take on board this recommendation so that it can be fully implemented by end 2021. To be considered also is the work currently done on the High Risk Project Committee, which would enable, when the ToR's of this committee would be validated and published, to close fully this recommendation.
JIU/REP/2019/9	5	Outsourcing of services to commercial service providers	The executive heads of United Nations system organizations should instruct all offices to ensure that, by the end of 2021, strategic, sensitive and high-value commercially outsourced services under their purview are subject to periodic review, including risk assessments, to ascertain whether appropriate risk management measures are developed by the relevant functions in each organization.	Accepted	In Progress	The mentioned activities are already partially implemented in the current processes. A current review of UNESCO procurement will take on board this recommendation so that it can be fully implemented by end 2021. ERM policy development is on track and in line 48 Tf1 0 0 1 p 449.02 234.26 60.48.43 Tm pro

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JIU/REP/2019/8	7	Inter-agency mobility	The Secretary-General, working with other executive heads, should assess the impact of the United Nations system leadership framework on the development of a common management culture supportive of a One United Nations mindset and report to the Economic and Social Council at its 2022 session in the context of his report on the work of CEB. They should also consider the possibility of using this framework to strengthen a common management culture in United Nations organizations through the inter-agency mobility of a pool of managers, as had been envisaged through a Senior Management Service that CEB had planned to implement in 2004.	Accepted	Not started	In his note on this report, the SG stated that Organizations will consider tasking the Human Resources Network of the High level Committee on Management with assessing the impact and make recommendations on the United Nations system leadership framework. When such exercise is initiated, UNESCO will play its part. No consideration has been made at the UN level for the moment in this regard.
JIU/REP/2019/8	8	Inter-agency mobility	Executive heads should enable all United Nations system staff members to compete for vacant posts on a basis equal to that established for their own staff, while considering downsizing contexts, the abolition of posts and positions, and the administration of rotational placements.	Under consideration	In Progress	All UNESCO posts are advertised externally and opened to all qualified candidates. The consideration of UN staff on the same footing as UNESCO staff members would require approval of the General Conference as the recruitment rules provide for priority consideration to UNESCO staff members. This will be considered when drafting the document for the forthcoming GC.
JIU/REP/2019/8	9	Inter-agency mobility	The Secretary-General and other executive heads who are members of CEB should, by the end of 2021, define how the mutual recognition of rules and procedures will be applied to overcome regulatory and procedural barriers to inter-agency mobility, and report on measures taken to the Economic and Social Council at its 2022 session in the context of the annual report of the Secretary-General on the work of CEB.	Under consideration	Not started	The implementation of this recommendation would require consultations among all relevant stakeholders and consideration of the legal framework specific to each UN entity. No consideration has been made at the UN level for the moment in this regard.
JIU/REP/2019/6	1	Audit and Oversight committees	The legislative and/or governing bodies of the United Nations system organizations that have not already done so should ensure that the terms of reference or charter of their respective audit and oversight committees are revised and updated by the end of 2021 to include specific references to their independence and reporting line to their legislative and/or governing bodies.	Accepted	In Progress	TORs have been updated and endorsed by the Executive Board at its 211th session. Final decision will be taken by the General Conference
JIU/REP/2019/6	6	Audit and Oversight committees	The legislative and/or governing bodies of the United Nations system organizations that have not already done so should request their audit and oversight committees to undertake a selfassessment every year and an independent performance evaluation every three years and report to them on the results.	Accepted	In Progress	UNESCO concurs with the annual self-assessment as it is the current UNESCO's OAC practice, however we do not consider that the request for an independent performance evaluation every three years is fully aligned with industry standards. Self assessment is done yearly already and the independent evaluation has not been accepted. Partially Implemented
JIU/REP/2019/5	1	Cloud computing services	The executive heads of the United Nations organizations should ensure that business continuity planning includes strategies and measures to mitigate the risk of failure by cloud service providers to deliver the contracted services.	Accepted	In progress	Reflection and consultations are under way to develop relevant strategies, measures, and related implementation modalities.
JIU/REP/2019/5	2	Cloud computing services	The governing bodies of the United Nations organizations should request the heads of their respective organizations to include provisions in their financial strategies that facilitate the adaptation, responsiveness and efficient use of operational expenditures and capital investments related to new technologies.	Accepted	In progress	Dialogue with the Governing Bodies on this matter is under way, in particular in the context of the preparation of the next Programme and Budget (41 C/5).



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JIU/REP/2018/7	7	Strengthening Policy research uptake	The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Heads of other United Nations system organizations should review the level of involvement of researchers from the South and adopt policies and frameworks that will stimulate capacity-building for all dimensions of the policy research functions, including research uptake at the national level, and report thereon to the General Assembly and to the governing bodies, respectively, by the end of 2020.	Accepted	Not started	
JIU/REP/2018/7	8	Strengthening Policy research uptake	The Executive Heads of the United Nations system organizations involved in the United Nations Network on Migration should instruct the relevant units to assess the options of inter-agency collaboration, on the basis of converging interests and specific competences, with regard to decision-making on migration-related research projects by the end of 2019	Accepted	Not started	
JIU/REP/2018/7	9	Strengthening Policy research uptake	The governing bodies of the United Nations system organizations should take measures to ensure that commitments to inter-agency collaboration, including through the establishment of a global data knowledge platform and the facilitation of academic exchanges, as stipulated in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, are implemented by the end of 2020.	Accepted	Not started	
JIU/REP/2018/7	11	Strengthening Policy research uptake	The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director General of UNESCO should consider the creation, on an experimental and voluntary basis, of a United Nations – Academic Joint Publication Board with the task of identifying research needs at the system-wide level and the most efficient ways to produce, disseminate and uptake policy research in a collaborative and participatory manner, by the end of 2020 at the latest.	Accepted	In Progress	UNESCO launched a careful review of its publication process to streamline and strengthen its publication strategy, including at the governance level within its Publications Board. This is based on an in-depth IOS study, which includes also the coordination of publication efforts with the UN System as a whole. Specific Inter-agency consultations are on-going. Several key joint publications within the UN System have already paved the way for stronger coordination in this regard, while more reflection is needed regarding the most suitable interagency group to host this initiative. UNESCO is still playing a lead role in the UN-wide initiative on Open Access publishing and has concluded a number of successful partnerships with academic publishers in this domain (Springer Nature, Routledge and Cambridge University Press), as well as providing guidelines and operational support to other UN agencies. UNESCO is also developing a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for its publications and adding new tools to measure interest.
JIU/REP/2018/7	12	Strengthening Policy research uptake	The Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with all Executive Heads of the United Nations system organizations, should encourage long-term partnerships with academic communities at the global, regional and national levels, and establish basic guidelines for such partnerships.	Accepted	In Progress	UNESCO, given its mandate, already has a large number of partnerships in place with the academic community, covering various fields and subject areas, at the global, regional and national levels.
JIU/REP/2018/6	1	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings	The executive heads of United Nations system organizations should task the relevant offices with developing, by the end of 2020, a draft policy on the accessibility of conferences and meetings for persons with disabilities, as well as guidelines for policy implementation, and present them to their respective legislative bodies, should the endorsement of those bodies be required for the policy to take effect.	Accepted	In Progress	Basic requirements regarding accessibility of conferences and events are met for UNESCO Headquarters. Very little information is available when organizing events or conferences outside UNESCO HQ, although local rules and conditions will apply in some cases. This remains work in progress, the established internal working group under the Administration Sector will henceforth work in collaboration with the newly created UNESCO Intersectoral task Team on the UNDIS (United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy) that integrates issues related to accessible conferences and meetings.



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JIU/REP/2018/6	2	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings				

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JIU/REP/2018/6	10	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings	The legislative bodies of United Nations system organizations should include in their agendas the review of periodic reports submitted to them on the state of accessibility of conference and meeting facilities and services for persons with disabilities, including the state of progress of actions to address accessibility deficits.	Accepted	In progress	This remains work in progress, the established internal working group under the Administration Sector will henceforth work in collaboration with the newly created UNESCO Intersectoral task Team on the UNDIS (United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy) that integrates issues related to accessible facilities.
JIU/REP/2018/5	1	Administrative Support Services	Executive heads, in coordination with the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group and with a view to a coherent system-wide approach, should, by the end of 2020, enhance existing systems or implement new ones to accurately identify resources devoted to administrative support services, irrespective of funding source or cost classification, and set out how efficiency should be defined and assessed.	Accepted	In progress	In December 2020, the Administrative Platform under the Bureau of Financial Management and the Field Operation Support unit were merged to improve the effectiveness of administrative support services, in particular for Field Offices. Continuous enhancement of the existing systems will be sought to further improve these services, including through the IT Business Reengineering.
JIU/REP/2018/4	1	Whistle-blower	Legislative bodies should adopt measures by 2020 to ensure that all policies related to misconduct/wrongdoing and retaliation specify appropriate channels and modalities, such as independent oversight committees, for reporting and investigating allegations against the executive head of the organization, as well as against any other functions that may entail a potential conflict of interest in the handling of such issues.	Accepted	In Progress	After internal discussions, especially with Legal Affairs, and in light of the special status of the Director-General within the Organization, it was agreed that the policy is not the right instrument to provide for such channel concerning allegations against the Director-General and should thus be addressed at a different level. The revised Whistleblower protection policy however, provides mechanisms to address allegations of retaliation against DIR/IOS and the Ethics Advisor, under the provisions on conflicts of

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JIU/REP/2018/1	6	Internship Programmes	Legislative and/or governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system should consider approving the establishment of ad hoc multi-donor trust funds to pledge voluntary contributions to support internship schemes and request executive heads to present for their consideration proposals for other suitable innovative mechanisms to receive voluntary contributions, with no strings attached regarding selection criteria.	Accepted	In Progress	During the 211th session of the Executive Board, a discussion on internships took place envisaging the

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JIU/REP/2016/8	5	Internal audit function	Executive heads of United Nations system organizations should ensure that their internal audit services have adequate financial and human resources to expand the use of information technology (IT) auditing techniques, and to employ, as appropriate, advanced data analytics and remote auditing, with a view to leveraging technology to provide more economical and comprehensive audit coverage.	Accepted	In progress	



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JIU/REP/2011/6	1	Business continuity	The Executive Heads of the United Nations system organizations who have not done so yet should develop business continuity policy/strategy, including the assignment of business continuity management with responsibility for implementation, to be submitted for information to the legislative bodies.	Accepted	In progress	<p>In line with the ERM Roadmap, the organizational resilience management system (ORMS) policy will be revised and will encompass: a) the identification of roles for business continuity b) the elaboration of business continuity plans (BCP) embedding lessons learnt from the COVID 19 crisis and existing material available at level of field in consultation with relevant process owners. In December 2020, the draft of the BCP template for Field Offices and Institutes has been finalized, consultations with business owners are ongoing. The recommendation is superseded by the following recommendation issued by UNESCO Oversight Advisory Committee:</p> <p><b>-OAC/2017/9:</b> The Committee reiterates its recommendation from 2016 that the Director-General: – formally assign responsibility for a comprehensive business continuity function to a senior official, reporting directly to her – develop a comprehensive business continuity policy and plan, including a management framework that specifies regular review and testing of the plan – avail herself of external expertise in this area, as this function is not a core function of UNESCO, despite its crucial importance for the effective management of risk to which staff, contractors, intellectual and physical property may be exposed and further recommends that the Director-General: – ensure adequate resources are available to implement the actions arising from the IT security internal audit as well as maintain a robust cyber security policy that is updated dynamically to reflect emerging threats – that measures are introduced to ensure that compliance with the mandatory requirement for all staff to provide contact details, as well as undertake mandatory IT Security training are monitored and steps taken to ensure there is 100% compliance.</p> <p>Follow up on these matters will be also ensured through the upcoming new JIU review on business continuity (project A.458 included in JIU work plan for 2021)</p>
JIU/REP/2011/6	3	Business continuity	The Executive Heads of the United Nations system organizations who have not done so yet should develop and approve a documented business continuity plan based on a risk assessment, identified critical functions and recovery time objectives.	Accepted	In progress	<p>In line with the ERM Roadmap, the organizational resilience management system (ORMS) policy will be revised and will encompass: a) the identification of roles for business continuity b) the elaboration of business continuity plans (BCP) embedding lessons learnt from the COVID 19 crisis and existing material available at level of field in consultation with relevant process owners. In December 2020, the draft of the BCP template for Field Offices and Institutes has been finalized, consultations with business owners are ongoing. The recommendation is superseded by the recommendation OAC/2017/9 issued</p>

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