

2006/18. UNICEF internal audit

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of* the report by the Office of Internal Audit on internal audit activities (E/ICEF/2006/AB/L.8) and the further strengthening of the UNICEF Audit Committee;
2. *Expresses support for* the Office's initiative in promoting a risk-management culture in UNICEF, and *requests* UNICEF to accelerate the development of appropriate, compatible enterprise risk-management systems, taking into account the costs and benefits of introducing such systems;
3. *Takes note of* the detailed information contained in the report and *requests* the UNICEF Office of Internal Audit to take further steps to include more analytical content, so that the reports presented to the Board identify commonly occurring areas of risk, show the evolution of the risk areas, analyze the systematic causes of the risk and recommend system improvement;
4. *Requests* the Director of the Office of Internal Audit also to include in his annual audit reports: (a) a summary containing key and recurrent findings; and (b) a table identifying the unresolved audit findings by year and prioritization category;
5. *Requests* the Executive Director to provide separate management responses to the key and recurring issues identified in the annual report of the Director of the Office of Internal Audit, such as insufficient attention by management to the implementation of established procedures, including an explanation of findings that have remained unresolved for 18 months or more, as necessary, and to submit this report to the Board along with the annual report of the Director of the Office of Internal Audit;
6. *Urges* the Executive Director to take further steps to work with UNDP, UNFPA and other agencies to achieve the highest possible standards in internal auditing and to harmonize their audit and management reporting, as appropriate, including by standardizing the audit terms and definitions and aligning them with internationally recognized norms, and to assess the resources required, and to report on these steps at the annual session of 2007.

*Second regular session
8 September 2006*
