Activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

for the period from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015

(A/70/318 (Part I) and Add.1)

Statement to the Fifth Committee by
Assistant Secretary-General, Acting Head of Office of Internal Oversight Services
David M. Kanja

13 October 2015

Mr. Chairman, distinguished Members of the Fifth Committee,

I am pleased to introduce the report on the Activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) for the year ending 30 June 2015, A/70/318 (Part I) and Addendum 1.

During the reporting period, OIOS issued 324 oversight reports, including 12 reports to the General Assembly. The reports included 1,031 recommendations to improve internal controls, accountability mechanisms and organizational efficiency and effectiveness, of which 109 were classified as critical. The financial implications of those recommendations amount to approximately \$10.5 million

Audit recommendations have been categorized and presented in the report using the five integrated components of internal control: control environment, risk assessment, control activities, information and communication, and monitoring, outlining trends in these categories over a period of three years. In each of these years, the bulk of the recommendations related to the control activities component.

Mr. Chairman,

During the reporting period, OIOS has implemented improvements internally in all divisions to help focus our work and improve accountability for our own resources. These efforts include:

- Acquiring web-based audit management system;
- Improving its capacity to conduct performance audits;
- Refining risk assessment approach for evaluation;
- Strengthening the role of Operational Standards and Support Section in Investigations Divisions;
- Deploying a new investigation case management system;

- Developing a three-week United Nations Investigator Standard training course:
- Establishing a XB-funded fraud investigation team;

In addition, OIOS continues to refine its risk-based planning process to better leverage the results of the Organization-wide risk register recently developed under the leadership of the Department of Management and the Management Committee in the context of implementing ERM. This will improve our ability to focus on strategic risks of the Organization.

Lastly, I would like to assure you that OIOS continues to hold itself accountable for deliverables, in much the same way we contribute to accountability of the programme. OIOS monitors its performances using the key performance indicators, and the progress towards achieving performance goals and work plan implementation are reported quarterly to the Secretary-General, and Independent Audit Advisory Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

Since its establishment through adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 48/218 B in 1994, the key objective of OIOS continues to focus on supporting the Secretary-General in his oversight responsibilities. OIOS staff members continue to be guided by this fundamental mandate, and our vision of a strong and accountable United Nations fortified by world-class internal oversight, and by our mission of delivering objective oversight results that make a difference.

I would like to thank OIOS staff for their hard work, and for the continued visible support of senior management and the Secretary-General.

I would also like to express my appreciation to you, the Member States, for your continued support and for the trust you place in OIOS.

In as much detail as is possible in the limited space allowed, the annual report before you outlines the results of work, ongoing activities and initiatives underway to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of operations, both inside OIOS and in the Secretariat. I welcome your questions and discussions on any subject matter.

Thank you.