



Check Against Delivery

United Nations General Assembly Seventy-First Session

Fifth Committee

**Introduction of the Note of the Secretary-General (A/71/779) on the
Report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2016 and programme of work for 2017 (A/71/34,
Corr.1)**

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

I am pleased to introduce, on behalf of the Secretary-General and the United Nations system Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), the note of the Secretary-General, document A/71/779, on the annual report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) for 2016 contained in document A/71/34, Corr.1.

This note responds to General Assembly resolution 65/270 which requests the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of CEB, to expedite the implementation of that resolution and provide support to the Joint Inspection Unit.

Mr Chairman, distinguished delegates, the CEB remains dedicated to assisting the JIU as it performs its critical function within the UN system.

The CEB, through its secretariat and in accordance with the Statute of the JIU, plays an important role in the JIU report lifecycle by compiling and transmitting the comments of the Secretary-General and those of the United Nations system on JIU reports of a system-wide nature. The CEB Secretariat remains committed to the timely production of these Notes of the Secretary-General. Due to the continuing close working partnership with the secretariat of the Unit, the CEB is able to receive reports shortly after publication, and by urging organizations to

provide a more timely response to requests for comments, we are working to achieve a more effective process in preparing these documents. Additionally, it is increasingly common for the CEB Secretariat to work closely with the Unit's Inspectors during the preparation of draft reports, a process that helps contribute towards a more comprehensive and agreed-upon outcome.

As you know, over the past several years, in response to the request from this body, the Unit has increased its study of issues that have a system-wide impact. As a result the already close collaboration between our two inter-agency bodies remains intensive. The CEB Secretariat, I would like to stress, performs these actions within existing, and very limited, capacities.

In addition, each year, as the JIU prepares its programme of work, the CEB provides support in the process of soliciting suggestions from agencies and, drawing on its experience in inter-agency activities, suggests relevant and useful topics that the Unit may wish consider.

Furthermore, in 2016, once again the Secretary-General, in his capacity as chair of the CEB, played a consultative role in the selection of inspectors to fill vacancies in the Unit.

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates,

I would like to stress that the United Nations system places high value on the work of the Unit. We believe that the continued dialogue between the Secretariats of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the Joint Inspection Unit have improved mutual cooperation and collaboration to further our collective efforts towards a stronger United Nations system working as one.

Looking ahead, the Secretary-General will continue to pursue a closer working relationship with the Joint Inspection Unit, particularly in light of its increased measures to strengthen its system-wide focus and the monitoring and follow-up of implementation of system-wide recommendations.

Thank you and I welcome any questions or comments you or members of the Committee may have.