## Activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

(A/74/305 (Part I) and Add.1)

Statement to the Fifth Committee by the Assistant-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services David Kanja 11 October 2019

Mr. Chair, distinguished Members of the Fifth Committee,

I am pleased to introduce the report and addendum (A/74/305 (Part I) and Addendum 1) on non-peacekeeping activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services for the year ended 30 June 2019.

During the reporting period OIOS issued 444 oversight reports, including 11 to the General Assembly. These reports included 1,177 recommendations, of which 48 were classified as critical. Descriptions of selected oversight results are contained in the report before you. Full copies of internal audit and evaluation reports may be found on the OIOS website.

On staffing matters, efforts to address vacancy rates throughout OIOS continued, and the OIOS vacancy rate as at the end of August 2019 was 13 per cent overall.

The Internal Audit Division issued 72 non-peacekeeping audit reports during the period and ensured that its risk-based planning process was fully aligned with the Organization's enterprise risk management strategy. Additionally, following the implementation of the Secretary-General's reforms in January 2019, the Division adjusted its workplan to include/incorporate in advisory and audit engagements, the establishment of the resident coordination system, the new delegation of authority framework and related change management initiatives. Results of these engagements will be reflected in our next annual report. During the current reporting period, the Division also continued to develop its capacity in data analytics, including the development of an Umoja data extraction manual for auditors, to fully utilize the more readily available real-time data available through Umoja and other systems.

The Division also continued to participate in the work of the Meeting of Representatives of Internal Audit Services of United Nations Organizations and currently serves as its Chair and secretariat. As part of this network, the Division led a working group established to explore ways to strengthen coordinated audits of the response of the United Nations system to humanitarian emergencies.

## Mr. Chair,

The Investigations Division issued 83 non-peacekeeping investigation and closure reports, representing a 46 per cent increase over the previous year. The average time taken to complete an investigation and issue the report was 10.2 months. For sexual harassment investigations, the average completion time was 6.3 months. During the reporting period, the Division delivered several awareness-building sessions on various topics including, anti-fraud and anti-corruption, misconduct and sexual harassment The Division also led the Chief Executives Board for Coordination Task Force subgroup on strengthening investigatory capacity and improving investigations of sexual harassment within the United Nations system.

The Inspection and Evaluation Division issued four non-peacekeeping evaluation reports, which were considered by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its 59<sup>th</sup> session. In 2019, the Division continued to focus on the professional development of staff, facilitating inhouse training sessions on selected topics. Additionally, in light of the management reforms implemented at the beginning of the year, the Division launched several change initiatives to ensure that its evaluations are aligned in support of United Nations reform and the Sustainable Development Goals. These initiatives are outlined in the report. Also, in an effort to support the reform initiatives, the Division provided policy and technical advice to the newly established Evaluation Section of the Business Transformation and Accountability Division of the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all OIOS staff for their work during the reporting period. I thank you for your support and welcome your questions.