



**United Nations General Assembly Seventy-sixth Session  
Fifth Committee**

**Introduction of the Note of the Secretary-General  
on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled: “Review of contemporary practices in  
the external outsourcing of services to commercial service providers by United Nations  
system organizations” (A/75/551)**

Mr. Chair, Distinguished Delegates,

I am pleased to introduce, on behalf of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), the note of the Secretary-General conveying his comments and those of CEB members on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled “Review of contemporary practices in the external outsourcing of services to commercial service providers by United Nations system organizations”, as contained in A/75/551/Add.1.

Organizations of the United Nations system welcomed the report and appreciated the Unit’s overview of the current status of external outsourcing.

Organizations stressed the key role played by the Procurement Network of the High-level Committee on Management in coordinating joint efforts and avoiding duplications, particularly in the framework of harmonization and mutual recognition initiatives.

Organizations shared some reservations regarding their ability to meet the proposed timeframes also in light of their involvement to the COVID-19 pandemic response. Time for

internal consultations and coordination would be required to elaborate on proposed changes to the regulatory frameworks to be appropriately channelled through their governing bodies for approval.

Organizations underscored that the absence of a clear definition of outsourcing may slow down follow-up activities and noted that the development of a common approach through the Procurement Network would be essential to the implementation of the proposed recommendations.

On behalf of the organizations of the UN system, I would like to thank the JIU for this review.

Thank you.