UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMEOffice of Audit and Investigations



AUDIT

OF

SUPPORT TO SECURITY AND JUSTICE SECTOR GOVERNANCE IN IRAQ (Directly Implemented Project No. 115890, Output No. 113282)

IN

UNDP IRAQ

Report No. 2351

Issue Date: 27 August 2021



Report on the Audit of Support to Security and Justice Sector Governance in Iraq implemented by UNDP Iraq (Project No. 115890, Output No. 113282) Executive Summary

The UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI), through Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Co. (the audit firm), from 30 May to 15 July 2021, conducted an audit of 'Support to Security and Justice Sector Governance in Iraq' (Project No. 115890, Output No. 113282) (the Project), which is directly implemented and managed by the UNDP Country Office in Iraq (the Office). This was the first audit of the Project.

The audit firm conducted a financial audit in accordance with the International Standards of Auditing (ISA), the 700 series, to express an opinion on whether the financial statements present fairly, in all material aspects, the Project's operations. The audit covered the Project's Combined Delivery Report, which includes expenses for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2020 and the accompanying Funds Utilization statement¹ as of 31 December 2020 as well as Statement of Assets as of 31 December 2020. The audit did not include expenses processed and approved in locations outside of the country (such as UNDP Regional Centres and UNDP Headquarters). In addition, the audit did not cover the Statement of Cash Position as no separate bank account was established and maintained for the Project.

The audit was conducted under the general supervision of OAI in conformance with the *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing*.

Audit results

Based on the audit report and corresponding management letter submitted by the audit firm, the results are summarized in the table below:

	Projec	Project Assets			
Amount (in \$ '000)	Opinion	NFM** (in \$ '000)	Impact on CDR	Amount (in \$'000)	Opinion
3,502	Qualified	129	Overstatement	251	Unmodified

^{*}Expenses recorded in the Combined Delivery Report were \$4,227,934. Excluded from the audit scope were transactions that relate to expenses processed and approved by other UNDP offices outside of the country (\$725,534).

The audit firm qualified its opinion on project expenses due to not reporting the Project's expenses in the correct accounting period. The resulting financial impact was a material overstatement of the financial statements in the amount of \$128,935, that represented 3.7 percent of the project expenditures directly incurred by the Office as at 31 December 2020.

The audit did not result in any recommendations as the Project took corrective actions at the end of 2020.

^{**}NFM= Net Financial Misstatement

¹ The Funds Utilization statement includes the balance, as at a given date, of five items: (a) outstanding advances received by the project; (b) undepreciated fixed assets used at the project level; (c) inventory held at the project level; (d) prepayments made by the project; and (e) outstanding commitments held at the project level.

United Nations Development Programme Office of Audit and Investigations



Management comments and action plan

Comments and/or additional information provided have been incorporated into the report, where appropriate.

Helge S. Osttveiten Director Office of Audit and Investigations

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Financial Audit of Directly Implemented Project Managed by UNDP Country Office in Iraq

"Support to Security & Justice Sector Governance in Iraq"
(Project ID 115890 - Output ID 113282)
For the period from 1 January to 31 December 2020

19 August 2021

Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Co.

Member of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Co. International, TAGI

Certified Public Accountants



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سركة تدقيق ومحاسبة عالمية

1. PART I – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1. Executive Summary:

This report represents the results of the financial audit conducted by Talal Abu – Ghazaleh & Co. of Project ID 115890 – output ID 113282 "Support to Security & Justice Sector Governance in Iraq" (the project), directly implemented by UNDP country office in Iraq for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2020.

The audit was undertaken on behalf of UNDP, Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) and mandated in accordance with the Contract for Professional Services signed between UNDP and Talal Abu–Ghazaleh & Co. on 11 April 2021.

- Audit Opinions:

The following is the summary of the audit opinions provided:

Report on	Type of Opinion	Note
Financial Position	Qualified	Not recording the expenses in the correct accounting period resulted in an overstatement of the current CDR by an amount of US\$ 128,935.49.
Statement of Fixed Assets	Unmodified	No issues identified.
Statement of Cash	Not applicable	There was no separate bank account for the project under audit, therefore no audit opinion is provided on the statement of cash.

- Audit Finding:

As a result of our audit, the following finding was included in the management letter:

Finding No.	Summary of Audit Finding	Priority	Net Financial Misstatement
1	The current Combined Delivery Report (CDR) is overstated with an amount of US\$ 119,384.71 due to the recognition of expenses in the current CDR related to the previous year. This also led to the overstatement of the General Management Support (GMS) (Facilities and Admin) amount in the current CDR by US\$ 9,550.78.	Not Applicable. The recommendatio n on correcting the accounting process has been already implemented in December 2020.	Overstatement of the expenses in the current CDR with an amount of US\$ 128,935.49. The net effect of this misstatement over 2 financial years (2019 and 2020) is zero.

- Follow-up on previous year's audit recommendations:

The Project ID 115890 - Output ID 113282 "Support to Security & Justice Sector Governance in Iraq" was not audited in the prior years.

Sincerely yours,

Jamal Milhem, CPA

Certified Accountant License # (100/98)

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Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Co. J. Milliem

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Ramallah – Palestine, 27 July 2021

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ص ب: ١١١٠ رام الله، الضفة الغربية، فلسطين

1.2. Audit Objectives

- A. The objectives of the financial audit is to express an opinion on the project's financial position which include:
- 1) Expressing an opinion on whether the financial expenses incurred by the project for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2020 and the funds utilization, the accounts receivable and the accounts payable as at 31 December 2020 were fairly presented in accordance with UNDP accounting policies and that the expenses incurred were: (i) in conformity with the approved project budgets; (ii) for the approved purposes of the project; (iii) in compliance with the relevant regulations and rules, policies and procedures of UNDP; and (iv) supported by properly approved vouchers and other supporting documents,
- 2) Expressing an opinion on whether the statement of fixed assets, at net book value, presents fairly the balance of depreciated assets of the UNDP project as at a given date. This statement must include all assets available as at 31 December 2020 and not only those purchased in a given period. The opinion is rendered on the net book value balance of the Assets. Where a DIM project does not have any assets or equipment, it will not be necessary to express such an opinion, and
- 3) Expressing an opinion on whether the statement of cash held by the project presents fairly the cash and bank balance of UNDP project as at a given date. Disbursements made against a DIM project are usually financed from the regular country office bank accounts. Exceptionally, a dedicated bank account may be opened and used solely for the cash transactions of a DIM project, e.g. if the project is in a remote location. The audit firm is required to express an opinion on the Statement of Cash only where a dedicated bank account for the DIM project has been established. In cases where the cash transactions of the audited DIM project are made through the country office bank accounts, this type of opinion is not required.
- B. As may be applicable, providing the progress made in implementing the recommendations raised in a previous year audit report.

The financial audit was conducted in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISA), the 700 series.

1.3. Scope of the Audit:

The scope of the audit relates only to transactions concluded and recorded against the UNDP DIM project for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2020.

The scope of the audit did not include:

- Activities and expenses incurred or undertaken at the level of "responsible parties", unless the inclusion of these expenses is specifically required in the request for proposal; and
- Expenses processed and approved in locations outside the country such as UNDP Regional Centers and UNDP Headquarters and where the supporting documentation is not retained at the level of the UNDP country office.

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2. PART II – FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORTS

2.1. Auditor's Report on Financial Position.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Project Financial Position of UNDP DIM Project ID 115890 – Output ID 113282 "Support to Security & Justice Sector Governance in Iraq"

To the Director of the Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Report on the Project Financial position

We have audited the financial position of UNDP Project ID 115890 - Output ID 113282 "Support to Security & Justice Sector Governance in Iraq" for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2020, which includes: (a) the accompanying Combined Delivery Report (CDR); (b) the Funds Utilization Statement (the statement); and (c) the project-related accounts receivable and accounts payable.

The CDR expenditures totaling US\$ 4,227,933.51 are comprised of expenditures directly incurred by UNDP country office in Iraq for an amount of US\$ 3,502,399.11 and expenditures incurred by entities other than the Country Office for an amount of US\$ 725,534.40. Our audit only covered the expenditures directly incurred by the UNDP country office in Iraq of US\$ 3,502,399.11.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the basis for the qualified opinion section of our report, the accompanying CDR and Funds Utilization statement present fairly, in all material respects, the expenses of US\$ 3,502,399.11 directly incurred by the UNDP Country Office in Iraq and charged to the Project for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2020 in accordance with UNDP accounting policies and were: (i) in conformity with the approved project budgets; (ii) for the approved purposes of the project; (iii) in compliance with the relevant regulations and rules, policies and procedures of UNDP; and (iv) supported by properly approved vouchers and other supporting documents.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA). Our responsibilities under those provisions and standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the CDR and Funds Utilization section of our report. We are independent of UNDP in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board of Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with this code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

-The current 2020 CDR included US\$ 119,384.71 which were related to 2019 expenses, and were found recorded in the 2020 CDR. The financial impact was an

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ص ب: ١١١٠ رام الله، الضفة الغربية، فلسطين

overstatement of the 2020 CDR at an amount of US\$ 119,384.71 (the total impact with the GMS was US\$ 128,935.49).

Management's Responsibilities

Management is responsible for the preparation of the CDR and the Funds Utilization Statement of the project and for such internal controls as management determines are necessary to enable the preparation of a CDR and Funds Utilization statement that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the CDR and the Funds Utilization statement are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISA will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these documents.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISA, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the CDR and Funds Utilization statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls.
- Obtain an understanding of internal controls relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal controls.

We communicated with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal controls that we identified during our audit. Certified Accountant License # (100/98) Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Co

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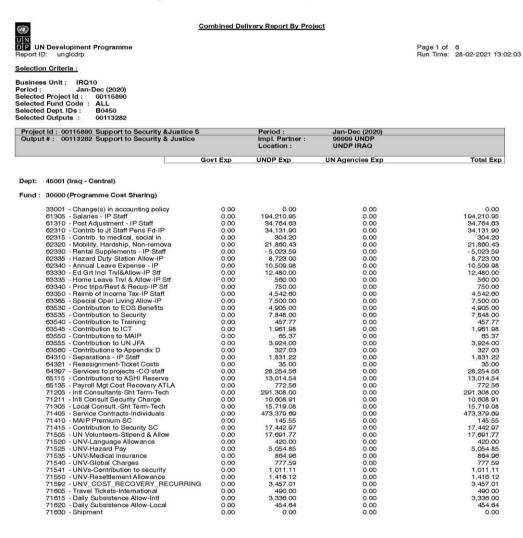
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License No. 251/1997

Ramallah – Palestine, 27 July 2021

2.2. Combined Delivery Report (CDR) and Funds Utilization statement:

"Support to Security & Justice Sector Governance in Iraq" (Project ID 115890 - Output ID 113282) for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2020



Combined Delivery Report By Project

UND Development Programme
Report ID: unglcdrp

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Project Id: 00115890 Support to Security & Justice S		Period :		
Output #: 00113282 Support to Security & Justice		Impl. Partner : Location :	Jan-Dec (2020) 99999 UNDP UNDP IRAQ	
	Govt Exp	UNDP Exp	UN Agencies Exp	Total Exp
71635 - Travel - Other	0.00	1,717.44	0.00	1,717.44
72125 - Svc Co-Studies & Research Serv	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
72130 - Svc Co-Transportation Services	0.00	820.12	0.00	820.12
72210 - Machinery and Equipment	0.00	70,041.00	0.00	70,041.00
72350 - Medical Kits	0.00	69.98	0.00	69.98
72405 - Acquisition of Communic Equip	0.00	7.843.59	0.00	7.843.59
72415 - Courier Charges	0.00	30.00	0.00	30.00
72425 - Mobile Telephone Charges	0.00	2.920.50	0.00	2.920.50
72430 - Postage and Pouch	0.00	225.07	0.00	225.07
72440 - Connectivity Charges	0.00	2.671.79	0.00	2.671.79
72445 - Common Services-Communications	0.00	3,015.06	0.00	3.015.06
72505 - Stationery & other Office Supp	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
72615 - Micro Capital Grants-Other	0.00	99.018.00	0.00	99.018.00
72805 - Acquis of Computer Hardware	0.00	2,737.40	0.00	2.737.40
72815 - Inform Technology Supplies	0.00	12,396.90	0.00	12,396.90
73104 - Leased Building	0.00	4.941.85	0.00	4,941.85
73105 - Rent	0.00	54,332.25	0.00	54,332.25
73115 - Moving Expenses	0.00	- 134.50	0.00	- 134.50
				95.88
73125 - Common Services-Premises	0.00	95.88 801.25	0.00	90.88 801.25
74220 - Translation Costs			0.00	
74325 - Contrib. To CO Common Security	0.00	83,746.58	0.00	83,746.58
74505 - Insurance	0.00	246.96	0.00	246.96
74510 - Bank Charges	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
74596 - Services to projects -GOE	0.00	2,825.46	0.00	2,825.46
74710 - Land Transport	0.00	58.58	0.00	58.58
74725 - Other L.T.S.H.	0.00	12,637.05	0.00	12,637.05
75105 - Facilities & Admin - Implement	0.00	204,800.31	0.00	204,800.31
75705 - Leaming costs	0.00	359,660.53	0.00	359,660.53
75706 - Leaming - ticket costs	0.00	12,375.00	0.00	12,375.00
75707 - Learning - subsistence allowan	0.00	85,026.48	0.00	85,026.48
76135 - Realized Gain	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
77305 - Salaries - IP Staff-TA	0.00	207,356.62	0.00	207,356.62
77310 - Post Adjustment - IP Staff-TA	0.00	75,063.23	0.00	75,063.23
77315 - Contrib-Med, SocIns-IP Staff-TA	0.00	1,922.92	0.00	1,922.92
77320 - Assg hardship & mob allow-TA	0.00	53,793.27	0.00	53,793.27
77345 - Dep Allowances-IP Staff-TA	0.00	14,639.00	0.00	14,639.00
77350 - Rental Supplements-IP Staff-TA	0.00	- 8,021.47	0.00	- 8,021.47
77353 - Reimb of Income Tax - IP-TA	0.00	9,475.72	0.00	9,475.72
77357 - Repat. Grt/Comm Ann Lv-IP-TA	0.00	18,842.29	0.00	18,842.29
77365 - Spec Oper Living Allow-IP-TA	0.00	35,032.76	0.00	35,032.76
77375 - Contrib-Jt Staff Pens Fd-IP-TA	0.00	73,181.37	0.00	73,181.37
77385 - Contribution to Security	0.00	16,945.12	0.00	16,945.12
77386 - Contribution to ICT TA	0.00	4,236.39	0.00	4,236.39
77395 - MAIP Premium TA/IP	0.00	141.30	0.00	141.30
77396 - PAYROLL MGT COST RECOVERY	0.00	2,124.54	0.00	2.124.54
77397 - Appendix D TA/IP	0.00	706.08	0.00	706.08
77660 - Dep Exp Owned -Vehicle	0.00	1,755.14	0.00	1,755.14
Total for Fund 30000	0.00	2,764,804.19	0.00	2,764,804.19
Fund: 32045 (JPN - Partnership Devt Pgm PCF)				
62335 - Hazard Duty Station Allow-IP	0.00	5.786.00	0.00	5.786.00
63340 - Proc trips/Rest & Recup-IP Stf	0.00	2,250.00	0.00	2,250.00

Combined Delivery Report By Project

UNDP UN Development Programme
Report ID: unglcdrp

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Project Id: 00115890 Support to Security & Justice	Period :	Jan-Dec (2020)		
Output #: 00113282 Support to Security & Justice	е	Impl. Partner : Location :	99999 UNDP UNDP IRAQ	
	Govt Exp	UNDP Exp	UN Agencies Exp	Total Exp
71205 - Intl Consultants-Sht Term-Tech	0.00	402,279.84	0.00	402,279.84
71211 - Intl Consult Security Charge	0.00	23,873.56	0.00	23,873.56
71305 - Local ConsultSht Term-Tech	0.00	76,130.21	0.00	76,130.21
71405 - Service Contracts-Individuals	0.00	92,776.75	0.00	92,776.75
71635 - Travel - Other	0.00	168.58	0.00	168.58
72105 - Svc Co-Construction & Engineer	0.00	27,950.00	0.00	27,950.00
72130 - Svc Co-Transportation Services	0.00	58.58	0.00	58.58
72135 - Svc Co-Communications Service	0.00	11,415.51	0.00	11,415.51
72402 - Building Maintenance	0.00	51,179.00	0.00	51,179.00
72815 - Inform Technology Supplies	0.00	25,730.00	0.00	25,730.00
73125 - Common Services-Premises	0.00	28,207.76	0.00	28,207.76
74105 - Management and Reporting Srvs	0.00	518,887.00	0.00	518,887.00
75105 - Facilities & Admin - Implement	0.00	108,376.41	0.00	108,376.41
75705 - Learning costs	0.00	57,920.08	0.00	57,920.08
77305 - Salaries - IP Staff-TA	0.00	936.93	0.00	936.93
77306 - Appoint-Tk cost-IP Staff-TA	0.00	3,636.00	0.00	3,636.00
77307 - Appoint-Sub Allow-IP Staff-TA	0.00	20,700.00	0.00	20,700.00
77309 - Appoint-shipment-IP Staff-TA	0.00	3,600.00 339.17	0.00	3,600.00 339.17
77310 - Post Adjustment - IP Staff-TA 77315 - Contrib-Med, SocIns-IP Staff-TA	0.00	28.30	0.00	28.30
77320 - Assg hardship & mob allow-TA	0.00	245.29	0.00	245.29
77345 - Dep Allowances-IP Staff-TA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
77350 - Rental Supplements-IP Staff-TA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
77353 - Reimb of Income Tax – IP-TA	0.00	38.28	0.00	38.28
77357 - Repat. Grt/Comm Ann Lv-IP-TA	0.00	212.69	0.00	212.69
77365 - Spec Oper Living Allow-IP-TA	0.00	86.21	0.00	86.21
77375 - Contrib-Jt Staff Pens Fd-IP-TA	0.00	41.48	0.00	41.48
77385 - Contribution to Security	0.00	76.57	0.00	76.57
77386 - Contribution to ICT_TA	0.00	19.14	0.00	19.14
77395 - MAIP Premium TA/IP	0.00	0.64	0.00	0.64
77396 - PAYROLL MGT COST RECOVERY	0.00	128.76	0.00	128.76
77397 - Appendix D TA/IP	0.00	3.19	0.00	3.19
Total for Fund 32045	0.00	1,463,081.93	0.00	1,463,081.93
Total for Dept : 45001	0.00	4,227,886.12	0.00	4,227,886.12
Dept: 45050 (Iraq-UN Sister Agency)				
Fund: 32045 (JPN - Partnership Devt Pgm PCF)				
72430 - Postage and Pouch 75105 - Facilities & Admin - Implement	0.00	43.88 3.51	0.00	43.88 3.51
Total for Fund 32045	0.00	47.39	0.00	47.39
Total for Dept: 45050	0.00	47.39	0.00	47.39
Total for Output: 00113282	0.00	4,227,933.51	0.00	4,227,933.51

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Combined Delivery Report By Project

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	Govt Exp	UNDP Exp	UN Agencies Exp	Total Exp
Output #: 00113282 Support to Security & Justice		Impl. Partner : Location :	99999 UNDP UNDP IRAQ	
Project Id: 00115890 Support to Securit	Period:	Jan-Dec (2020)		

Project Total :	0.00	4,227,933.51	0.00	4,227,933.51
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Signed By: Chamilla Hemmathagama ROL Programme Managed Date:

01/03/21 3 March 21

James J. Millians

Combined Delivery Report By Project

UNDEVELOPMENT Programme
Report ID: unglcdrp

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Selection Criteria:

Project Id: ALL		Period :	Jan-Dec (2020)	
Output #: ALL		Impl. Partner : Location :		
L	Govt Exp	UNDP Exp	UN Agencies Exp	Total Exp
45001 - Iraq - Central	0.00	4,227,886.12	0.00	4,227,886.12
45050 - Irag-UN Sister Agency	0.00	47.39	0.00	47.39

Combined Delivery Report By Project

UNDP UN Development Programme
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Funds		

Selection Criteria :

Project/Award: 00115890 Support to Security &Justice S	Period : As at Dec 31, 202
Output # 00113282 Impl. Partner :99999 UNDP	UNDP AMOUNT
Outstanding NEX advances	0.00
Undepreciated Fixed Assets	250,985.86
Unamortized Intangible Assets	0.00
Inventory	0.00
Prepayments	0.00
Commitments	631,796.61

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2.3. Auditors Report on the Statement of Fixed Assets:

Independent Auditor's Report on the Statement of Fixed Assets of UNDP DIM Project ID 115890 - Output ID 113282 "Support to Security & Justice Sector Governance in Iraq"

To the Director of the Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

We have audited the accompanying statement of fixed assets of UNDP Project ID 115890" - Output ID 113282 "Support to Security & Justice Sector Governance in Iraq" as at 31 December 2020.

Unmodified Opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying statement of fixed assets presents fairly in all material respects the assets status of UNDP Project ID 115890 - Output ID 113282 "Support to Security & Justice Sector Governance in Iraq" amounting to US\$ 250,985.86 as at 31 December 2020 in accordance with UNDP accounting policies.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA). Our responsibilities under those provisions and standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the statement of fixed assets. We are independent of UNDP in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board of Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with this code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Management Responsibilities

Management is responsible for the preparation of the statement of fixed assets of the project and for such internal controls as management determines are necessary to enable the preparation of the statement of fixed assets that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit

P.O.Box: 1110 Ramallah, West Bank, Palestine tagco.ramallah@tagi.com

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement of fixed assets is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISA will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these documents.

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ص ب: ١١١٠ رام الله، الضفة الغربية، فلسطين

As part of an audit in accordance with ISA, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the statement of fixed assets, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls.
- Obtain an understanding of internal controls relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal controls.

We communicated with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal controls that we identified during our audit.

Jamal Milhem, CPA

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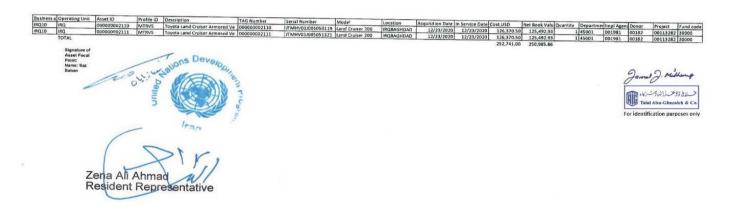
Ramallah – Palestine, 27 July 2021

2.4. Statement of Fixed Assets:

"Support to Security & Justice Sector Governance in Iraq" (Project ID 115890 - Output ID 113282) for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2020



Asset Management Detail Report UN Development Programme 31/12/2020



Global Company for Auditing and Accounting

ن ركة تدقيق ومحاسبة عالمية

3. PART III: MANAGEMENT LETTER

3.1 Current Year Audit Findings and Recommendations

To the Director of the Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Introduction

Under International Standards on Auditing, auditors are encouraged to report various matters concerning an entity's internal controls structure noted during their audit and are required to report certain of those matters. Matters that are required to be reported are "significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal controls structure that, in the auditor's judgment, could adversely affect the entity's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements".

As part of our audit of the Project's financial position of Project ID 115890 - Output ID 113282 "Support to Security & Justice Sector Governance in Iraq" for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2020, we considered UNDP's internal controls structure and compliance with its accounting policies in determining the scope of our audit procedures for the purpose of rendering an opinion on the financial statements. Our purpose was not to provide assurance on the internal controls structure.

We emphasize that the responsibility for a sound system of internal controls rests with management and work performed by external audit should not be relied upon to identify all strengths and weaknesses that may exist, neither should our work be relied upon to identify all circumstances of irregularity should there be any, although our audit procedures have been designed so that any material irregularity has a reasonable probability of discovery.

The matters raised in this part are those which came to our attention during the audit and are not necessarily a comprehensive statement of all the weaknesses that exist or all improvements that might be needed. Recommendations for improvements should be assessed by management for their full business impact before they are implemented. Effective implementation of our recommendations by management is important for the maintenance of a reliable internal control system.

Acknowledgment

We wish to express our appreciation for the courtesy and cooperation extended to our representatives during the course of their work

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Finding No. 1:

Title: Not Reporting the Project's Expenses in the Correct Accounting Period.

Criteria:

In accordance with IPSAS, UNDP expense policy follows the accrual basis of accounting, under which transactions and events are recognized as they occur (and not only when cash or its equivalent is received or paid). The transactions and events are recorded in the accounting records and recognized in the financial statements of the periods to which they relate when goods or services are received and accepted by UNDP and a corresponding liability to pay is created.

As UNDP has to comply with IPSAS, Offices should ensure any anticipated expenses before closing the year are recorded through the accrual system using the correct accounting year. Further, in accordance with UNDP POPP, it is important that the receipts be entered promptly in the ATLAS when the goods and services are actually received. It is mandatory to enter receipts in the ATLAS within 48 hours of actual receipt of goods and services, so that the expense and assets recognitions are done correctly in accordance with the UNDP accounting policy.

Observation

During the audit, we noticed that the office recorded an amount of US\$ 119,384.71 in the FY2020 CDR, although this total amount represents expenses related to FY2019. Details are shown in the following table:

Invoice Date	Voucher No.	Description	Amounts US\$
2 Jan. 2020	95401	The amount was paid to an individual contractor for services and expenss for the period from 14 October 2019 to 29 December 2019.	41,137.70
20 Jan. 2020 95657		The amount was paid to an individual contractor for services and expenss for the period from 22 September 2019 to 31 December 2019.	66,752.61
18 Aug 2020	99036	Part of the rent expense related to December 2019 at an amount of US\$ 1,519.40.	1,519.40
8 Jun 2020	98025	UNDP's Share for the cost for shared premises between UNDP and other UN agency for the period from 15 June 2019 to 15 December 2019.	9,975.00
Total Financia	119,384.71		

This occurred since the office could not raise the receipts in FY2019 as the supporting documents were not available at that time yet. The office raised the receipts in the Atlas only after receiving the supporting documents in FY2020.

Not charging the project's expenditures to the correct accounting period (FY 2019) led to the overstatement of the expenses in the current CDR (FY 2020) by US\$ 119,384.71.

This also led to an overstatement of the GMS (Facilities and Admin) included in the current CDR by US\$ 9,550.78.

The net financial impact is an Overstatemnt of the current CDR by US\$ 128,935.49.

Management's Response:

We have noticed that list of transaction identified as not charged to correct accounting year where related to FY2019 activities which were before we implemented a DIM audit recommendations of FY2019.

Last year the office had an audit observation resulting from the DIM audits of other projects, the recommendation was related to Not Charging Project's Expenditure in the Correct Reporting Period. In particular receipts in Atlas were raised only after acceptance of the works/services and not in the year when service was actually delivered. The office followed the POPP guidance available at that time, however acknowledged that this approach is not in line with IPSAS accounting principles.

Later during 2020 the office has followed up with the office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) and the Office of Financial Resources Management (OFRM) on this issue and received a revised guidance on this subject from OFRM. Following steps has been taken by CO in December 2020

- 1. Identify the projects where milestones for goods and services are expected to be delivered/completed in December 2020.
- 2. Record the completion of goods/services in Atlas in 2020 by recording an Atlas receipt and then follow up on the submission of all relevant supporting requirements.
- 3. Once relevant documentation is obtained the receipt value is updated (if needed) and package is submitted to Finance Unit for processing.

As for the processing of the third party contractor salaries the below was applied:

- 1. Tentative receipt with a value equal to the contract monthly cost paid to the third-party vendor of each individual contractor (including management fee) will be issued before 31 December 2020 but will not be processed or submitted to Finance Unit.
- 2. The signature of timesheets by respective supervisors will take place as usual (after the completion of the last working day of the month of December 2020).
- 3. Once the salary payment is completed and the invoices are received from SOC the existing receipts will be used for processing. Any necessary amendments will be made to the existing receipts to reflect actual costs.

Auditor's response:

The above mentioned activities enable the office to record expenditure in the correct accounting period. Best to our knowledge all expenses incurred in FY2020 has been recorded in the same year.

No further recommendation is raised as the office has already implemented the recommendations and took the needed action at the end of FY2020.