Executive Summary

The UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI), from 7 to 25 April 2014, conducted an audit of two grants from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund) (Output Nos. 63662 [HIV] and 63663 [TB]) managed by UNDP Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (the Office) as the Principal Recipient. These grants were managed under the Global Fund’s Additional Safeguard Policy. The audit aimed to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the governance, risk management and control processes relating to the following areas and sub-areas:

(a) governance and strategic management (organizational structure, staffing, capacity development and exit strategy);
(b) programme management (project approval and implementation, monitoring and evaluation, grant closure);
(c) Sub-recipient management (selection, assessment and contracting, funding, reporting, oversight and monitoring);
(d) procurement and supply management (qualification and forecasting, procurement of health products, quality assurance of health products, procurement of other goods and services, supply management [inventory, warehousing and distribution], asset management, individual contractors); and
(e) financial management (revenue and accounts receivable, expenditures, reporting to the Global Fund).

The audit covered the activities of the Office from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2013. The Office recorded Global Fund-related expenditures totalling $2.1 million. The last audit of the Office’s Global Fund-related activities was conducted by OAI in 2012.

The audit was conducted in conformance with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing.

Overall audit rating

OAI assessed the Office’s management of the Global Fund grants as satisfactory, which means “Internal controls, governance and risk management processes were adequately established and functioning well. No issues were identified that would significantly affect the achievement of the objectives of the audited entity.”

Key recommendation: Total = 1, high priority = 0

The audit did not result in any high (critical) priority recommendations. There is one medium (important) priority recommendation, which means “Action is required to ensure that UNDP is not exposed to risks that are considered moderate. Failure to take action could contribute to negative consequences for UNDP.” The recommendation includes actions to address weak procurement planning.

1 The Additional Safeguard Policy is a range of tools established by the Global Fund as a result of its risk management processes.
Implementation status of previous OAI audit recommendations: Report No. 975, 1 August 2012.
Total recommendations: 5
Implementation status: 100%

Management comments and action plan

The Special Representative accepted the recommendation and is in the process of implementing it. Comments and/or additional information provided have been incorporated into the report, where appropriate.

Issues with less significance (not included in this report) have been discussed directly with management and actions have been initiated to address them.

Helge S. Osttveiten
Director
Office of Audit and Investigations