UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Office of Audit and Investigations

AUDIT

OF

PUBLIC CLOUD COMPUTING PROJECT

IN

UNDP

Report No. 1557

Issue Date: 26 February 2016

Report on the Audit of UNDP Public Cloud Computing Project
Executive Summary

The UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI), conducted an audit of UNDP Public Cloud Computing[1] Project (the Project), from 23 November to 4 December 2015. The Project was implemented and managed by the Office of Information Management and Technology, formerly Office of Information Systems and Technology, (the Office). 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 (project initiation, project management, and project implementation);

    (b)   Cloud service provider management (selection of the cloud service provider, contract / service level agreement management); and

    (c)   Cloud computing security.

The audit covered the activities of the Project from 1 January 2013 to 31 October 2015. This was the first audit of the Project.

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

Overall audit rating

OAI assessed the Project 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 recommendations: Total = **2**, high priority = **0**

The two recommendations aim to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of operations.
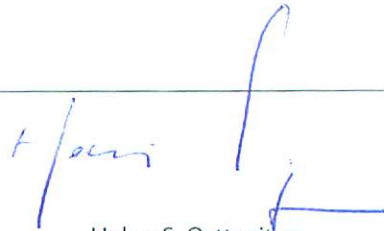
The audit did not result in any high (critical) priority recommendations. There are two medium (important) priority recommendations, which means "Action is required to ensure that UNDP is not exposed to risks that are considered moderate. Failure to take action could contribute to negative consequences for UNDP." These recommendations include actions to address the following: weaknesses in project management and delayed project risk assessment.

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[1] Cloud computing involves the use of computing, information and communications technology resources that are delivered as a service over the Internet from geographically disparate locations.

Management comments and action plan

The Chief Technology Officer and Director accepted both recommendations and is in the process of implementing them. Comments and/or additional information provided had been incorporated in 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
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