

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Office of Audit and Investigations



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

AUDIT

OF

UNDP COUNTRY OFFICE

IN

KAZAKHSTAN

Report No. 2056
Issue Date: 6 June 2019

Report on the Audit of UNDP Kazakhstan Executive Summary

The UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) conducted an audit of UNDP Kazakhstan (the Office) from 22 April to 3 May 2019. 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 (leadership, corporate direction, corporate oversight and assurance, corporate external relations and partnership);
- (b) programme (quality assurance process, programme/project design and implementation, knowledge management);
- (c) operations (financial resources management, ICT and general administrative management, procurement, human resources management, and staff and premises security); and
- (d) United Nations leadership and coordination.

The audit covered the activities of the Office from 1 January 2018 to 31 January 2019. The Office recorded programme and management expenses of approximately \$19.6 million. The last audit of the Office was conducted by OAI in 2013.

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

Overall audit rating

OAI assessed the Office as **satisfactory**, which means “The assessed governance arrangements, risk management practices and controls were adequately established and functioning well. Issues identified by the audit, if any, are unlikely to affect the achievement of the objectives of the audited entity/area.”

Key recommendation: Total = 1, high priority = 0

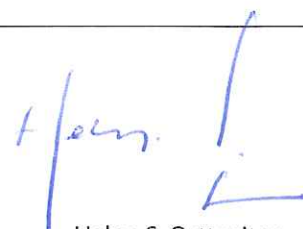
The audit did not result in any high (critical) priority recommendations. There is one medium (important) priority recommendation, which means “Action is required to ensure that UNDP is not exposed to risks. Failure to take action could result in negative consequences for UNDP.” The recommendation includes actions to address the outdated service contract remuneration scale.

The recommendation aims to ensure compliance with legislative mandates, regulations and rules, policies and procedures.

Management comments and action plan

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

Low risk issues (not included in this report) have been discussed directly with management and actions have been initiated to address them.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'H. Osttveiten', is enclosed within a rectangular box.

Helge S. Osttveiten
Director
Office of Audit and Investigations