

STATUS OF JIU RECOMMENDATIONS - June 2019

Report No.	Rec. No.	Short title	Recommendation	Status	Implementation	Management response
JIU/REP/2018/7	2	Strengthening Policy research uptake	The Executive Heads of the United Nations system organizations should establish, in the set-up of their programme budgets and finance (cost accounting) systems, a means to report on the cost of research activities by the end of 2020.	Partially Accepted	Not started	UNESCO supports partially this recommendation.  The foreseen institutional configuration for policy research among organizations in the United Nations system should be flexible and take into account the particularity of each organization's mandate, scope of research, strategic objectives, dedicated financial and human resources.  Lessons learned show that costing of research activities could be only indicative. Full implementation of such a recommendation would require adjustments in programming processes and related IT systems and policies, hence, it would imply additional resources.
JIU/REP/2018/7	4	Strengthening Policy research uptake	The Executive Heads of United Nations system organizations should carry out periodic assessments of specific research needs and potential suppliers of research products and associated costs, with the long-term objective of strengthening internal capacities for research, as appropriate, and making systematic use of research produced by academia	Accepted	In Progress	The implementation of this recommendation is expected to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of policy research outputs within organizations.
JIU/REP/2018/7	6	Strengthening Policy research uptake	The Secretary-General of the United Nations, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, should consider calling on the Executive Heads of United Nations system organizations who have not yet done so to establish a system-wide policy on open data access, supporting software and research-sharing among the United Nations system organizations.	Accepted	Not started	
JIU/REP/2018/7	7	Strengthening Policy research uptake	The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Executive Heads of other United Nations system organizations should review the level of involvement of researchers from the South and adopt policies and frameworks that will stimulate capacity-building for all dimensions of the policy research functions, including research uptake at the national level, and report thereon to the General Assembly and to the governing bodies, respectively, by the end of 2020.	Accepted	Not started	
JIU/REP/2018/7	8	Strengthening Policy research uptake	The Executive Heads of the United Nations system organizations involved in the United Nations Network on Migration should instruct the relevant units to assess the options of inter-agency collaboration, on the basis of converging interests and specific competences, with regard to decision-making on migration-related research projects by the end of 2019.	Accepted	Not started	
JIU/REP/2018/7	9	Strengthening Policy research uptake	The governing bodies of the United Nations system organizations should take measures to ensure that commitments to inter-agency collaboration, including through the establishment of a global data knowledge platform and the facilitation of academic exchanges, as stipulated in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, are implemented by the end of 2020.	Accepted	Not started	
JIU/REP/2018/7	11	Strengthening Policy research uptake	The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director General of UNESCO should consider the creation, on an experimental and voluntary basis, of a United Nations – Academic Joint Publication Board with the task of identifying research needs at the system-wide level and the most efficient ways to produce, disseminate and uptake policy research in a collaborative and participatory manner, by the end of 2020 at the latest.	Accepted	In Progress	The identification of research needs at the system-wide level is a timely pursuit, with significant importance for the proper implementation of Agenda 2030. UNESCO stands ready to co-lead with the UN this process, which will necessitate extensive interagency consultations, aimed in particular at ensuring the adequate reflection of ongoing and future research needs of individual agencies, and at establishing clear and transparent criteria for the proper identification of research needs. As a first step thought should be given to hosting it first within an existing interagency group, such as the HLCP

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JIU/REP/2018/7	12	Strengthening Policy research uptake	The Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with all Executive Heads of the United Nations system organizations, should encourage long-term partnerships with academic communities at the global, regional and national levels, and establish basic guidelines for such partnerships.	Accepted	Partially implemented	UNESCO, given its mandate, already has a large number of partnerships in place with the academic community, covering various fields and subject areas, at the global, regional and national levels.
JIU/REP/2018/6	1	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings	The executive heads of United Nations system organizations should task the relevant offices with developing, by the end of 2020, a draft policy on the accessibility of conferences and meetings for persons with disabilities, as well as guidelines for policy implementation, and present them to their respective legislative bodies, should the endorsement of those bodies be required for the policy to take effect.	Accepted	Not started	UNESCO commemorates the International Day of Persons with Disabilities in its Headquarters in Paris where over 500 participants are brought together in order to raise awareness about disability issues and draw attention to the benefits of an inclusive and accessible society for all. In addition, as a UN agency, UNESCO contributes to the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities within the fields of its competence including discussions regarding future implementation strategies as well as current progress being made to build inclusive and empowering environments for disabled people
JIU/REP/2018/6	2	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings	For all major conferences that are hosted off the premises of United Nations system organizations, the executive heads of these organizations should ensure that accessibility requirements are clearly stipulated in individual agreements concluded with the hosting entity for specific conferences and meetings.	Accepted	Not started	Pending Management's comments
JIU/REP/2018/6	3	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings	The executive heads of United Nations system organizations that have not yet done so should appoint, by December 2021, a focal point on accessibility within their organization under terms of reference that clearly define the focal point's role and responsibilities as regards enhancing the accessibility of conferences and meetings for persons with disabilities.	Accepted	Not started	Pending Management's comments
JIU/REP/2018/6	4	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings	The executive heads of United Nations system organizations should instruct relevant offices that address accessibility-related matters to develop, by December 2021, standard operating procedures with regard to their operational responsibilities to improve the accessibility of conferences and meetings for persons with disabilities.	Accepted	Not started	Pending Management's comments
JIU/REP/2018/6	5	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings	The executive heads of United Nations system organizations should make it mandatory for organizers of meetings and conferences to ensure, by December 2021, that: (a) The participation of persons with disabilities is fully supported by registration processes that are accessible for persons with diverse disabilities; (b) Clauses are included in accessible registration forms to ask specifically about accessibility requirements; (c) Information on accessible facilities and services is disseminated to all potential participants through accessible websites and information notes; (d) Accessible post-conference and post-meeting satisfaction surveys consistently include questions to assess satisfaction with the accessibility of facilities and services.	Accepted	Not started	Pending Management's comments
JIU/REP/2018/6	6	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings	The executive heads of United Nations system organizations should, by December 2021, provide the option for remote participation in all meetings and conferences that they organize, with no prejudice to the efforts to make attendance at meetings and conferences accessible to persons with disabilities.	Accepted	Not started	Pending Management's comments

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JIU/REP/2018/6	7	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings	The executive heads of United Nations system organizations should issue instructions to information and communications technology and facilities management offices to undertake periodic accessibility assessments of organizational facilities and services for conferences and meetings, and to ensure that organizations of persons with disabilities are adequately consulted at all stages of the process.	Accepted	Not started	Pending Management's comments
JIU/REP/2018/6	8	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings	The executive heads of United Nations system organizations should task procurement offices with drafting, by December 2021, provisions for incorporating accessibility checks and/or requirements into procurement policies and guidelines for consideration and adoption by the relevant decision-making authority.	Accepted	Not started	Pending Management's comments
JIU/REP/2018/6	9	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings	The executive heads of United Nations system organizations should develop and implement through relevant inter-agency mechanisms, by December 2021, a common system-wide mandatory specialized training module on disability inclusion and accessibility for personnel involved directly or indirectly in the servicing of conferences and meetings, including, but not limited to, staff in conference management, facilities and services management, human resources management, and procurement, legal, ICT, medical, public information and safety and security services.	Accepted	Not started	Pending Management's comments
JIU/REP/2018/6	10	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings	The legislative bodies of United Nations system organizations should include in their agendas the review of periodic reports submitted to them on the state of accessibility of conference and meeting facilities and services for persons with disabilities, including the state of progress of actions to address accessibility deficits.	Accepted	Not started	Pending Board's decision
JIU/REP/2018/5	1	Administrative Support Services	Executive heads, in coordination with the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group and with a view to a coherent system-wide approach, should, by the end of 2020, enhance existing systems or implement new ones to accurately identify resources devoted to administrative support services, irrespective of funding source or cost classification, and set out how efficiency should be defined and assessed.	Accepted	In Progress	
JIU/REP/2018/5	2	Administrative Support Services	The legislative bodies should request executive heads to develop performance indicators and targets to drive improvements in the delivery of administrative support services, and to post performance publicly.	Accepted	In Progress	
JIU/REP/2018/5	6	Administrative Support Services	The United Nations Sustainable Development Group should refocus the common business operations of United Nations country teams on a more limited agenda, such as common premises, facility services and procurement. All country teams should be required, by the end of 2020, to put forward a business case on common premises. They should also be required to establish joint long-term agreements and service contracts by the end of 2020.	Accepted	In Progress	UNESCO intention is to move only in common premises in cases where there is a clear economic and/or programme interest for UNESCO.
JIU/REP/2018/5	7	Administrative Support Services	The Secretary-General, in conjunction with other executive heads of entities with field-based programmes, should, by the end of 2020, develop a specific proposal that defines how to apply mutual recognition as a vehicle for capacity consolidation, so as to reduce redundancy and rationalize physical presence.	Accepted	In Progress	Internal consultation ongoing on how to integrate and implement mutual recognition into UNESCO policy. Note on operational guidance drafted. UNESCO has signed the mutual recognition statement.

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JIU/REP/2018/4	1	Whistle-blower	Legislative bodies should adopt measures by 2020 to ensure that all policies related to misconduct/wrongdoing and retaliation specify appropriate channels and modalities, such as independent oversight committees, for reporting and investigating allegations against the executive head of the organization, as well as against any other functions that may entail a potential conflict of interest in the handling of such issues.	Accepted	In progress	Currently article 4 of UNESCO's Statute relating to the Director-General provides that "The Executive Board by a vote of two thirds of its members may suspend the Director-General on grounds of misconduct, or of violation of the Constitution or Rules of the General Conference or of the Executive Board."
JIU/REP/2018/4	2	Whistle-blower	In United Nations system organizations that do not have an external and independent mechanism for appeals when a prima facie case of retaliation is not determined, the executive head should instruct the relevant office(s) to develop, by 2020, appropriate options to address this deficiency for his or her timely consideration, and to outline any agreed-upon mechanisms and processes in updates to protection against retaliation policies.	Accepted	In progress	UNESCO accepts this recommendation and will begin exploring implementation modalities, possibly directed towards the use of an external and independent expert employed on an ad-hoc basis in case of a no prima facie determination by UNESCO Ethics Advisor.
JIU/REP/2018/4	3	Whistle-blower	Executive heads of United Nations system organizations should update their relevant whistle-blower policies by 2020 to address shortcomings and gaps identified in the JIU best practices ratings.	Accepted	In progress	The whistle-blower policy will be reviewed in 2020
JIU/REP/2018/4	4	Whistle-blower	By 2020, the legislative bodies of the United Nations system organizations should request executive heads to ensure that the independence of the head of ethics, head of oversight and ombudsman/mediator functions is clearly defined, in accordance with recommendations contained in JIU reports (JIU/REP/2006/2, JIU/REP/2010/3, JIU/REP/2011/7, JIU/REP/2015/6 and JIU/REP/2016/8), and that these functions report periodically to the legislative body.	Accepted	Implemented	UNESCO is already compliant. Ethics Office is an independent Office (HRM Item 18.1 para 2) as well as IOS (AM Item 1.6 para. 1.1). Both Ethics and IOS report periodically/annually to Board: Ethics' annual report 2018 and IOS annual report 2018. Mandate of both Dir/IOS and Ethics Advisor have a term limit and are not renewable.
JIU/REP/2018/4	5	Whistle-blower	By the end of 2019, executive heads of United Nations system organizations should develop comprehensive communications tools for all personnel on what, how, where and to whom to report misconduct/wrongdoing, including harassment and retaliation, in all the working languages of the organization.	Accepted	In progress	While policy clearly states on what, how, where and to whom reports shall be made, the current policies are under review to include a comprehensive communication tools.
JIU/REP/2018/4	6	Whistle-blower	Executive heads of United Nations system organizations should develop by 2020 standard operating procedures for proactively protecting those who report misconduct/wrongdoing from retaliation, which should include undertaking relevant risk assessments and clearly identifying available support mechanisms and resources.	Accepted	Not started	This will be addressed within the planned 2020 review of the whistle-blower policy
JIU/REP/2018/4	7	Whistle-blower	Executive heads of United Nations system organizations should develop standard operating procedures by 2020 for handling retaliation cases, with specific checklists and protocols for investigation, support services and communication.	Accepted	Not started	This will be addressed within the planned 2020 review of the whistle-blower policy
JIU/REP/2018/4	8	Whistle-blower	Executive heads of United Nations system organizations should ensure that, by 2020, anonymous channels to report misconduct/wrongdoing are: (a) developed and operational; (b) available in all the working languages of the organization; (c) accessible to all personnel, vendors and beneficiaries; (d) reflected in their relevant policies; and (e) widely communicated.	Accepted	Implemented	UNESCO is already compliant. Anyone who wishes to remain anonymous, can report by using an anonymous communication channel or fill in a form available in Eng & Fre on both Ethics and IOS website.

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JIU/REP/2018/4	9	Whistle-blower	By the end of 2019, executive heads of United Nations system organizations should ensure the public posting of an annual report, with all due consideration to confidentiality, on misconduct/wrongdoing and retaliation cases. The report should specifically include the allegations, findings and outcomes, including administrative actions taken	Accepted	Implemented	UNESCO already publishes such an annual report internally. The Ethics Office is liaising closely with HRM with regards to the JIU recommendation.
JIU/REP/2018/4	10	Whistle-blower	By the end of 2019, executive heads of United Nations system organizations should ensure that all supervisors and managers are required to complete specific training on whistleblowing policies and on how to appropriately respond to and handle misconduct/wrongdoing and retaliation reports.	Accepted	In progress	UNESCO is already (partly) compliant. While it is not a separate training, whistleblowing training is a component of the mandatory ethics training offered by the Ethics Office, as well as of the special Leadership training on Ethics. Training is currently reviewed and a stronger emphasis will be put on whistleblower policies.
JIU/REP/2018/4	11	Whistle-blower	By 2020, executive heads of United Nations system organizations should conduct global staff surveys on a biennial basis, in order to gauge staff views on "tone at the top" issues, accountability and ethics-related topics and to develop a comprehensive action plan to address the issues identified.	Accepted	Implemented	UNESCO is already compliant. In addition to the Global Staff Survey which was launched in 2018 and will be conducted on a biannual basis, the Ethics Office has also launched a separate survey on ethics in 2017. In both cases, all responses concerning ethics were carefully reviewed with the goal to address issues in the most efficient way, including through enhanced training on systemic issues identified through the surveys.
JIU/REP/2018/1	2	Internship Programmes	Executive heads of the United Nations system organizations, under the leadership of the Secretary-General as the chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, should work together towards the establishment of more coherent internship programmes for the United Nations system, taking into account the benchmarking framework for good practices in internship programmes.	Accepted	In Progress	This has discussed at the HLCM level
JIU/REP/2018/1	3	Internship Programmes	The executive heads of JIU participating organizations should consider updating their internship policies, taking into account the proposed JIU benchmarking framework for good practices in internship programmes and identifying those benchmarks to be streamlined in the policies of their respective organizations.	Accepted	In Progress	The Policy is being updated and should be ready by the end of this year (2019).
JIU/REP/2018/1	5	Internship Programmes	The executive heads of JIU participating organizations should put in place a mechanism to systematically track information related to internships, including on gender, country of origin, university from which the highest diploma was received, duration of the internship for each intern engaged and related costs (direct and indirect) generated by the internship programme. A report should be presented for information to the governing and/or legislative bodies of the organizations at their next sessions	Accepted	Implemented	This already exists in UNESCO. This information is captured when the student applies for internship. It forms part of the Human Resources report to the General Conference.
JIU/REP/2018/1	6	Internship Programmes	Legislative and/or governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system should consider approving the establishment of ad hoc multi-donor trust funds to pledge voluntary contributions to support internship schemes and request executive heads to present for their consideration proposals for other suitable innovative mechanisms to receive voluntary contributions, with no strings attached regarding selection criteria.	Not Accepted	N/A	

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JIU/REP/2018/1	7	Internship Programmes	Executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system should establish a collaboration mechanism between the public information services of the organizations and the permanent representatives of Member States to facilitate outreach to their capitals on a worldwide basis so as to attract young candidates for internships from diverse educational backgrounds from all recognized educational entities, based on the World Guide to Higher Education published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and	Accepted	Implemented	UNESCO is in constant contact with the Permanent Delegation to UNESCO and with the National Commissions of the Member States. They are encouraged to nominate their nationals for internship in UNESCO, and when possible to sponsor them. Many graduate students use the channel of their Permanent Delegates and their National Commissions to contact the Organization for internship opportunity.