

Board of Trustees

Fifty-eighth Session
16-17 November 2017

UNITAR/BT/58/5

17 November 2017

Geneva, Switzerland

KEY CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Item 5: 2018 – 2021 Strategic Framework

The Board welcomed with appreciation the 2018 – 2021 strategic framework and requested Management to incorporate its observations in the framework's final version by the end of November 2017 and report on its implementation at the Fifty-ninth Session.

Item 6: Programming and reporting

Item 6a: Report of the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council (E/2017/48) and Economic and Social Council resolution 2017

The Board took note of the Report of the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council (E/2017/47) and Economic and Social Council resolution E/res/2017/6, as well as the comments made.

Item 6b: 2016 results report and key performance indicators

The Board took note of the 2016 Results Report and the key performance indicators.

Item 6c: Programming highlights

The Board took note of its observations and expressed much appreciation to Management for the presentations on helping countries implement the 2030 Agenda, the Pakistan Evidence and Learning Platform, UNOSAT capacity development in geospatial technologies for Disaster risk reduction and disaster interventions, and the massive open online course on climate change adaptation.

Item 6d: Programming challenges and lessons learned

The Board took note of the presentation and requested Management to ensure projects include measurable results in accordance with policy requirements.

Item 7: Finance and budget**Items 7a: Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016**

The Board took note of the Report of the Finance Committee and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016.

Items 7b: Report on the Application of the New Cost Recovery Approach

The Board took note of the Report of the Finance Committee and Management's report on the application of the cost recovery approach. The Board gave the Executive Director flexibility in applying the programme support cost rate to project budgets on a case-by-case basis, after consultation with the Finance Committee.

Items 7c: Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

The Board took note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

Item 7d: Proposed Programme Budget for the Biennium 2018-2019

The Board took note of the observations made by members during its discussion of the proposed Programme Budget for the Biennium 2018-2019 and of the Report of the Finance Committee. In this context, the Executive Director made a statement on the revised organizational chart envisaged for the budget period of which the board took note. The Board adopted the Programme Budget for the Biennium 2018-2019 as proposed.

Item 7e: Report of the 2016 External Audit

The Board took note of the observations of the Finance Committee and the Report of the Board of Auditors. As provided under Article XI of the Statute, the Board recommended the Secretary-General to amend paragraph 11 of Article VIII of the Statute to read as follows:

“The funds of the Institute shall be held and administered solely for the purpose of the Institute. The Controller of the United Nations shall perform all necessary financial and accounting functions for the Institute, including the custody of its funds, and shall prepare and certify the annual accounts showing the status of the Institute's special account.”

Item 7f: Migration to ATLAS

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and the update on the migration to ATLAS, and requested Management to maintain the training on ATLAS and brief the Board on ATLAS in the future should any matter emerge requiring the Board to be informed or take decisions.

Item 7g: Update on the use of the revolving fund from non-earmarked reserves

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and Management's update on the use of the revolving fund from non-earmarked reserves.

Item 7h: Update on the implementation of the Resource Mobilization Strategy

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations, took note of the update on the Resource Mobilization Strategy and welcomed with appreciation the continued support from the Government of Algeria and the announced contribution from the State of Qatar to the UNITAR General Fund covering 2018 to 2020.

Item 7i: UNITAR Investment Management and Review Strategy

The Board took note of Finance Committee's observations and recommendations, and took note of Management's update on the implementation of the UNITAR Investment Management and Review Strategy.

Item 8: Dates for the Fifty-ninth Session of the Board and adoption of the Fifty-eighth Session's conclusions and recommendations

The Board welcomed the offer by Nigeria and agreed to convene in Abuja for the Fifty-ninth Session from 29-30 November 2018.