

Board of Trustees

Sixty-Fourth Session

16 – 17 November 2023

UNITAR/BT/64/5

17 November 2023

Geneva, Switzerland

KEY CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SIXTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Item 5: Follow-up from the Sixty-Third Session

The Board congratulated the Executive Director, Management and staff on UNITAR's Sixtieth Anniversary, expressed its deep satisfaction on the diverse array of activities and initiatives that have been organized to commemorate this occasion, including the efforts made to include stories and testimonials from beneficiaries and partners, and extended its deep appreciation to the various partners that have funded and provided other support to the activities. The Board also congratulated the CIFAL Global Network on the commemoration of its Twentieth Anniversary.

Item 6: Substantive matters

Item 6a: Briefing on the Sustainable Development Goals Summit and the Climate Ambition Summit

The Board took note of the observations made and the outcomes of the Sustainable Development Goals Summit, the Climate Ambition Summit and other pertinent meetings, and requested that UNITAR participate in an ample way.

Item 6b: Preparations for the 2024 Summit of the Future

The Board took note of the 2024 Summit of the Future and the observations made on UNITAR's work and the planning exercise for the 2026-2029 strategic framework, and requested that Management report back to the Board at its Sixty-Fifth Session.

Item 6c: Programme Innovation and Growth: Artificial Intelligence in training and development – implications, opportunities and risk for UNITAR

The Board took note of the observations made and UNITAR's considerations to incorporate artificial intelligence more broadly into its learning products and services.

Item 7: Risk assessment

Item 7a: 2023 Risk Report

The Board took note of the 2023 Risk Report.

Item 7b: Cybersecurity Resilience Maturity Assessment Report

The Board took note of the observations made and the Cybersecurity Resilience Maturity Assessment Report.

Item 8: Programming and reporting**Item 8a: 2022 Results Report and key performance indicators**

The Board took note of the observations made and welcomed the 2022 Results Report and the update on the key performance indicators, as well as took note of the addition of the new KPIs on certification of completion rates, application of knowledge and skills contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda/SDGS/other major multilateral frameworks and the application/use of knowledge products, as proposed.

Item 8b: Report of the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council and the 2023 ECOSOC resolution

The Board took note of the Report of the Secretary-General (E/2023/70) and ECOSOC resolution E/Res/2023/7 and welcomed the achievements in the implementation of the strategic framework and supporting Member States with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Item 9: UNITAR regulatory framework and guidelines on the issuance of administrative circulars and other policy documents

The Board took note of the observations made and approved the UNITAR regulatory framework and guidelines on the issuance of administrative circulars and other policy documents, as proposed.

Item 10: Partnerships**Item 10a: Implementation of the Partnership and Resource Mobilization Strategy**

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and Management's report on the implementation of the strategy, and requested that Management report to the Board at its Sixty-Fifth Session and submit a review and proposed revision to the guidelines on engaging with the business and private sectors.

Item 10b: Update on the European Union pillar assessment of UNITAR

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and Management's update on the European Union pillar assessment and requested Management to keep the Board apprised as may be needed.

Item 10c: Guidelines on Assurance Activities

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and the Guidelines on Assurance Activities.

Item 10d: Pass-through funding modalities, outside of UN Joint Programmes, One UN Funds and Multi-Donor Trust Funds

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and approved the pass-through fund modalities outside of UN Joint Programmes, One UN Funds and Multi-Donor Trust Funds, as contained in Administrative Circular AC/UNITAR/2023/10.

Item 11: Proposed country office in Doha, Qatar

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and the proposed establishment of a UNITAR country office in Doha, Qatar and requested that Management report to the Board as soon as practicable. The Board also requested that Management prepare and submit general guidelines on offices to the Board at its next session.

Item 12: Finance and budget**Item 12a: Audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 and Report on the Board of Auditors**

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and the financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 and the Report of the Board of Auditors.

Item 12b: Report on the application of the cost recovery approach and update on the General Fund

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and Management's report on cost recovery including the related issues on the operational reserve and the update on the General Fund and requested that Management revisit cost recovery including the operational reserve issue and report to the Board at its Sixty-Fifth Session.

Item 12c: 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 12d: Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2024-2025

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and adopted the programme budget for the biennium 2024-2025, as proposed.

Item 12e : Strategic business continuity funds

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and approved the terms of reference/governing principles of the Legal Liability Fund and the Innovation and Business Development Fund. With regard to the Leave No One Behind Fund, the Board understood that further review would be made and requested Management to report to the Board as soon as practicable.

Item 12f: Update on use of the revolving fund from the General Fund

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and Management's update on the use of the revolving fund from the General Fund.

Item 12g : Update on the Leave No One Behind Fund

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and recommendations, including the strategies for mobilizing resources and strengthening the fund, and expressed its deep appreciation to Sweden and the Swedish International Cooperation Agency in particular for the support provided to the Leave No One Behind Fund.

Item 12h: UNITAR Investment Management and Returns Strategy

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and Management's update on the UNITAR Investment Management and Returns Strategy.

Item 12i: Supplementary funding plan for the unfunded UNITAR ASHI liabilities

The Board took note of the update on the supplementary funding plan for the unfunded UNITAR ASHI liabilities.

Item 12j: Migration to QUANTUM – the new Oracle cloud-based enterprise resource planning system

The Board took note of the Finance Committee's observations and Management's update on the migration to QUANTUM.

Item 13: Finance Committee Elections

The Board requested that the Executive Director continue consultations over the next several months and keep the Board apprised.

Item 14: Dates of the Sixty-Fifth Session of the Board and adoption of the Sixty-Fourth's Session's conclusion and recommendations

The Board set the dates of the Sixty-Fifth Session for 21-22 November 2024, adopted the key decisions and recommendations of the Sixty-Fourth Session, and agreed to adopt the report of the conclusions and recommendations of its Sixty-Fourth Session as a follow-up to the session, as has been done in the past.