



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

Management Response and Actions IOM Country Office Brussels Audit File No. BE201801

The IOM Office of the Inspector General (OIG) conducted an internal audit of the IOM Brussels (the “Country Office”) from 12 to 23 March 2018. The audit assessed the risk exposure and risk management of the Country Office’s activities, in order to ensure these are well understood and controlled by the country-level management and staff. The audit covered the activities of the Country Office from March 2016 to March 2018. The results of the audit are public and can be accessed through IOM’s global website¹.

The OIG assessed the Office as partially effective, and raised 29 audit findings and recommendations, out of which 13 are very high and high priority².

As of December 2020, there remains one (Medium priority) open recommendation while all very high and high priority recommendations were implemented.

The below report provides an explanation of the actions taken since the 2018 audit and the current state of the IOM Brussels office.

Management Response and Actions to the Internal Audit Report of BE201801 – IOM Brussels

Management and Administration

Finding No. 1: Security concerns

Finding Closed

In December 2019, the country office moved to the new location, where the Regional Office is also located. In the new location, access is possible only with personal badge and visitors are welcomed at the ground floor by IOM personnel and accompanied to the country office. The organization of the new office with direct access from the waiting area to the counseling/meeting room, which prevents non-IOM visitors from accessing the office space. The new business continuity plan has been finalized and is shared with the internal auditor.

Finding No. 2: Absence of integration of IOM Risk Management Standards in the Country Office as per IN/213 “Management of Risk in IOM” and Business Continuity Plan

Finding Closed

Updated business continuity plan was shared. While a risk management workshop with IOM’s Risk Management Officer was planned in 2019, it had to be postponed a few times with a final date agreed

¹https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/about-iom/audit/be201801-iom_co_brussels.pdf

² All very high and high risk findings under Information Technology were not presented, according to the provisions of IB/78 “Disclosure of IOM Internal Audit Reports”.



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

for April 2020. However, due to COVID-19 the workshop was postponed again, and the new date is not available yet.

Information Technology

All 10 very high and high findings under Information Technology had been implemented by the country office.

Programme and Operations

Finding No. 28: Weaknesses in the programme management and implementation with inadequate project financial monitoring

Finding Closed

Here is the mechanism agreed within the country office: the Resource Management Officer will present on quarterly basis review of all project balances to the Chief of Mission for review and approval of actions to be taken for individual projects where further action is required (for example, shifts in the budget to be agreed with donor, highlighting low or high burn rate, etc.). Before the analysis is consolidated for the Chief of Mission, each project manager will have review of spending versus budget with their dedicated contact point from finance team and results of such review will be basis for financial management review with the Chief of Mission. Project managers will be trained in financial reporting in PRISM by the Resource Management Officer in September 2019 so that the financial literacy of the project managers is increased and that they are able to use the financial tools which are available for project managers.

OIG/Internal Audit Comment:

OIG - Internal Audit takes note of the efforts of the Office to implement the majority of the audit recommendations and encourages the implementation of the remaining one in due course.