



INTERNAL AUDIT DIVISION

REPORT 2025/064

Audit of military patrolling operations in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

Military patrols were adequately conducted and justified by operational orders and readiness assessments but the collection and reporting of patrol data needed improvement

12 December 2025

Assignment No. AP2024-672-04

Audit of military patrolling operations in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) conducted an audit of military patrolling operations in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). The objective of the audit was to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the military patrolling operations undertaken by UNIFIL to ensure a stable and secure environment in South Lebanon. The audit covered the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2025 and included: (a) planning and readiness; (b) execution and monitoring of patrolling activities; and (c) reporting and evaluation.

UNIFIL provided adequate guidance and operational support for its military patrolling activities through well-structured directives, planning, and training programs. Despite operational challenges during the October 2023 crisis, UNIFIL maintained coverage across its area of operations and resumed readiness assessments following the ceasefire. Patrols were executed in accordance with tasking requirements and monitored effectively through tactical and naval operations centers. However, weaknesses in data recording and reporting, particularly in the Patrol Mapping and Reporting Tool, and exclusion of Observer Group Lebanon activities led to inconsistencies in official reports.

OIOS made two recommendations. To address issues identified in the audit, UNIFIL needed to:

- Provide training for military personnel responsible for entering patrol data in the Patrol Mapping and Reporting Tool.
- Review and verify the accuracy of its military patrol information included in the Secretary-General, Office of Military Affairs and results-based budgeting reports and ensure the inclusion of Observer Group Lebanon activities in its reports.

UNIFIL accepted both recommendations and has initiated action to implement them. Actions required to close the recommendations are indicated in Annex I.

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Audit of military patrolling operations in the United Nation Interim Force in Lebanon

I. BACKGROUND

1. The Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) conducted an audit of military patrolling operations in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).
2. Security Council resolution 1701 (SCR 1701) mandated UNIFIL to monitor the cessation of hostilities; accompany and support the Lebanese Armed Forces as they deploy in South Lebanon and the Blue Line (BL); and ensure the Mission area of operation (AO) is not utilized for hostile activities. The BL is a 121-kilometre line of withdrawal of Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) identified in May 2000 as a line of separation. On 29 August 2025, the Security Council extended the mandate of UNIFIL until 31 December 2026, followed by a one-year safe and orderly withdrawal through 2027 and liquidation in 2028.
3. Military patrolling operations is key to achieving the objectives of SCR 1701 of a stable and secure environment in South Lebanon. Military patrolling enables UNIFIL to: (a) promote its visibility and act as a deterrent to all parties; (b) identify threats to civilians; (c) provide security and protection; (d) facilitate freedom of movement; and (e) generate confidence in the peace process. The major types of military patrols undertaken by UNIFIL included vehicle patrol, foot patrol, maritime patrol and air reconnaissance patrol.
4. The UNIFIL result-based budgets (RBB) for 2023-24 and 2024-25 proposed a deployment of 13,000 military contingent personnel at costs of \$360 million and \$352 million, respectively. UNIFIL had specified in its RBB for 2023-24 and 2024-25 the planned military patrolling activities shown in table 1.

Table 1: UNIFIL planned military patrols in fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25

Planned activities	2023-24	2024-25
Independent mobile patrol person-days, to include reserve, quick reaction, reconnaissance, intervention and force protection capabilities	1,255,600	1,255,600
Flight hours for the Blue Line patrols and reconnaissance flights in area of operations	1,022	910
Naval vessel patrol days to monitor the maritime border of Lebanon, including joint operational exercises with the Lebanese Armed Forces	1,242	985
Flight hours for maritime interdiction patrols and operational activities inside the area of maritime operations	300	300

5. UNIFIL had experienced disruptions of its patrolling operations since 7 October 2023 due to clashes between Hizbullah and IDF and the IDF subsequently traversing the BL into South Lebanon. For example, UNIFIL suspended its military foot patrols from October 2023 to October 2024 and air patrols from October 2023 to December 2024, except in areas sufficiently distant from the BL. UNIFIL also scaled down its military vehicle patrols along the BL due to denial of freedom of movement by the parties to the conflict, even after a ceasefire agreement on 27 November 2024. The patrolling operations were also hampered by a reduction of footprint of 15 UNIFIL positions close to the BL by one third in January 2024, with peacekeepers temporarily relocated to other positions due to damage caused to the positions.

6. The Military Chief of Staff was responsible for administering the military patrolling operations, along with nine infantry battalions, a Force Commander Reserve (FCR), a helicopter patrol team, and a Maritime Task Force (MTF) of five naval units with a helicopter crew. Military patrolling operations were governed by the: (a) UNIFIL military operational order; (b) Department of Peace Operations (DPO)

guidelines on the role of the head of the military component in a United Nations Peacekeeping Operation; (c) UNIFIL standard operating procedure on maritime organization; and (d) UNIFIL directive for evaluation of subordinate military entities.

7. Data on military patrols were collected and stored in the Patrol Mapping and Reporting Tool (PMRT), which is embedded in UNIFIL's Situational Awareness Tool. The Situational Awareness Tool was developed to collect, analyze, visualize and share information on UNIFIL activities, such as incidences, patrols, engagement meetings, and key life support and humanitarian issues.

8. Comments provided by UNIFIL are incorporated in italics.

II. AUDIT OBJECTIVE, SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

9. The objective of the audit was to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the military patrolling operations undertaken by UNIFIL to ensure a stable and secure environment in South Lebanon.

10. This audit was included in the 2025 risk-based work plan of OIOS due to adverse political events or prejudicial actions caused by violations of the cessation of hostility and the importance of military patrolling activities in achieving the Mission's mandate.

11. OIOS conducted this audit from August to October 2025 and covered the period from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2025. Based on an activity-level risk assessment, the audit covered higher and medium-risk areas related to military patrolling, which included: (a) planning and readiness; (b) execution and monitoring of patrolling activities; and (c) reporting and evaluation.

12. The audit methodology included: (a) interviews with key stakeholders, including Sector Commanders and patrol leaders; (b) review of relevant documents, including military patrolling reports, military operational orders, and operational readiness assessments; (c) analytical review of the population of military patrol data, including vehicle, foot, maritime and air patrols; (d) judgmental sampling of 150 after-action reports on execution of patrols to assess compliance with the command and control instructions; and (e) observation of the execution and monitoring of vehicle and maritime patrols.

13. To assess the reliability of data pertaining to PMRT, OIOS reviewed existing information about the data and interviewed UNIFIL personnel knowledgeable about the data. In addition, OIOS verified the accuracy of patrol data against the records maintained by the patrol units and figures reported in Mission's budget and reports of the Secretary-General. Based on the review, OIOS concluded that the PMRT data was sufficiently reliable for addressing the audit objectives.

14. The audit was conducted in accordance with the Global Internal Audit Standards.

III. AUDIT RESULTS

A. Planning and readiness

UNIFIL provided adequate guidance for its military patrolling operations

15. UNIFIL was required to issue a mission-level directive to guide its military patrolling operations, called an operation order (OPORD), to its subordinate commanders and key staff within the military component. The OPORD should be regularly reviewed.

16. UNIFIL had reviewed its OPORD six times to direct the patrolling operations of the military. OIOS review of the last two versions, OPORD-5 dated 14 September 2016 and OPORD-6 dated 17 October 2023, indicated that UNIFIL adequately aligned its military OPORDs with the mandate and strategic plans of the Mission. The review also indicated that the OPORDs adequately guided the military patrolling strategies and activities undertaken by the Mission. The review further indicated that military patrolling activities were clearly outlined, and roles and responsibilities were defined in the OPORDs. The Military Chief of Staff directed the issuance and implementation of the OPORD through tactical planning and issuance of quarterly fragmentary orders for the various military units to carry out the full range of operational functions as stated in the OPORD.

[REDACTED]

17. [REDACTED]

18. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

19. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

20. [REDACTED]

The Mission resumed the assessment of the operational readiness of its military patrol units after the ceasefire agreement of 27 November 2024

21. UNIFIL was required to assess the operational readiness of its military patrol units by vetting their manpower and fitness, and understanding of the Mission setting, threat environment, mandated activities, concept of operation, and the Mission's rules of engagement. The Sector Commanders in coordination with the Evaluation Cell were responsible for assessing the operational readiness of their patrol units every six months. The reports of the assessments were required by the Office of Military Affairs (OMA) in DPO to provide UNIFIL with military advice on the performance of the military units.

22. OIOS review of 29 assessment reports submitted to OMA during the audit period indicated that for the period between July 2023 and December 2024, the Mission conducted an average of 38 per cent of the planned quarterly assessments. Of the 15 patrol units, the Mission did not assess three patrol units for a period of one year and nine months; three patrol unit for a period of one year and six months; three patrol units for a period of one year and three months; and six patrol units for a period of nine months. The review also indicated that the Mission did not conduct assessments of all patrol units in the first quarter of 2024. This was attributed to the deterioration of the security situation in the Mission AO as a result of the conflict between Hizbullah and IDF.

23. However, after the ceasefire agreement of 27 November 2024, the Mission resumed the process of assessing operational readiness of the patrol units, including assessing: (a) strength and capability to implement the mandate of the Mission; (b) intelligence and situational awareness; (c) whether contingency plans were aligned with UNIFIL's OPOD; (d) operational standard; and (d) training provided. OIOS noted that the Chief of Staff also issued a technical directive on 8 January 2025 emphasizing the need to conduct the assessment and by the second quarter of 2025 all patrol units were assessed.

UNIFIL provided adequate training to enhance the knowledge and resource capability of patrol units

24. UNIFIL was required to establish an in-mission operational readiness training programme to train patrol units on the rules of engagement and various scenario-based standardized tactical incident reporting (STIR) to improve capabilities and internal interoperability. The STIR translates into actions the principles stated in the rules of engagement regarding common situations that patrol units could face.

25. OIOS review indicated that the sector and battalion commanders in coordination with J7, UNIFIL's military training branch, monitored and supervised the execution of the training programme. The monthly training reports were submitted to OMA for verification and analysis of the data and feedback on necessary adjustments to the training programme. OIOS review of the training records indicated that the Mission conducted 204 sessions of battalion STIR training for a total number of 81,161 military personnel for the period from July 2023 to June 2025. OIOS further noted that the training and rehearsal of the STIR were conducted for all battalions. The training included standards of reporting incidents, such as (a) unauthorized carrying of arms in the AO; (b) armed elements trying to cross the BL; (c) hostile elements preparing a rocket launching attack; and (d) direct attack against UNIFIL compound.

B. Execution and monitoring of patrolling activities

Military patrols were executed according to the tasking requirements

26. Sector commanders were required to exercise effective command and control over their military patrol units, including: (a) issue daily patrol orders with clear instructions and guidance to patrol units; (b) ensure assigned tasks are understood, supervised, and accomplished; (c) keep unit members informed of situational developments; and (d) ensure the rules of engagement are understood.

27. OIOS interviews of two patrol commanders indicated that the patrols were conducted by the battalions as stated in the patrol orders issued by the sector commanders. Also, OIOS review of 150 daily patrol orders indicated that the patrol orders included information, such as purpose of patrol, type of patrol, itinerary, expected time of departure and arrival, number of personnel and vehicle details. OIOS also noted during an observation of a vehicle patrol that, in addition to the patrol order, patrol units were provided with maps, route catalogue, situational update, the rules of engagement and STIR, and communication devices to facilitate their movements. Further, patrols were required to submit after-action reports after every patrol.

a) Vehicle and foot patrol

28. UNIFIL completed 15,119 (or 78 per cent) and 1,248 (or 76 per cent) of the 19,361 vehicle and 1,642 foot patrol orders issued during the audit period, respectively. The Mission cancelled the execution of 4,185 vehicle and 378 foot patrol orders due to situational changes in the security levels, and it did not complete the execution of 57 vehicle and 16 foot patrol orders due to vehicle mechanical failures, roadblocks and denial of freedom of movement. Table 2 shows the status of the UNIFIL vehicle and foot patrol orders issued between 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2025.

Table 2: Status of UNIFIL vehicle and foot patrol orders issued between 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2025

Patrol type	Patrol orders	Completed	Cancelled	Uncompleted
Vehicle patrol	19,361	15,119	4,185	57
Foot patrol	1,642	1,248	378	16

29. OIOS review of the Secretary-General's report on the implementation of the Mission's mandate from February to June 2025 indicated that patrol units were denied movement on 53 occasions, prompting cancellation of 7 patrols and use of alternate routes in 7 occasions. OIOS observation of the conduct of a vehicle patrol by the Italian battalion on 1 October 2025, including pre-mission briefing and checks, execution, post-mission checks, and submission of the after-action reports indicated that the patrol team complied with the instructions in the daily patrol orders. Also, OIOS review of samples of the after-action reports for 100 vehicle and 50 foot patrols completed during the audit period indicated that the reports submitted by the patrol units adequately addressed the assigned tasks in the patrol orders.

b) Maritime patrol

30. OIOS review of documentation of maritime patrols indicated that the MTF issued 731 daily task orders to the naval units in the form of a Task Force Daily Intention Message (TFDIM). The TFDIM included information such as date of tasking, task force composition, duties for the naval units, units' areas of assignment, planned activities, and security situational updates. The TFDIM also contained references of the monthly roster plan and the SOPs and guidelines governing United Nations maritime operations. OIOS review of the MTF's monthly tracking records of the execution of 91 TFDIM for April, May and

June 2025, representing 12 per cent of the population, indicated that the assigned tasks were adequately executed by the naval units. OIOS also conducted a spot-check on one of the naval units on 30 September 2025 and verified that the naval unit operated in its assigned zonal area of responsibility and executed the planned activities as per the TFDIM.

UNIFIL adequately conducted monitoring of patrols

31. Conducting real-time monitoring of patrols enhances the situational awareness and safety of patrol teams. The Tactical Operations Centres and the Naval Operations Centre were responsible for tracking and following the execution of the patrol orders and recording incidents of violations encountered by the patrol units, including denial of access, roadblocks, illegal checkpoints and movements, and hazards.

32.



33. OIOS review of records of UNFIL's daily incident reports from November 2024 to June 2025 indicated that communication from patrol units were recorded by their respective Tactical Operations Centres. The incidents included violation of air space, traversing of BL, detection of weapons, artillery shelling, and attacks against opposing parties to the conflict in South Lebanon.

UNIFIL captured military patrol data, but was not accurately recording the data in the Patrol Mapping and Reporting Tool

34. UNIFIL was required to ensure that data on military patrols were collected, verified and safely stored in an authorized database to facilitate decision-making. UNIFIL developed a platform called PMRT to capture battalion patrols, FCR patrols, Observer Group Lebanon (OGL)¹ patrols, heli-patrols and maritime patrols.

a) Patrol data were captured in different applications without integration

35. OIOS review of patrol records indicated that the battalion and FCR vehicle and foot patrols were recorded in PMRT, and the maritime patrols were recorded in Excel spreadsheets. However, the records on heli-patrols were provided to OIOS through emails rather than recording them in PMRT. UNIFIL stated that the MTF did not use the PMRT because assigned naval units do not follow fixed routes and regularly change their operational zones. Similarly, The Mission stated that heli-patrols were not maintained in PMRT because the PMRT was designed specifically for ground activities and particularly relevant for

¹ OGL is an outstation military component of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO). OGL has roles and functions to support implementation of the UNIFIL mandate as set out in resolutions 425 (1978) and 1701 (2006) which are distinct from UNTSO's tasks and mandate under resolution 73 (1949). OGL operates under the operational control of the Head of Mission and Force Commander of UNIFIL. OGL's mission is to observe, monitor, report and investigate events that are or could lead to a violation of resolution 1701.

itineraries by road network. However, the UNIFIL SOP on Operational Activities stated that the heli operational activities must be added to PMRT by one of the patrol units involved.

36. Patrol data provides assurance and informs the: (a) sector commanders of compliance with tasking orders and coverage of the AO and area of marine operations and prompting adjustments in tactical plans; and (b) MLT in decision making. Consolidating patrol data in one analytical tool helps better understand the source, composition and characteristics of data and makes analysis and decisions much more efficient and effective. UNIFIL agreed to review how heli-patrol data can be incorporated into the PMRT.

b) UNIFIL was not accurately recording patrol data into the Patrol Mapping and Reporting Tool

37. OIOS review of records in PMRT indicated that the battalions were not accurately recording patrol data. For example, the battalions in some instances failed to populate the number of personnel in patrol teams, which was required to calculate mobile person-days patrols for budgeting purposes. Also, OIOS noted that the Malaysian battalion on 23 January, 12 March and 24 March 2025 recorded BL patrols (patrol orders 1018273, 1032682 and 1036688) even though their AOR did not cover parts of the BL. In addition, the J3, on 23 September 2025 and 14 October 2025, provided data to OIOS on monthly heli and vehicle patrols conducted during the audit period, which OIOS confirmed were not recorded in PMRT.

38. UNIFIL stated that the inconsistencies identified in PMRT entries were due to variations in data entry practices across battalions, rather than from operational deficiencies. While some patrols were recorded without indicating the number of personnel, all patrols were conducted in full compliance with standard practice. Also, the frequent rotation of the military and not enough time to understand the system led to inaccuracies in recording patrol data in PMRT.

(1) UNIFIL should provide training for military personnel responsible for entering patrol data in the Patrol Mapping and Reporting Tool to enable correct and consistent data entry into the system.

UNIFIL accepted recommendation 1 and stated that it would ensure training is provided for those military personnel responsible for entering patrol data into the Patrol Mapping and Reporting Tool.

C. Reporting and evaluation

UNIFIL's reported military patrol information that was not aligned with the Mission's records, while Observer Group Lebanon activities were not reported on

a) Inconsistent reporting of military patrol activities

39. OIOS review of data maintained by the patrol units (Sectors, FCR, J3 and MTF) for the period from July 2023 to June 2025 indicated that the patrol figures reported in the Secretary-General's, OMA and budgeting reports were not aligned with those recorded by the Mission. Table 3 shows UNIFIL reported patrolling information compared to UNIFIL patrol records.

Table 3: UNIFIL records of completed patrols and figures reported from July 2023 to June 2025

Activity	UNIFIL records	OMA reports	Secretary-General reports
Vehicle patrols	15,119	84,247	81,246
Foot patrols	1,248	13,655	2,048
Air reconnaissance patrols	439	222	119
Naval vessels patrol days	2,301	Not reported	Not reported
Hours of maritime flights	258.13	Not reported	47

Source: UNIFIL PMRT, MTF tracking table, S-G reports, and OMA reports

40. OIOS reviewed six Secretary-General’s reports covering the period from July 2023 to June 2025. While the records indicated 15,119 vehicle, 1,248 foot and 439 air patrols conducted, the Secretary-General’s reports indicated an average of 81,246 vehicle, 2,048 foot and 119 air patrols, respectively. OIOS also noted that the report S/2025/153 for the period from November 2024 to February 2025 had conflicting patrol figures. While paragraph 23 stated that 1,100 monthly vehicle patrols were conducted for the period from 27 November 2024 to 26 January 2025, Annex 1 of the same report stated an overall monthly average of 810 vehicle patrols conducted.

41. UNIFIL was required to report its military patrol figures every month to OMA. OIOS reviewed the OMA reports for the period from July 2023 to May 2025 and noted UNIFIL records indicated 15,119 vehicle, 1,248 foot and 439 air patrols conducted, while the OMA reports stated 84,247 vehicle, 13,655 foot and 222 air patrols, respectively. The review also revealed conflicting figures in five monthly OMA reports (vehicle patrol figures from June to October 2024) due to wrong computation of the figures. The review further indicated that UNIFIL did not report the naval vessels patrol days and hours of maritime flights to OMA. Similarly, OIOS noted variations with the figures in the RBB performance report for 2023-24. Table 4 below shows the RBB performance figures and actual patrol records for fiscal years 2023-24.

Table 4: UNIFIL budget performance figures and records of completed patrols maintained by the military for fiscal years 2023-24

Fiscal Year	Activity	RBB planned	Performance report	UNIFIL recorded	Diff (+/-)
2023-24	Independent mobile patrol (person-days)	1,255,600	1,168,470	16,783	1,151,687
	Air reconnaissance patrols (count)	1,022	207	162	45
	Naval vessels patrol (days)	1,242	1,020	1,192	-172
	Maritime flights (hours)	300	179	125.97	53

Source: UNIFIL RBB, PMRT and MTF tracking tables

b) Observer Group Lebanon patrolling operations not included in UNIFIL reporting

42. OGL conducted patrols in the UNIFIL AO and along the BL to support implementation of the mandate of UNIFIL. Accordingly, the OGL submitted its monthly patrol plans to the J3 based upon requirements derived from the UNIFIL OPORD for integration into the overall UNIFIL patrol plans. The OGL also maintained all its patrol records in the PMRT. OIOS review of data from the PMRT for the audit period indicated that the OGL conducted 3,146 BL and 4,401 village patrols. However, the Mission did not include the OGL patrol figures in its reports to the OMA and to the Security Council, even though the Mission had included the OGL in its deployment strength in all of the Secretary-General’s reports.

43. UNIFIL stated that they were of the opinion that the OGL was a separate entity that reports through the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO), and UNIFIL did not have to report on the activities of the OGL. However, in an interview with the leadership of UNTSO in October 2025, OIOS was advised that the activities of the UNTSO observers stationed in other missions should be reported by the entities whom they serve. Also, OIOS review of the Secretary-General’s reports on the implementation of the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Force in Syria, an entity with similar OGL arrangements, indicated that they had included in their reports the activities of the UNTSO observers under their operational control. Exclusion of the activities of the OGL from the Secretary-General’s reports did not present complete information on the Mission’s overall operations for mandate implementation.

(2) UNIFIL should: (a) review and verify the accuracy of its military patrol information included in the Secretary-General, Office of Military Affairs and results-based budgeting reports and ensure the information is aligned with the Mission’s records; and (b) ensure the inclusion of Observer Group Lebanon activities in its reports to provide complete information on the activities that support the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1701.

UNIFIL accepted recommendation 2 and stated that it would (a) ensure the accuracy and alignment of the missions' military patrol information and (b) include any OGL activities in support of SCR1701 in future reports.

UNIFIL adequately incorporated military patrolling activities through the Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System

44. UNIFIL was required to assess the impact of its military patrolling operations on mandate implementation by assessing the progress made towards that goal. The result of the impact assessment would support: (a) recommendations to enhance mandate implementation; (b) strategic and operational decision-making; and (c) the narrative and analysis contained in the Secretary-General’s reports on implementation of the mandate.

45. UNIFIL utilized the Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System (CPAS) to monitor the overall progress in the implementation of the Mission’s mandate. OIOS review of the Mission’s CPAS framework indicated that the Mission’s output indicators included operational activities of the military. Table 5 shows the UNIFIL CPAS framework for military operational activities for fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25.

Table 5: CPAS Framework for the military patrolling operations for fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25

Strategic impact	Impact indicators	Outcome indicators	Output
Absence of hostilities and unauthorized armed personnel, assets and weapons	1.A Number of significant incidents of fire from or into the AO	1.1.A Number of violations of S/RES/1701	1.1.1. Independent operational activities conducted
	1.B Number of weapons observed in violation of S/RES/1701	1.1.B Number of incidents of denial of freedom of movement	1.1.2. Operational activities conducted in close coordination with the Lebanese Armed Forces
	1.C Number of assets observed in violation of S/RES/1703		

Source: UNIFIL CPAS Framework

46. OIOS review of three CPAS impact assessment reports submitted to the Mission Leadership Team during the audit period indicated that the assessment included military operational activities that support the achievement of outcomes and impact indicators. For example, the CPAS impact assessment report for the period from January to June 2023 noted the limitations of adhering to pre-agreed patrolling routes and the regular diversion from these routes due to aggressive and unfriendly behaviour and denial of freedom of movement. UNIFIL recommended addressing patrol-related impediments through discussions with LAF. In addition, the CPAS assessment for the period from July 2023 to March 2024 included a recommendation for UNIFIL to explore a new coordinated planning process with the LAF to inject more flexibility in patrolling, in the context of “day after” discussions.

IV. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

47. OIOS wishes to express its appreciation to the management and staff of UNIFIL for the assistance and cooperation extended to the auditors during this assignment.

Internal Audit Division
Office of Internal Oversight Services

STATUS OF AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

Audit of military patrolling operations in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

Rec. no.	Recommendation	Critical ² / Important ³	C/ O ⁴	Actions needed to close recommendation	Implementation date ⁵
1	UNIFIL should provide training for military personnel responsible for entering patrol data in the Patrol Mapping and Reporting Tool to enable correct and consistent data entry into the system.	Important	O	Receipt of evidence of training provided to military personnel responsible for entering patrol data in the Patrol Mapping and Reporting Tool.	30 April 2026
2	UNIFIL should: (a) review and verify the accuracy of its military patrol information included in the Secretary-General, Office of Military Affairs and results-based budgeting reports and ensure the information is aligned with the Mission's records; and (b) ensure the inclusion of Observer Group Lebanon activities in its reports to provide complete information on the activities that support the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1701.	Important	O	Receipt of (a) supporting documentation for military patrol information included in the Secretary-General, Office of Military Affairs and results-based budgeting reports, and (b) evidence of inclusion of Observer Group Lebanon activities in UNIFIL's reports on implementation of Security Council Resolution 1701.	30 June 2026

² Critical recommendations address those risk issues that require immediate management attention. Failure to take action could have a critical or significant adverse impact on the Organization.

³ Important recommendations address those risk issues that require timely management attention. Failure to take action could have a high or moderate adverse impact on the Organization.

⁴ Please note the value C denotes closed recommendations whereas O refers to open recommendations.

⁵ Date provided by UNIFIL in response to recommendations.

APPENDIX I

Management Response



08 December 2025

To: Mr. Byung-Kun Min, Director
Internal Audit Division, OIOS

From: Major General Diodato Abagnara
Head of Mission and Force Commander, UNIFIL

Subject: **Draft report on an audit of military patrolling operations in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (Assignment No. AP2024-672-04)**

1. I refer to your memorandum on the above subject, reference No. OIOS-2025-02434 dated 03 December 2025. Please find attached UNIFIL's response to the recommendations contained in the subject Draft Report.

2. In following the usual procedure, copies of any supporting documents will only be provided to MERAO based on UNIFIL HQ and will not be transmitted to you with this Mission's response.

Best regards.



Cc: Effendi Syukur, UNIFIL
Major General Paul Sanzey, UNIFIL
Colonel Isaac Lopez Garcia, UNIFIL
Mr. Hoa Khuu, MERAO, OIOS

Management Response

Audit of military patrolling operations in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

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Rec. no.	Recommendation	Critical ¹ / Important ²	Accepted? (Yes/No)	Title of responsible individual	Implementation date	Client comments
1	UNIFIL should provide training for military personnel responsible for entering patrol data in the Patrol Mapping and Reporting Tool to enable correct and consistent data entry into the system.	Important	Yes	J7	30/04/2026	UNIFIL accepts the recommendation and will ensure training is provided for those military personnel responsible for entering patrol data into the PMRT.
2	UNIFIL should: (a) review and verify the accuracy of its military patrol information included in the Secretary-General, Office of Military Affairs and results-based budgeting reports and ensure the information is aligned with the Mission's records; and (b) ensure the inclusion of Observer Group Lebanon activities in its reports to provide complete information on the activities that support the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1701.	Important	Yes	PCO	30/06/2026	UNIFIL accepts the recommendation and will (a) ensure the accuracy and alignment of the missions' military patrol information and will (b) include any OGL activities in support of SCR1701 in future reports.

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¹ Critical recommendations address those risk issues that require immediate management attention. Failure to take action could have a critical or significant adverse impact on the Organization.

² Important recommendations address those risk issues that require timely management attention. Failure to take action could have a high or moderate adverse impact on the Organization.