

Triennial Review of the Implementation of Recommendations in the Evaluation of the Incorporation of Climate- Related Security Risks by United Nations Peace Operations

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INSPECTION AND EVALUATION DIVISION

Function “The Office shall evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the implementation of the programmes and legislative mandates of the Organization. It shall conduct programme evaluations with the purpose of establishing analytical and critical evaluations of the implementation of programmes and legislative mandates, examining whether changes therein require review of the methods of delivery, the continued relevance of administrative procedures and whether the activities correspond to the mandates as they may be reflected in the approved budgets and the medium-term plan of the Organization;”
([General Assembly Resolution 48/218 B](#)).

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Summary

The present triennial review report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS), Inspection and Evaluation Division (IED), assesses the extent to which the recommendations from the 2023 OIOS evaluation of the incorporation of climate-related security risks (CSRs) by United Nations peace operations were implemented. This review focused on five peacekeeping entities: i) the Department of Peace Operations (DPO); ii) the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP); iii) the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA); iv) the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS); and v) the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO).

The review determined that all recommendations addressed to DPO (three), UNFICYP (three) and UNMISS (four) were implemented. UNISFA implemented two of its three recommendations, with the remaining one closed without implementation. MONUSCO implemented one recommendation, while two remain in progress.

Recommendation 1 requested missions to include available climate information and medium- to long-term projections into analysis, planning and reporting. In response, three missions have taken actions to ensure greater consideration of climate information and data, including using data from past years to inform projections, preparedness and reporting. OIOS considers this recommendation implemented by three missions, which contributed to more regular consideration of CSRs by peacekeeping missions. The recommendation remains in progress in MONUSCO, which has not yet taken action to implement it.

Recommendation 2 requested DPO and the missions to strengthen staff and management capacity via needs-based, focused and tailored capacity building activities on incorporating CSRs. In response, DPO conducted tailored training, workshops and regular meetings with stakeholders through a Community of Practice on Climate, Peace and Security (CPS). UNFICYP undertook climate-related capacity building and awareness-raising initiatives, including staff participation in climate-focused events, youth-led environmental dialogue and regular dissemination of climate and environmental information. UNMISS also conducted training and briefings on CPS for key Mission staff and established a network of CSR focal points across relevant Mission units and United Nations Country Team (UNCT) members in South Sudan. MONUSCO staff participated in a regional meeting on climate risks to support the establishment of a network of resource persons and in an exercise led by DPO to develop a climate adaptation roadmap to assist peacekeeping operations in adapting tools and approaches for the implementation of core mandated tasks, including the protection of civilians. OIOS considers the recommendation implemented by DPO, UNFICYP, UNMISS and MONUSCO, which contributed to strengthened capacity and increased awareness of CSRs, peer learning and the integration of climate and environmental considerations into mission activities and processes. This recommendation was closed without implementation for UNISFA.

Recommendation 3 requested DPO and UNMISS to integrate Climate Security Advisor (CSA) positions and activities into the programme budget submissions with a balance of responsibilities between mainstreaming CSR into operations and activities, and advocacy, coordination and alignment of CPS agenda. In response, DPO developed Generic Job Profiles for CPS Officers, while UNMISS integrated CSA positions and activities into its programme budget, ultimately securing three CSA positions through extrabudgetary resources. OIOS considers the recommendation implemented by DPO and UNMISS.

Recommendation 4 requested the missions to integrate a CSR lens into political and conflict analysis. In response, the three missions integrated a CSR lens into their risk assessment and analysis processes and initiatives at the community level through dialogues, workshops and trust-building activities. OIOS considers the recommendation implemented by UNFICYP, UNISFA and UNMISS, which has resulted in

greater integration of a CSR lens into the missions' political and conflict analyses, risk assessment processes and mission activities. The recommendation remains in progress in MONUSCO, which has not yet taken action to implement it.

Recommendation 5 requested DPO to strengthen inter-mission networks and coordinated approaches. In response, DPO conducted regular meetings of the Inter-mission Network on CPS and supported wide-ranging information-sharing through the Climate Security Mechanism initiative. OIOS considers the recommendation implemented by DPO.

I. Introduction

1. In 2023, the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) completed a thematic evaluation of the incorporation of climate-related security risks (CSR) by United Nations peace operations ([IED-22-016](#)). This triennial review is part of the regular OIOS follow-up conducted at least three years after the completion of an evaluation to assess the implementation of recommendations.

2. Due to its peacekeeping focus, this triennial review covered the Department of Peace Operations (DPO), the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA), the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO). It excluded the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) due to its closure in 2023. It also excluded the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) and three special political missions that were in the scope of the 2023 evaluation.

3. In the present triennial review, OIOS examined the status of implementation of the five recommendations contained in the evaluation. The review also addressed, where possible, the extent to which implementation of the recommendations contributed to programme changes. The review determined that:

- a) All three recommendations addressed to DPO were implemented;
- b) All three recommendations addressed to UNFICYP were implemented;
- c) All four recommendations addressed to UNMISS were implemented;
- d) Two of three recommendations addressed to UNISFA were implemented while one was closed without implementation; and
- e) One of three recommendations addressed to MONUSCO was implemented while two remain in progress.

4. The methodology for the triennial review included:

- i. A review and analysis of progress reports on the status of recommendations monitored by OIOS in the TeamMate+ database;
- ii. An analysis of relevant information, documents, and reports obtained from DPO, UNFICYP, UNISFA, UNMISS and MONUSCO on various issues related to the recommendations, including mission-specific developments and broader political issues; and
- iii. Eleven remote interviews with staff from DPO and peacekeeping missions.

5. Management responses from UNFICYP, UNISFA, UNMISS and MONUSCO on the draft report are included in Annex I. DPO did not have any comments on the draft report. OIOS expresses its appreciation for the cooperation and assistance provided by the entities throughout the review process.

II. Results

Recommendation 1

6. Recommendation 1, made to all the peacekeeping missions, reads as follows:

Inclusion of available climate information and medium- to long-term projections into analysis, planning and reporting – complemented by facilitation of and support for local and contextualized research and analysis considering vulnerabilities of different population groups.

Indicator of achievement: Evidence of use of climate data and projections, including reference to local/national research and analysis.

7. UNFICYP responded to the recommendation by:

- i. Incorporating climate data and information into the Joint Mission Analysis Centre (JMAC) weekly analysis reports. An analysis of sampled JMAC weekly reports from July 2023 to June 2024 showed that the reports included a particular focus on the impact of CSR on economic and political decisions made by the Republic of Cyprus and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. The reports frequently referenced and assessed the impact of drought, water-related crises and energy-related challenges.
- ii. Monitoring fire-related risks and hazards, with the UNFICYP Joint Operations Centre (JOC) presenting relevant analysis, projections and possible operational impacts frequently during high-risk periods.¹
- iii. Collecting and utilizing data and information on water levels and irrigation with the understanding that, while water was not yet a driver of conflict in Cyprus, increasingly frequent droughts were likely to become a conflict driver in the future;
- iv. Communicating with farmers in the buffer zone to understand the effects of the reductions in rainfall on agriculture and conducting confidence building measures related to the use and sharing of water; and
- v. Incorporating the information and data collected on water and the JMAC analyses on water and fire-related hazards into its reporting, including the Secretary-General's periodic reports.²

8. UNFICYP staff interviewed noted that, in particular, data and trends resulting from the regular monitoring of wildfires and burning events have contributed to the strengthening of the Mission's contingency planning, such as ensuring the Mission has sufficient fire security focal points to support the fire service personnel and that fire brigades are briefed on access points to the buffer zone in case of fire. They also shared that structured reporting on climate, peace and security (CPS) issues by JMAC has strengthened the Mission's overall preparedness and awareness of CSR.

9. UNISFA responded to the recommendation by:

- i. Incorporating climate information into aspects of the Mission's analysis, planning and reporting, including informing the Mission's Environmental Action Planning and Performance reporting;

¹ UNFICYP Joint Operation Cell, Fire Analysis, June 2024.

² See, for example, S/2023/498.

- ii. Acknowledging the significant environmental impact of mission-critical activities, the Mission utilized climate expert facilitators to provide insights on climate science and emission reduction strategies and identified concrete strategies to reduce emissions as part of its 7th Annual Environmental Workshop in December 2023;
- iii. Developing a Mission-wide action plan in February 2024 to establish community-based early warning systems and the incorporation of a wider range of climate data sources;³
- iv. Developing a terms of reference in 2024 to support the establishment of a CSR Working Group, an interagency initiative aimed at strengthening the capacity of the United Nations system to analyze and address the adverse impacts of climate change on peace and security.⁴
- v. Considering information gathered during the pre- and post-migration conferences and regular discussions with communities and stakeholders around the dry and wet seasons, as well as the movements of cattle herders in search of water into the Mission's planning; and
- vi. Conducting inter-pillar discussions through the monthly Protection of Civilians (PoC) Working Group platform on how the Mission addresses security threats, including CSR. For example, in 2025, climate data and information allowed UNISFA to anticipate a longer dry season, suggesting that water scarcity would be a threat to security. Based on this analysis, the Mission planned the deployment of the force and engaged with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes in Abyei to ensure provision of water assistance to mitigate security risks.

10. UNISFA staff interviewed noted that the inclusion of climate information into analysis, planning and reporting has improved the Mission's understanding and awareness of CSR in Abyei, resulting in better preparedness for the cycle of dry and wet seasons. They also noted several challenges, including the inability of the Mission to establish a Climate Security Advisor (CSA) position and understaffing in JMAC, which limited the implementation of the recommendation.

11. UNMISS responded to the recommendation by:

- i. Utilizing climate-related projections to inform the Mission's analysis, planning and reporting. For example, the Mission integrated climate information into its Flood Preparedness and Response Plan⁵ following the expansion of its mandate in 2023 to include climate security, with an emphasis on flood-related risks. The plan used both climate data and projections, stemming in part from the systematic monitoring of rainfall, to provide a flood outlook for the year and an analysis of best-case, likely, and worst-case scenarios, including possible impacts, responses and next steps for preparedness. It further addressed the likely climate security implications on the Mission's POC activities;
- ii. Mapping areas of higher ground to inform analysis on where vulnerable populations move when displaced during floods, as displacement is considered a potential flash point for conflict;

³ UNISFA Environmental Affairs Unit, Climate-related Security Risks Action Plan, February 2024.

⁴ UNISFA, Terms of Reference: Climate Related Security Risks Working Group.

⁵ UNMISS Climate, Peace and Security Unit, Flood Preparedness and the Protection of Civilians, 29 May 2024.

- iii. Working with partners to further integrate climate-related analysis into planning. For example, the Mission partnered with the United Nations Mine Action Service to ensure the higher ground has been cleared of landmines before flooding-caused displacement occurs;
- iv. Including the data and projections in its contributions to the Interagency Information Management Working Group, in which the Mission was responsible for conducting analyses of flooding scenarios to inform the National Flood Preparedness and Response Plan as requested by the Government of South Sudan.⁶ As a result, South Sudan's 2024 plan addressed humanitarian and logistical needs, as well as the prevention and mitigation of risks of conflict resulting from flooding;
- v. Beginning analysis of the effect of CSR on children and women in 2025; and
- vi. Including climate information and the relevant projections in its reporting, with such information regularly contributing to the Mission's CPS updates in the Secretary-General's progress reports on UNMISS.

12. UNMISS staff interviewed reported that the implementation of this recommendation resulted in the Mission taking CSR into greater consideration when planning and reporting. They also noted that the use of climate information in analysis and planning has positively impacted the Mission's collaboration with other actors, including the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and Government counterparts in the ministries of water resources and irrigation, and humanitarian affairs, by expanding their perspectives to consider the security aspect of climate change.

13. Based on the above, OIOS considers the recommendation implemented by UNFICYP, UNISFA and UNMISS. OIOS also determines that implementation of the recommendation has contributed to more regular consideration of CSR by these missions. OIOS encourages all three missions to continue to strengthen the inclusion of climate information and data into their analysis, planning and reporting. The recommendation remains in progress in MONUSCO, which has not yet taken action to implement it.

Recommendation 2

14. Recommendation 2, made to DPO and all the peacekeeping missions, reads as follows:

Strengthen staff and management capacity via needs-based, focused and tailored capacity building activities such as training, guidance, checklists and tools, with a focus on how to incorporate CSR, including exchange of experiences with and among the CSAs.

Indicators of achievement:

- a. Evidence of widespread utilization and adaption of the CSM [Climate Security Mechanism] toolbox.
- b. Evidence of needs-based content of capacity building opportunities responsive to and reflecting the different needs of women and other vulnerable groups.

⁶ UNMISS, Contribution to Interagency Information Management Working Group: Integrating Conflict Sensitivity Analysis in the Flood Response Plan, 27 May 2024.

- c. Evidence of capacity building events and periodic experience-sharing events attended by CSA and CSR focal points.

15. DPO responded to the recommendation by:

- i. Conducting tailored trainings and workshops and holding regular meetings with stakeholders, including as part of a Community of Practice (CoP) on CPS established in 2020 by the Climate Security Mechanism (CSM).⁷ In partnership with other United Nations entities under the CSM,⁸ DPO supported periodic experience-sharing events, including regular meetings of the CoP on CPS, which comprised more than 600 staff from over 35 United Nations entities.
- ii. Successfully advocating for the expansion of the climate-related module of the Core Pre-Deployment Training Materials for peacekeeping missions, which was piloted in Entebbe in October 2024 and received positive feedback from participants;
- iii. Including needs-based content in capacity building activities, for example, by conducting a workshop on CPS with basic facilitation skills in South Sudan in April 2024 in response to requests from the Government of South Sudan and civil society actors.⁹ The training equipped participants, including UNMISS staff and United Nations Country Team (UNCT) members, with the ability to integrate CPS perspectives into activities, as well as the ability to act as facilitators of CPS risks analysis in their communities and institutions to strengthen capacities at the local level;
- iv. Supporting annual retreats and regular townhall-style meetings through the CSM to facilitate opportunities for CSAs to exchange experiences and lessons learned; and
- v. Promoting the use of the CSM toolbox. The Department's capacity building activities also reflected the different needs of women and other vulnerable groups, such as a United Nations Police training for South Sudan that provided guidance on identifying and analyzing CSR through a gender-responsive lens and in consideration of the specific impacts on vulnerable groups.¹⁰

16. DPO staff interviewed highlighted the success of CPS efforts, stating that capacity building sessions, workshops and trainings have raised awareness of and strengthened interest in CPS. They reported that the recommendation was catalytic for continued progress with these activities, but noted challenges caused by the lack of assessed funding for most CPS staff and CPS-related activities in DPO.

17. UNFICYP responded to the recommendation by undertaking several climate-related capacity building and awareness-raising initiatives, including:

- i. Facilitating staff participation in climate-focused events, including a documentary screening and expert discussion on Climate Action in Cyprus with a Regional Perspective, and awareness sessions for military and police personnel on issues covering climate change, resource conservation and environmental stewardship in peace operations in January 2026;

⁷ See: <https://www.un.org/climatesecuritymechanism/en/community-practice-climate-peace-and-security-0>

⁸ Including DPPA, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

⁹ DPO, UNMISS, UN System Staff College, A Training Workshop on Climate, Peace, and Security with Basic Facilitation Skills for South Sudan, 23-26 April 2024.

¹⁰ Training Syllabus: Operationalizing Climate, Peace and Security in UN Policing in South Sudan, August 2025.

- ii. Supporting youth-led dialogue on climate-related challenges affecting Cyprus and environmental awareness-raising activities through the Youth Champions for Environment and Peace programme in February 2026, resulting in the establishment of six youth-led groups and activities reaching 200 people across the island; and
- iii. Regularly disseminating climate and environmental information through its Environmental Committee and organizing awareness-raising activities, including World Environment Day town halls, Earth Hour observance, tree-planting events, beach clean-ups and campaigns on water conservation.

18. UNFICYP staff interviewed noted that these measures strengthened staff awareness of climate-related issues, promoted peer learning and contributed to the integration of climate and environmental considerations into ongoing mission activities and processes.

19. UNMISS responded to the recommendation by:

- i. Organizing trainings for the Mission's JMAC and JOC staff on conducting analyses that demonstrate how climate change risks adversely impact peace and security in South Sudan;
- ii. Conducting a presentation during the Mission Field Integrated Office Centre (FIOC) retreat in 2023 by the CPS Unit covering climate change both globally and in South Sudan, the CSR-related aspects of the UNMISS mandate, climate security indicators and approaches for FIOC to systematically collect data and information on CSR. These trainings and presentations were then tailored to the activities of the different divisions within the mission;
- iii. Establishing a network of CSR focal points comprised of staff from all relevant units, sections and UNCT members; and
- iv. Holding a capacity building training for the CSR focal points network focused on strengthening the ability of staff to address the interlinkages between climate change, prevention and sustaining peace, guided by the CSM Toolbox. The training also provided guidance on applying gender- and age-sensitive lenses when conducting CSR analyses.

20. UNMISS staff interviewed noted that staff and management capacity around CSR has improved through the implementation of this recommendation, including increasing awareness of the need to approach CSR proactively. In addition, they noted that the UNMISS Force Commander has indicated that the force has configured patrols differently after considering CSR and the flood situation in South Sudan. An increased awareness of the climate impacts on the Mission has also led the military contingents to consciously seek equipment that is better suited to climate changes, such as the potential to use boats during the wet season.

21. MONUSCO responded to the recommendation by taking part in several climate-related capacity building and awareness-raising initiatives. Staff from the Mission participated in a regional meeting on climate risks to support the establishment of a network of climate resource persons. The Mission also participated in an exercise led by DPO to develop a climate adaptation roadmap to assist peacekeeping operations in adapting their tools and approaches for the implementation of core mandated tasks, including the protection of civilians. The Mission additionally developed a terms of reference for a climate security advisor position to focus on: (i) identifying priority mitigation efforts; (ii) engaging with the community on climate-related issues; and (iii) coordinating with the DRC government on climate-sensitive adaptation programs to address related security challenges.

22. UNISFA reported being unable to implement the recommendation due to financial and human resource constraints. The recommendation has subsequently been closed without implementation.

23. On the basis of the above, OIOS considers the recommendation implemented by DPO, UNFICYP, UNMISS and MONUSCO. OIOS also determines that implementation of the recommendation has contributed to strengthened staff and management capacity in DPO, UNFICYP, UNMISS and MONUSCO with regard to the incorporation of CSR into their work. The recommendation was closed without implementation for UNISFA.

Recommendation 3

24. Recommendation 3, made to DPO and UNMISS, reads as follows:

Integrate CSA positions and activities into the programme budget submissions for select SPMs [Special Political Missions] and PKOs [Peacekeeping Operations] during the next two to four years with a balance of responsibilities between downstream (mainstreaming into operations and activities) and upstream work (advocacy, coordination, alignment). For missions in/expected transition, advocate for the establishment of CSA positions within the UNCT.

Indicators of achievement:

- a. Evidence of efforts to request funding for CSA positions from the peacekeeping/programme budget.
- b. Evidence of balanced CSA responsibilities and tasks.
- c. Design of a generic job profile to classify the CSA positions.

25. In response to the recommendation, DPO clarified that only the last indicator of achievement was applicable for the Department and subsequently developed Generic Job Profiles (GJPs) for CPS Officers at the P-2, P-3, and P-4 levels. The GJPs balance responsibilities between downstream and upstream work in accordance with the assigned post level. For example, with regard to mainstreaming CPS into operations and activities, the GJPs provide for varying degrees of contribution and promotion of the integration of gender- and youth-responsive, human rights, and a disability-inclusive lens across CPS initiatives, in addition to the development of relevant guidance materials.

26. DPO staff interviewed noted that the current financial situation has limited the utility of the GJPs, with only one CPS Officer in place. However, the GJPs represent established, agreed upon profiles and have proven useful when providing guidance to missions expressing interest in CPS expertise as they provide guidance on the required profile and the scope of work. Staff also noted that, in light of budgetary challenges, DPO is considering creative approaches to CPS roles, including hiring national staff.

27. UNMISS responded to the recommendation by requesting the establishment of two CPS positions and incorporating CSR into the Mission's programme budget and indicators. These actions also aligned with the UNMISS mandate, which was expanded in 2023 to recognize the 'adverse effects of climate change, ecological changes, land degradation, food insecurity, and natural disasters, among other factors, on humanitarian situation and stability in South Sudan,'¹¹ and incorporated CPS-related activities and reporting. The UNMISS 2023/24 budget document emphasized that climate-related events such as flooding were anticipated to continue or even increase in intensity, duration and number, and that this was likely to contribute to increased conflict and violence along with a

¹¹ S/RES/2677 (2023).

deteriorating economic environment.¹² The Mission's performance indicators in the budget document also incorporated CSR-related indicators, including:

- i. strengthened capacity to address CSR for the protection of civilians;
- ii. integration of climate security in inter-communal peace dialogues, agreements, and risk prevention and management strategies and plans;
- iii. assessment of the security implications of climate impacts in different regions of South Sudan with a gender lens; and
- iv. identification of national climate and security hotspots.

28. In addition, in its 2024/2025 budget, the Mission requested the establishment of a P-5 level Senior CSA post to focus on delivering the new requirement on climate change components in the UNMISS mandate, with a particular focus on 'strongly urging the Government of South Sudan to coordinate with UNMISS and the Humanitarian Country Team to address the flood waters and lack of services such as water management, sanitation, and hygiene facilities in IDP sites.' To provide substantive support to the Senior CSA, UNMISS also requested the establishment of an international UN Volunteer position.

29. UNMISS staff interviewed noted that while the Mission had a Senior CSA and two additional experts to compose a CPS Unit, these positions were donor-funded since the requests to include the roles in the assessed budget were unsuccessful. While the donor-funded CPS Unit has made positive contributions to the Mission, staff raised concerns around the sustainability of the climate-related work due to the potentially temporary nature of the roles.

30. On the basis of the above, OIOS considers the recommendation implemented by DPO and UNMISS.

Recommendation 4

31. Recommendation 4, made to all the peacekeeping missions, reads as follows:

Integration of CSR lens into political and conflict analysis, through the utilization and possible adaptation of the CSM toolbox and building on existing processes like ERM [Enterprise Risk Management] and CPAS [the Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System].

Indicators of achievement:

- a. Number of references to CSR in Secretary-General's reports, ERM and CPAS.
- b. Evidence of integration into ERM or CPAS or any other regular risk assessment or analysis process.
- c. Evidence of integration into mission-funded projects/activities.

32. In response to the recommendation, UNFICYP has taken several actions to integrate a CSR lens into the Mission's analysis and activities, including:

¹² A/77/752.

- i. Convening Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot non-governmental organizations to discuss pressing climate-related and environmental issues on the island and supporting enhanced knowledge-sharing and cooperation in addressing challenges;
- ii. Informing the analytical products produced by the Mission's JMAC and the Civil Affairs Section (CAS) with climate-related data, with JMAC reports providing updates on water shortages, energy waste and needs;
- iii. Establishing an Environmental Peacebuilding Working Group—a group comprised of various teams, including Mission Support and the Public Information Office—that aimed at streamlining climate- and environment-related lenses into peacebuilding work with civil society and communities in Cyprus;
- iv. Reviewing CSR analysis during briefings and meetings, most commonly in the context of fire risks within the buffer zone, including by the Mission's Senior Management Group; and
- v. Incorporating climate-related updates in some Secretary-General's reports covering, for example, the activities of the Working Group and reporting on coordinated responses to wildfires on the island.¹³

33. UNFICYP staff interviewed emphasized climate-related security risks as a key entry point and area of focus for their inter-community initiatives and dialogues, noting that the topic represents a common concern that has contributed to trust-building in support of peace. They also highlighted significant challenges in implementing activities and projects due to the funding constraints, with the Mission making increased efforts to secure external funds.

34. UNISFA responded to the recommendation by incorporating CSR into the ERM and mission-funded activities, including:

- i. Highlighting climate change as a high impact, likely strategic risk in the 2024 ERM Risk Register for which internal control effectiveness required significant improvement.¹⁴ The key risks included extended dry seasons and more intense wet seasons disrupting traditional migration periods and routes and causing food insecurity and threat to livelihoods.
- ii. Implementing several mitigation strategies, including enhancing force mobility in case of climate contingencies, pre-positioning humanitarian supplies for flood-related displacement, and expanding Quick Impact Projects and joint initiatives that promote climate-resilient livelihoods;
- iii. Conducting collaborative sensitization initiatives with local communities and stakeholders to raise awareness about the linkages between climate change and conflict risks. The campaigns, implemented by the Community Liaison Office (CLO), emphasized sustainable resource management and environmental conservation as conflict prevention strategies. The CLO also facilitated weekly meetings between communities during which community members shared grievances and the Mission raised awareness around CPS;
- iv. Launching a joint initiative with UNEP, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa and local organizations aimed at strengthening

¹³ For example, S/2025/6, S/2024/12 and S/2023/498.

¹⁴ ERM, Risk Register – UNISFA, 2023/24.

agricultural resilience in Abyei in light of climate risks, including increasing temperatures, erratic rainfall and extreme flood and drought cycles.¹⁵

35. UNISFA staff interviewed considered that the implementation of the recommendation, particularly initiatives with communities, has resulted in more peaceful migration seasons and has minimized climate-related violence in recent years. They also expressed confidence that the ongoing initiative with UNEP and partners will continue to improve the Mission's expertise in CSR, which will further improve their work, even though the current financial crisis has limited the ability of the Mission to fully implement some of its initiatives.

36. In response to the recommendation, UNMISS integrated a CSR lens into the Mission's political and conflict analysis, including through the Secretary-General's reports, regular risk analyses and mission-funded activities. These included:

- i. Adapting the daily report template for field offices to include a section on CSR and related activities, implications and response actions.¹⁶ The template instructions request a focus on the impacts of CSR on communities, displacement and migration, signs of conflict, public and policy awareness, and hotspots and cold spots. The updated template has been utilized by field offices to report on items of interest, such as the Aweil Field Office's participation in a flood preparedness and response planning meeting;
- ii. Systematically including a CPS update in each Secretary-General's progress report on CSR in South Sudan and actions taken by the Mission in response since the 2023 inclusion of climate security in the UNMISS mandate;¹⁷
- iii. Integrating CSR into Mission-funded activities, for example, through the Mission's participation and contributions to the annual Governor's Forum, through which the Government of South Sudan, in 2024, highlighted the CSR-related analysis of UNMISS. These included the mapping of higher ground in times of flooding, sensitizing communities to CSRs and working to mitigate conflict during times of flooding.¹⁸ As no Governor's Forum was held in 2025 due to political challenges, UNMISS participated in the County Commissioner's Forum in some states to ensure continued momentum at the political level; and
- iv. Integrating sessions on climate security into community level reconciliation workshops and covering CSR in pre- and post-migration conferences to raise awareness and increase knowledge around managing intercommunal relationships during climate events, such as flooding, to avoid conflict.

37. UNMISS staff interviewed reported that implementation of the recommendation has resulted in improved uptake of CSR in the Mission's political and conflict analysis and activities, with Mission teams and those outside the Mission, including UNCT, government officials and community members, becoming increasingly familiar with the concept of a CSR lens. Through dialogues and workshops with communities and government actors focused on CSR, reconciliation, and conflict management, UNMISS staff reported an increased interest in the topic and strengthened understanding of the impact of climate change as a conflict driver, contributing to more peaceful dry and wet seasons.

¹⁵ Establishing the Building Blocks for Resilient Agricultural and Food Systems in Abyei, Strategy Presentation.

¹⁶ UNMISS Civil Affairs Division, CAD Field Office Daily Report Template.

¹⁷ For example: S/2025/504, S/2024/776 and S/2023/433.

¹⁸ Republic of South Sudan, Office of the President, Ministry of Presidential Affairs, 8th Governors' Forum, Resolutions and Recommendations.

38. On the basis of the above, OIOS considers the recommendation implemented by UNFICYP, UNISFA and UNMISS. OIOS also determines that implementation of the recommendation has resulted in greater integration of a CSR lens into the missions' political and conflict analyses, risk assessment processes and mission activities. The recommendation remains in progress in MONUSCO, which has not yet taken action to implement it.

Recommendation 5

39. Recommendation 5, made to DPO, reads as follows:

Strengthen inter-mission networks and coordinated approaches, including at the regional level.

Indicators of achievement:

- a. Evidence of strengthened inter-mission networks.
- b. Evidence of coordinated approaches.

40. In response to the recommendation, DPO strengthened inter-mission networks and coordinated approaches, including at the regional level. At the inter-mission level, DPO conducted meetings of the DPPA/DPO Inter-mission Network on CPS, most recently through a January 2025 meeting focused on climate finance. Regionally, DPO, as part of the CSM initiative, held workshops with regional organizations, embedded CPS advisors in regional organizations and launched regional initiatives to address CPS challenges. The CSM also partnered with the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa to support the development of a shared vision and capacity in Central Africa for integrated action on climate-related peace and security risks.

41. In addition, DPO, through its work on the CSM, supported regular meetings of the CoP on CPS to provide the opportunity for United Nations entities and partners to reflect on relevant best practices, operational challenges and opportunities to strengthen whole-of-system responses to climate-related risks. In 2023, in partnership with the United Nations System Staff College, DPO, through its role in CSM, also launched the Practical Approaches to Climate, Peace and Security Repository, which is a collection of best practices, lessons learned and know-how on CPS programming collected from the United Nations system, civil society and researchers. In 2025, a module on Data Analytics for CPS was also launched to support practitioners with incorporating quantitative data into CPS approaches.¹⁹

42. DPO staff interviewed noted that the implementation of this recommendation has resulted in strengthened networks and coordination. For example, there were regular meetings at the regional, national and mission levels, as well as between levels, with counterparts often speaking jointly at events. They also reported that the relationship-building emanating from these activities has been very positive, which is particularly important given that most climate impacts are regional in nature.

43. On the basis of the above, OIOS considers the recommendation implemented. OIOS also considers that implementation of the recommendation has contributed to improved coordination and expanded knowledge sharing with regard to CSR and CPS across missions and at the regional level.

¹⁹ Module launch announcement.

III. Conclusion

44. Climate change can lead to extreme and unseasonal weather effects which contribute to migration and competition for scarce resources while compounding existing historical, political, and inter-communal grievances. This, in turn, increases the likelihood of conflict escalation. In this context, implementation of the recommendations discussed in this triennial review has fostered better governance and greater resilience to climate-related crises. This implementation has contributed to the following positive results:

- Greater mission preparedness for CSR, resulting from the expanded use of climate information and projections to inform analysis, planning and reporting;
- Strengthened capacity to integrate CSR into regular work, increasing interest in and awareness of the topic and encouraging more proactive approaches to CSR;
- Development of GJPs for CSAs as tools for awareness-raising and advocacy and the establishment of a CPS Unit in one mission;
- Reductions in violence during seasonal changes and migrations, as a result of the greater integration of a CSR lens into political and conflict analysis as well as response plans; and
- Improved coordination and expanded CSR knowledge sharing within missions.

Annex I: Comments received from UNFICYP, UNISFA, UNMISS and MONUSCO

UNFICYP management response



UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS
P.O. BOX 25644, 1311 NICOSIA, CYPRUS – TEL: 357-22-614000 FAX: 357-22-614600
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4 June 2026
REF: OSRSG-260605

TO: Ms. Demetra Arapakos, Director
A: Inspection and Evaluation Division
Office of Internal Oversight Services

FROM: Khassim Diagne
DE: Special Representative of the Secretary-General

SUBJECT: Draft Triennial Review Report on the Implementation of OIOS Recommendations in
OBJET: the Evaluation of the Incorporation of Climate-Related Security Risks by United
Nations Peace Operations

1. I refer to your interoffice memorandum, reference no. OIOS-2026-01019, dated 20 May 2026, concerning the draft Triennial Review Report on the Implementation of OIOS Recommendations in the Evaluation of the Incorporation of Climate-Related Security Risks by United Nations Peace Operations.
2. Thank you for sharing the draft report. UNFICYP has reviewed the document and has no major comments at this stage. The Mission would, however, like to highlight recent updates regarding the outstanding recommendation and kindly requests that OIOS consider reflecting these developments, as appropriate, in the final report. Please note that the updates related to the outstanding recommendation have been uploaded to the TeamMate+ recommendation tracking system and the recommendation is now considered implemented and closed.
3. UNFICYP appreciates the opportunity to contribute to this review process.
4. Thank you and kind regards,

cc: Mr. Philippe Baudin, UNFICYP
Mr. George Scheibner, UNFICYP
Ms. Deborah Dunn, UNFICYP
Mr. Zachary Ikiara, DMSPC
Mr. Ms. Abimbola Olubukunola Aina, UNFICYP
Mr. Munehiko Harada, UNFICYP
Ms. Nujud Yahya, UNFICYP

UNISFA management response

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UNITED NATIONS

UNISFA

United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei

قوة الأمم المتحدة المؤقتة في أبيي

INTER OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Date: 7 June 2026

Ref.: UNISFA/MHQ/HOM/IOM/026/2026

To: Ms. Demetra Arapakos
Director, Inspection and Evaluation Division
Office of Internal Oversight Services

From: Major General Ganesh Kumar Shrestha
Acting Head of Mission/Force Commander, UNISFA

Subject: Management Response: Triennial Review of the Implementation of OIOS Recommendations: Incorporation of Climate-Related Security Risks by United Nations Peace Operations

1. We acknowledge receipt of the inter-office memorandum dated 20 May 2026, transmitting the draft triennial review report on the implementation of OIOS recommendations regarding the incorporation of Climate-Related Security (CRS) risks by United Nations peace operations. We welcome the opportunity to report on progress and remain committed to sustained implementation.
2. Notwithstanding budget constraints, UNISFA has made measurable progress against the OIOS recommendations, and I wish to reiterate the key milestones achieved:
 - (a) **Research and Analysis:** Field research conducted by the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) in December 2025, corroborated by structured interviews at Mission Headquarters and sector level, has been systematically integrated into UNISFA's political and conflict analysis frameworks.
 - (b) **Regional Collaboration:** The operationalization of the tripartite arrangement between UNISFA, UNEP, and the Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa Climate, Peace and Security has enabled inter-communal women-focused initiatives.
 - (c) **Operational Institutionalization:** The Force Commander's Rainy Season FRAGO (May 2026) directs all Mission components to integrate CRS considerations into planning, analysis, and reporting, and tasks JMAC/JOC to produce climate-informed threat assessments alongside standard political-conflict analysis.

- (d) **Reporting:** The Secretary-General's report (S/2026/378) reflects CRS analysis across multiple substantive paragraphs, confirming its integration into the highest level of UN political reporting on Abyei.
3. UNISFA remains committed to deepening this integration as climate-security dynamics in the Abyei Area continue to intensify. We trust these efforts demonstrate meaningful progress and welcome continued engagement with OIOS on this agenda.
4. Thank you and best regards.

Copy to:

Mr. Rakib Hossain, OIOS
Mr. Alexander Stephane Gerard Rose, UNISFA
Ms. Uchenna Odenigbo, UNISFA
Mr. Josphat Kariuki, UNISFA
Mr. Tashi Dhendup, UNISFA

UNMISS management response

UNITED NATIONS

United Nations Mission
in South Sudan



NATIONS UNIES

Mission des Nations Unies
au Soudan du Sud

United Nations Mission in South Sudan

(UNMISS)

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Ms. Demetra Arapakos
Director, Inspection and Evaluation Division
Office of Internal Oversight Services

DATE: 9 June 2026

FROM: *for* Ms. Anita Kiki Gbeho, *G. Maillard*
Special Representative of the Secretary-General and
Head of Mission, UNMISS

SUBJECT: **Management Response Draft Triennial Review Report on the
Implementation of OIOS Recommendations in the Evaluation of the
Incorporation of Climate-Related Security Risks by United Nations Peace
Operations**

1. UNMISS gratefully acknowledges receipt of the draft Triennial Review Report on the Implementation of OIOS Recommendations in the Evaluation of the Incorporation of Climate-Related Security Risks by United Nations Peace Operations. We were pleased to note that all recommendations contained in the original evaluation that were directed at UNMISS have been assessed as implemented, and we have no further comments on the draft report.

2. I would like to express my appreciation to OIOS for the excellent collaboration and the conduct of this review.

Thank you.

Mr. Mr. Jean-Pierre Lacroix, DPO
Ms. Catherine Pollard, DMSPC
Mr. Atul Khare, DOS
Mr. Mika Tapio, JIU
Mr. Sejong Lee, BOA
Ms. Andrea Cook, SWE, EOSG
Mr. Moses Bamuwanye, IAAC
CC: Mr. Kevin Summersgill, DMSPC
Mr. Zachary Ikiara, DMSPC
Mr. Henri Fourie, DOS
Mr. Frederic Renoux, DPO-DPPA-SS
Ms. Madalene O'Donnell, DPO
Mr. Joel Beasca, UNMISS
Ms. Jane Nakoboji, UNMISS
Mr. Johnson Nkem Ndi, UNMISS
Ms. Tina Pihl, UNMISS

United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), P.O. Box 29, Juba, South Sudan

MONUSCO management response

Dear Demetra,

As discussed with your team and given your upcoming deadlines to finalize the distribution of the Triennial Review, I confirm in my capacity as MONUSCO's evaluation focal point that we concur with the information on MONUSCO reflected in the report.

I confirm the accuracy of the status of recommendations for MONUSCO. We appreciate that OIOS has incorporated the evidence submitted and assessed recommendation 2 as implemented for MONUSCO while recommendations 1 and 4 remain in progress.

We also agree that OIOS will enter the 3 recommendations in the TeamMate+ system accordingly, with 31 Dec 2026 as target date for the two recommendations in progress.

Below are the 3 recommendations:

Recommendation 1, made to all the peacekeeping missions, reads as follows:

Inclusion of available climate information and medium- to long-term projections into analysis, planning and reporting – complemented by facilitation of and support for local and contextualized research and analysis considering vulnerabilities of different population groups.

Indicator of achievement: Evidence of use of climate data and projections, including reference to local/national research and analysis.

Recommendation 2, made to DPO and all the peacekeeping missions, reads as follows:

Strengthen staff and management capacity via needs-based, focused and tailored capacity building activities such as training, guidance, checklists and tools, with a focus on how to incorporate CSR, including exchange of experiences with and among the CSAs.

Indicators of achievement:

- a. Evidence of widespread utilization and adaption of the CSM [Climate Security Mechanism] toolbox.
- b. Evidence of needs-based content of capacity building opportunities responsive to and reflecting the different needs of women and other vulnerable groups.
- c. Evidence of capacity building events and periodic experience-sharing events attended by CSA and CSR focal points.

Recommendation 4, made to all the peacekeeping missions, reads as follows:

Integration of CSR lens into political and conflict analysis, through the utilization and possible adaptation of the CSM toolbox and building on existing processes like ERM [Enterprise Risk Management] and CPAS [the Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System].

Indicators of achievement:

- a. Number of references to CSR in Secretary-General's reports, ERM and CPAS.

- b. Evidence of integration into ERM or CPAS or any other regular risk assessment or analysis process.
- c. Evidence of integration into mission-funded projects/activities.

We wish to thank OIOS for the opportunity to reflect MONUSCO's action in the final report and remain engaged in advancing the recommendations.

Best regards,

Daniel

Daniel MAIER, Senior Mission Planning Officer

Chief, Strategic Planning Cell (SPC)

Office of the Chief of Staff | MONUSCO | HQ - Kinshasa