SEVENTY-SECOND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY Provisional agenda item 16.1

A72/39 9 May 2019

Report of the External Auditor

Report by the Director-General

The Director-General has the honour to transmit to the Seventy-second World Health Assembly the report of the External Auditor on the financial operations of the World Health Organization for the financial year ended 31 December 2018 (see Annex).

ANNEX

Republic of the Philippines COMMISSION ON AUDIT Quezon City



Report of the External Auditor to the Seventy-second World Health Assembly on the Financial Operations of the World Health Organization

For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2018

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACT Accounts

ADG Assistant Director-General
AMG Asset Management Group
AMRO Regional Office for the Americas
APW Agreements for Performance of Work

AR Adjudication Report BC Budget Centre

CFE Contingency Fund for Emergencies

COP Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control

CRC Contract Review Committee

CRE Office of Compliance, Risk Management and Ethics

CRM Coordinated Resource Mobilization
DAF Director of Administration and Finance

DDG Deputy Director-General

DG Director-General

DFC Direct Financial Cooperation
DI Direct Implementation
DoA Delegation of Authority

DRC Democratic Republic of the Congo

EMRO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

ERF Emergency Response Framework
EURO Regional Office for Europe

ePMDS Electronic Performance Management and Development System

FCTC Framework Convention of Tobacco Control

FMC Financial Management Council

FNM Department of Finance

GHR Global Human Resource, Global Service Centre

GM Grant Management

GMG General Management Cluster GOC Global Oversight Committee GPEI Global Polio Eradication Initiative

GPR Global Progress Report
GPW General Programme of Work
GSC Global Service Centre
GSM Global Management System

HQ Headquarters HR Human Resource

HRD Human Resource Department

HSR WHO Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research

IARC International Agency for Research in Cancer ICC United Nations International Computing Centre

ICF Internal Control Framework
IHR International Health Regulations

IMT Department of Information Management and Technology

IMS Incident Management System

IOS Office of Internal Oversight Services

IPSAS International Public Sector Accounting Standards

ISA International Standards on Auditing

KPI Key Performance Indicator

Annex A72/39

LEG Office of the Legal Counsel
LOA Letters of Agreement
MDA Mass Drug Administration

MGA Management and Administration department

OCR Outbreak and Crisis Response
ODG/DGO Office of the Director General
OSL Operations Support and Logistics
PAHO Pan American Health Organization

PSC Property Survey Committee

PMNCH Partnership for Material, Newborn and Child Health

PO Purchase Order

POL Polio Eradication Department

PR Purchase Requisition

PRP Planning, Resource Coordination and Performance Monitoring Department

RBM Results Based Management RM Resource Mobilization

RMS Resource Mobilization Strategy
RMT Risk Management Tool
RPE Request for Price Estimates

SCM Supply Chain Management
SDGs Sustainable Development Goals
SEARO Regional Office for South-East Asia

SHI Staff Health Insurance

SOP Standard Operating Procedure

SR Selection Report

SQL Structured Query Language

TDR UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in

Tropical Diseases

TMS Transport Management System

TR Travel Request
TOR Terms of Reference
TQS Travel Quality Specialist

UN United Nations

UNAIDS Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

USD United States dollar
VN Vacancy Notice
WCO WHO Country Office
WFS WHO Fleet Services
WHA World Health Assembly

WHE WHO Health Emergencies Programme

WHO World Health Organization

WPRO Regional Office for the Western Pacific

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

1. The report of the External Auditor on the audit of the financial statements and operations of the **World Health Organization (WHO)** is issued pursuant to Regulation XIV of the Financial Regulations of WHO and is transmitted through the Executive Board to the Seventy-second World Health Assembly (WHA).

- 2. This is the third report to the World Health Assembly by the Chairperson of the Commission on Audit of the Republic of the Philippines, under a new mandate as the External Auditor of the WHO for the four-year period from 2016 to 2019, granted by the Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly under resolution WHA68.14.
- 3. The objective of the audit is to provide independent assurance to Member States, increase transparency and accountability, as well as operational efficiency and effectiveness in the Organization, and support the objectives of the Organization's work through the external audit process. We have detailed in this Report the financial and governance matters that we believe should be brought to the attention of the World Health Assembly.

Overall result of the audit

- 4. In line with our mandate, we audited the financial statements of WHO in accordance with the Financial Regulations and in conformity with the International Standards on Auditing (ISA) issued by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.
- 5. We concluded that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of WHO for the financial year ended 31 December 2018, and its financial performance, the changes in net assets/equity, the cash flows, and the comparison of budget and actual amounts in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS). Based on our conclusion, we issued an unmodified audit opinion on the Organization's financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2018.
- 6. We also concluded that the accounting policies were applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year, and the transactions of WHO that have come to our notice during the audit or that have been tested as part of the audit of the financial statements were, in all significant respects, compliant with the Financial Regulations and legislative authority of WHO

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