



THE REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Introduction

1. During the intersessional period, the Audit Committee (AC) continued to discharge its mandate as approved by the Executive Council Resolution 8 (EC-LXIII) – Terms of reference and membership of the Audit Committee. It held two meetings on 22-23 November 2016 and 1-2 May 2017, chaired by Ms Linda Makuleni.
2. In keeping with the Terms of Reference approved by the Executive Council, the AC continued to focus its oversight and advisory role on the review of annual Financial Statements and on the reports of the External Auditor, the work plans and reports of the Internal Oversight Office, follow-up of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU), effectiveness of the Enterprise Risk Management, and on other financial and management matters. It provided recommendations to the Secretary-General and the Executive Council as appropriate, and assessed Management actions to various oversight recommendations.

Financial Statements.

3. The AC reviewed the Financial Statements for 2016 and noted the financial results for the year as reflected in the Secretary-General's foreword (introductory Statement) and the External Auditor's Report. The External Auditor provided an unqualified audit opinion on the Financial Statements.
4. The AC noted that the net assets of the Organization decreased by CHF 24.8 million (38.7%) and that the reduction mainly resulted from: (a) an overall deficit of CHF 15.9 million from operations in 2016, which is a decrease when compared to the 2015 deficit (CHF 21.9 million); and (b) an actuarial loss of CHF 8.6 million arising from the professional valuation of WMO's liability related to staff benefits.
5. The AC noted that Contributions Receivable decreased by CHF 9.2 million (31.3%) from CHF 29.4 million at 31 December 2015 to CHF 20.2 million at 31 December 2016. The AC noted that the decrease results from decreases of: (a) CHF 7.0 million in net assessed contributions receivable; and (b) CHF 2.2 million in net voluntary contributions.
6. The AC noted that After Service Health Insurance (ASHI) continues to be a significant liability and appreciated the intention of the management to present to the EC a proposal to address the issue.
7. Based on the audit opinion, the Audit Committee, in accordance with its Terms of Reference, advised the Secretary-General to sign the Financial Statements for 2016.

8. The AC recommends that:

- (a) With the aim of further reduction, the deficits should be monitored closely; and the Committee encouraged the SG to continue with efforts to attract more extrabudgetary resources through resource mobilization;**
- (b) While awaiting a solution for the After-Service Health Insurance liability of staff on regular budget, an effort should be made to find a way to generate funds to address the issue in relation to staff on extrabudgetary funds.**

9. The Audit Committee congratulates the Secretariat for its efforts resulting in the continued issuance of unqualified audit opinions in recent years and commends both the Financial Statements for 2016 and the Report of the External Auditor to the Executive Council for its consideration.

Report of the External Auditor

10. The Committee reviewed and discussed the report of the External Auditor for 2016. The Committee considered that the External Auditor provided a high-quality, helpful report, which is well-summarized and draws attention to some important issues. The main findings relate to the quality of the Organization's overall internal control systems; project management and management of voluntary contributions and activities; and corporate governance matters.

11. The External Auditor's Report for 2016 indicated a financial deficit mainly due to the differences between budget and reality as the budget is only based on the General Fund, whereas International Public Sector Accounting Standards require the accounts to include other elements. The Report identifies areas that need further improvements in internal control, project management and management of voluntary contributions.

12. The report contains seven specific recommendations, all of which have been accepted by the Secretary-General, and which the Audit Committee, therefore, endorse and commend to the Executive Council's attention.

13. The External Auditor's report on the Financial Statements for 2016 refers to matters which the External Auditors consider affect the governance of the Organization.

14. The Audit Committee discussed these matters with the External Auditors and the Secretary-General. Since the issues have an impact on the corporate governance of the Organization, the Audit Committee urges the Secretariat to pursue whatever steps may be possible and appropriate to help bring matters to a satisfactory conclusion so far as the WMO's corporate governance interests are concerned.

Internal Control

15. The AC reviewed the Secretary-General's Statement on Internal Control for 2016, presented with the Financial Statements. The Statement on Internal Control provides a commentary on the overall control arrangements and their effectiveness; and draws attention to significant internal control matters where improvement is necessary and where action is being taken, some of which concur with those indicated by the External Auditor. These relate to project management, security, controls in procurement and the management of IT solutions.

16. The Secretary-General's Statement on Internal Control for 2016 is consistent with the Audit Committee's understanding of WMO's circumstances and with the reports of the External Auditor and IOO.

Internal Oversight

17. The AC reviewed the IOO Plan of Work and confirmed that it was in accord with the Office's role and responsibilities. The Committee reviewed progress reports issued by IOO and the Annual Accountability Report of IOO, and advised IOO as appropriate. In its two meetings, the AC considered the following IOO reports: (1) Report 2016-01 - Financial Audit of Joint Climate Research Fund(JCRF; (2) Report 2016-02 - IT Cost and Resource Management; (3) Report 2016-03 Performance Audit – WMO Information System; (4) Report 2016-04 - Communications Activities; (5) Report 2016-05 - Procurement; (6) Report 2016-06 - Information Technology Projects; (7) Report 2016-07 - Information Technology Provision of Services; (8) Report 2016-08 - Organization of Constituent Body meetings; (9) Report 2016-09 - Ethics and Fraud Prevention Activities; and (10) Report 2017-01 - Disaster Risk Reduction Activities.

18. The AC expressed its satisfaction with the high quality of the annual accountability report of IOO and with the individual audit reports issued by IOO.

19. The AC noted that the implementation rate of IOO recommendations was at 83%.

20. The AC further noted that a shared services arrangement with ITU for an ethics function had been in place since November 2016.

21. The AC commends the reporting of internal audit and noted that the Secretary-General had recognized in his Statement on Internal Control a number of the areas in which IOO called for action.

Enterprise Risk Management.

22. The AC continued to review the implementation of enterprise risk management at the Secretariat and the top high risks for the Organization.

23. The AC noted continued improvement in the progress made by the Secretariat to implement risk management, particularly as relates to linking risk management with performance management

24. The AC advised the Secretariat on further improvements in the implementation of risk management, particularly with regard to presentation of the status of risks to align actions taken with mitigation strategies.

25. The AC requests the Executive Council to bring to the attention of Members the risks associated with the standards of meteorological and hydrological services being compromised as a result of the budget cuts being implemented by some governments. The AC also requests the EC to work with ICAO on cost recovery from aviation services and to take note of the risk involving the security of the WMO building. It encourages the management to put in place the necessary fraud prevention instruments.

JIU Reports and Recommendations

26. The AC reviewed the reports and recommendations from the JIU, which were relevant to WMO, issued during 2016. The AC appreciated the efforts made by the WMO Secretariat to implement JIU recommendations where appropriate to the WMO's circumstances. It reviewed the responses and advised management as appropriate

27. The AC decided to recommend that the Executive Council could endorse the management responses subject to its own consideration.

AC Effectiveness

28. The Audit Committee conducted a self-assessment evaluation in November 2016. The AC members were in agreement that the Committee met good practice principles and delivered on its mandate. The results of the self-assessment indicate that WMO's Audit Committee arrangements, and the Committee's operation in practice, provide appropriate support to the Executive Council, FINAC, Members and the Secretary-General in respect of relationships and communications with the EC, internal oversight and external audit. The AC reviews and reports on the reliability, integrity and completeness of the assurances required to satisfy the Organization's needs.

29. The AC provides assessment and review of the scope and work of the Internal Oversight Office; of the coverage, outputs and assurance provided by the External Audit; on the effectiveness of the Organization's risk management arrangements; and on internal control.

30. The AC is structured to operate with independence and objectivity and possesses appropriate skills and experience to perform its functions effectively. The Committee meets, carries out its work and reports in compliance with the Terms of Reference approved by the Executive Council, and in compliance with good practice. In the AC's view, its Terms of Reference and the Committee's scope of work in practice is suitably defined and encompasses the assurance needs of the EC and the Secretary-General, and the WMO as a whole.

31. The completed template approved by the AC is attached as an Annex to this Report.

Annex: 1

ANNEX
Annex to paragraph 31

**RESULTS OF AUDIT COMMITTEE SELF-ASSESSMENT
CONDUCTED IN NOVEMBER 2016**

NB The self-assessment template utilized by the AC (below) follows independent good practice models in active use elsewhere, including in some UN system entities. It is based on good governance principles and is designed to show the extent to which the AC's operation or performance complies with good practice in key aspects of the Committee's role. To be helpful for governing body members and other stakeholders, the good practice questions which form the basis of the assessment are largely factual in nature, rather than requiring subjective or qualitative judgements in response. In general, "Yes" responses are an indication of good practice and are satisfactory; although "No" or "N/A" (Not Applicable) responses may be acceptable in the particular circumstances of the Organization, especially where comments have been included in explanation.

No	Questions	Respond with "Yes" or "No" by checking appropriate box and providing any comment		
		Yes	No	Comment
1	Relationships and Communication			
1.1	With the Executive Council			
a.	Is the Audit Committee a committee of the Executive Council (EC)?	Y		
b.	Does the Committee follow up recommendations of the EC?	Y		
c.	Does the Chairperson have open lines of communication with the EC?	Y		Should be added to TORs; AC Chairperson is always invited to EC sessions
d.	Does the Committee periodically obtain assurance from the Executive Council on the effectiveness of the Audit Committee?	Y		EC comments on AC reports; recommendations help EC in decision-making, all acted upon
e.	Does the Committee make a formal annual report on its own effectiveness to the EC?	Y		
f.	Do the EC agendas include a regular report from the Audit Committee?	Y		
g.	Does the Report from the Audit Committee communicate recommendations to the EC?	Y		
h.	Are outline agendas, without supporting papers, available to EC members to keep them up-to-date with the Audit Committee's work?	Y		Outline agendas are contained in the TORs
i.	Does the EC receive the Audit Committee reports?	Y		
j.	Does the Audit Committee/its Chairperson meet with the Secretary-General bilaterally at least once a year?	Y		

No	Questions	Respond with "Yes" or "No" by checking appropriate box and providing any comment		
1.2	<i>With Internal Audit</i>			
a.	Does the Committee/its Chairperson have open lines of communication with the Head of Internal Audit?	Y		
b.	Does the Committee periodically invite the views of the internal auditor on the work and effectiveness of the Audit Committee?		N	But there is regular dialogue with IOO who attend AC meetings.
c.	Does the Committee/its Chairperson of the Committee meet separately (in closed session) with the Head of Internal Audit at least once a year?	Y		
d.	Does the Committee review the internal audit plan and audit reports?	Y		
e.	Does the Committee review the scope and remit of internal audit in the Organization?	Y		
f.	Does the Committee consider whether the scope of internal audit work addresses significant risks?	Y		
g.	Does the Committee examine all individual terms of reference for internal audit's work?	Y		
h.	Does the Committee consider the experience and expertise of the internal audit team?	Y		Also the AC is consulted on the recruitment of D/IOO
i.	Does the Committee monitor progress in the implementation of annual internal audit plans?	Y		A continuous process
j.	Does the Committee monitor whether internal audit is working to professional standards relevant to the Organization?	Y		
k.	Does the Committee monitor whether internal audit have the resources and right people with relevant expertise to carry out its remit?	Y		
1.3	<i>Between Internal and External Audit</i>			
a.	Does the Audit Committee monitor the effectiveness of relationships between internal and external auditors?	Y		
b.	Does the Committee consider whether internal and external auditors have communicated and coordinated their audit plans?	Y		
c.	Does the Committee consider whether external audit places reliance on the work of the internal auditor?	Y		
d.	Does the Committee discuss whether there are areas where joint working would be beneficial?	Y		

No	Questions	Respond with "Yes" or "No" by checking appropriate box and providing any comment		
e.	Does the Committee consider whether all audit services are joined up, including in-house operational audits?	N/A		Structure and remit of IOO does not present any issues
f.	Does the Committee expect internal and external auditors to communicate effectively with each other about understanding risks, their assessments of risk areas and how their work would cover these risk areas?	Y		
g.	Does the Committee communicate this expectation to internal and external auditors?	Y		
h.	Is the Committee satisfied by cooperation between the external and internal auditors as related to their annual plans and co-operation between them?	Y		
1.4	With External Audit			
a.	Does the Committee/its Chairperson have open lines of communication with the external auditor?	Y		
b.	Does the Committee periodically obtain the views of external auditor on the work and effectiveness of the Audit Committee?		N	Not expressly but open dialogue maintained with External Audit, including an annual closed session exchange of views
c.	Does the Committee/its Chairperson meet separately (in closed session) with the external auditor at least once a year?	Y		
d.	Does the Committee's advisory role include participation in the process to appoint the external auditor?	Y		When new auditors are selected, the AC is consulted
e.	Does the Committee consider the experience and expertise of the external audit team?		N	Informally but not specifically
f.	Does the Committee consider whether the external audit Director/partner will spend sufficient time on the audit, and whether time to be spent by other audit staff seems reasonable?	Y		Via review of planning intentions
g.	Does the Committee monitor external audit's compliance with professional ethical guidance relating to the rotation and terms of an External Auditor?	Y		Informally done
h.	Does the Committee review the external audit plans, outputs and management letters?	Y		
i.	Does the Committee seek specific assurance regarding external audit's quality assurance procedures when considering their audit	Y		Informally

No	Questions	Respond with "Yes" or "No" by checking appropriate box and providing any comment		
	strategy?			
j.	Do the external auditors inform the Committee of key developments and issues at key stages of the audit?	Y		
k.	Does the Committee make suggestions to the external auditors regarding the risks and potential problem areas the audit could address?	Y		
l.	Does the Committee consider whether external audit focuses on the fundamental issues?	Y		
m.	Does the Committee consider whether the external auditors have delivered fully against their plans?	Y		
n.	Does the Committee monitor the performance of external audit?	Y		Via review of activity and outputs
o.	Does the Committee review audit fees?	Y		
1.5	<i>With stakeholders</i>			
a.	Does the Committee/its Chairperson have open lines of communication with Secretary-General and EC?	Y		AC Chairperson reports to EC
b.	Is the Committee's membership approved and included in the reports of sessions of the Executive Council?	Y		
c.	Are the responsibilities of the Audit Committee clearly defined in the report of the relevant sessions of EC?	Y		
2	<i>Business Risk and Internal Control</i>			
2.1	<i>Assessing the scope and work of Internal and External Audit</i>			
	Does the Committee satisfy itself that the Organization's main risk areas are being reviewed by internal and external auditors?	Y		
2.2	<i>Monitoring risk management arrangements</i>			
a.	Does the Committee's role include monitoring the effectiveness of the Organization's processes for assessing risks and the financial implications?	Y		
b.	Does the Committee ensure that internal and external audit report to them on what they perceive as the key risks currently and in the short and long term?	Y		
c.	Does the Secretariat report to the Committee on how key business risks and their financial implications are addressed?	Y		

No	Questions	Respond with "Yes" or "No" by checking appropriate box and providing any comment		
d.	Do internal and external audit comment on how key risks are being dealt with?	Y		Via dialogue with the AC
e.	Is the Committee involved in reviewing the effectiveness of internal control?	Y		AC ToRs refer
f.	Does the Committee consider whether corporate governance is treated as a compliance exercise and is being used to provide benefit to the Organization?	Y		
g.	Does the Committee consider whether the system of internal reporting gives early warning of control failures and emerging risks?	Y		
h.	Does the Committee consider whether responsibility for each of the significant risks is sufficiently assigned to and owned by appropriate senior staff in the Secretariat?	Y		
i.	Does the Committee consider the need to raise the awareness of all staff to the importance of risk management?	Y		AC advice and reports refer
2.3	<i>Statement on Internal Control (SIC) and assurance from Internal and External Audit</i>			
a.	Does the Committee consider how meaningful the SIC is?	Y		
b.	Does the Committee review whether the SIC discloses adequately the processes for dealing with material internal control aspects of any significant problems disclosed in the annual report and accounts?	Y		
c.	Does the Committee take a view on the SIC?	Y		(Prior to signature by the S-G)
d.	Does the Committee ensure that they receive from internal and external audit details on the operation of internal control, including any failures to implement recommendations accepted by the Secretariat or the EC?	Y		Annual review and discussion.
e.	Does the Committee take a view on whether the system of internal control has operated effectively throughout the reporting period?	Y		
2.4	<i>Fraud</i>			
a.	Does the Audit Committee consider whether effective anti-fraud and corruption policies and procedures are in place and operating efficiently?	Y		
b.	Does the Committee consider whether arrangements have been established to deal with situations of suspected or actual fraud?	Y		

No	Questions	Respond with "Yes" or "No" by checking appropriate box and providing any comment		
c.	Does the Committee consider whether there is a code of conduct and whether it is properly distributed to employees?	Y		
d.	Does the Committee consider whether a whistle blowers' hotline is required?	Y		Review and discussion with Ethics Officer and D/IOO
3	Roles and Responsibilities			
3.1	Terms of Reference, roles and responsibilities			
a.	Are the Terms of Reference approved by the Executive Council?	Y		
b.	Are the Terms of Reference reviewed at least annually?	Y		As appropriate and per ToRs
c.	Do the Terms of Reference adequately define the Committee's role and provide it with sufficient membership, authority, time and resources to perform its role effectively?	Y		
d.	Does the Committee consider the impact on their workload of changes to their role?	Y		As appropriate and in discussion with the Secretariat
e.	Does the role of the Committee include review of business risk and internal control, independence and effectiveness of internal and external audit, maintenance of proper accounting records and quality of financial statements, policies against fraud, implementation of new systems, tax and litigation matters involving uncertainty, compliance with laws and regulations?	Y		AC ToRs refer
f.	Does the Committee's role include obtaining assurances relating to the corporate governance requirements for the Organization?	Y		
g.	Are the Terms of Reference in line with accepted good practice for audit committees in the public sector?	Y		
4	Meetings			
4.1	Frequency			
a.	Does the Committee meet sufficiently often to monitor important issues?	Y		
b.	Do the Terms of Reference set out the frequency of meetings?	Y		
c.	Does the calendar of the Committee meet the Organization's business needs, governance needs and the financial calendar?	Y		
d.	Are there an adequate number of meetings a year?	Y		

No	Questions	Respond with "Yes" or "No" by checking appropriate box and providing any comment		
e.	Can special meetings be organized to allow quick response to emergencies?	Y		
4.2	<i>Timing and length</i>			
a.	Do the Terms of Reference set out the timing of meetings?	Y		
b.	Are the meetings set for a length of time which allows all business to be conducted, yet is not so long that the meeting becomes ineffective?	Y		
4.3	<i>Agenda management</i>			
a.	Does the Chairperson encourage full and open discussion and invite questions?	Y		
b.	Are the outlines of agendas planned ahead to cover issues on a cyclical basis?	Y		(AC ToRs refer)
c.	Does the Committee agenda exclude executive business so that there is no overlap with the work of the Executive Council while still linking to the main elements of the Organization's business?	Y		
d.	Are inputs on Any Other Business formally requested in advance from Committee members, the Secretariat, and internal and external audit?	Y		As appropriate
4.4	<i>Attendance</i>			
a.	Do the Terms of Reference include rules for a quorum?	Y		
b.	Are attendance records maintained and reviewed annually by the Executive Council?	Y		Via AC Reports
4.5	<i>Timing and content of Audit Committee Documents</i>			
a.	Does management report to the Audit Committee with relevant information at the right frequency, time, and in a format that is effective?	Y		
b.	Are agendas and supporting papers, together with brief executive summaries of the documents, issued to all Committee members, internal audit and external audit, at least a week in advance of meetings?		N	To be improved where possible. Alignment of meetings (FINAC, EC) with External Auditors is a challenge. WMO is constrained by dates of EC
c.	Are there oral reports to the Committee, supported by succinct, easy to read documents and presentations as appropriate?	Y		
d.	Does the Committee provide guidance concerning the format and content of the papers to be presented to the Committee?	Y		As appropriate

No	Questions	Respond with "Yes" or "No" by checking appropriate box and providing any comment		
e.	Is there a format for writing reports to ensure focus on salient matters, clear recommendations, a timescale for completion and the individuals responsible for implementation?	Y		According to need
4.6 Location				
	Are Audit Committee meetings rotated between locations to give the members the opportunity to see various operating sites?	N/A		
4.7 Actions arising				
a.	Are records/reports of Audit Committee meetings prepared and circulated to the appropriate parties promptly?	Y		
b.	Is a report on matters arising/follow up action made and minuted at the Committee's next meeting?	Y		
c.	Do action points indicate who is to perform what and by when?	Y		
d.	Are actions allocated to a single person, rather than joint responsibility?	Y		
5 Financial Information and Regulatory Matters				
5.1 Understanding financial matters				
a.	Does the Committee consider how best to keep the Committee abreast of public sector accounting requirements?	Y		Handled collectively. Committee members have complementary skills and experience
b.	Does the Committee provide support to the finance function in explaining the effects of financial and reporting requirements to the Executive Council?	Y		As appropriate
c.	Does the Audit Committee satisfy itself that:			
i.	The Organization keeps proper accounting records?	Y		Based on the scrutiny of the External Auditors
ii.	The annual financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Organization?	Y		In the context of annual review of the financial statements and the results of the External Auditors' examination
d.	Does the Committee gain an understanding of management's procedures for developing the Organization's financial statements and the historical reliability of the Organization's financial reporting?	Y		As appropriate

No	Questions	Respond with "Yes" or "No" by checking appropriate box and providing any comment		
e.	Does the Committee review the financial statements before signature by the Secretary-General?	Y		Where allowed by the governing body timetable
f.	Does the Audit Committee consider specifically:			
i.	The suitability of accounting policies and treatments?	Y		In the context of reviewing the annual accounts and Ext Audit results/reports
ii.	Major judgements made?	Y		-ditto-
iii.	Large write-offs?	Y		-ditto-
iv.	Unusual credits?	Y		-ditto-
v.	Last minute transactions?	Y		-ditto-
vi.	Changes in accounting treatment?	Y		-ditto-
vii.	Unusual financial trends?	Y		-ditto-
viii.	Unusual financial statement relationships?	Y		-ditto-
ix.	Accounting treatments varying from the sector norm?	Y		-ditto-
x.	The impact on going concern of fundamental issues in the business?	Y		-ditto-
xi.	The reasonableness of accounting estimates?	Y		-ditto-
xii.	The reasonableness of other accounting entries requiring judgement?	Y		-ditto-
xiii.	Reporting on the wider financial aspects of the business e.g. the Operating and Financial Review?	Y		-ditto-
xiv.	The narrative aspects of the reporting?	Y		-ditto-
g.	Does the Committee consider whether there is a risk of the accounts being qualified by the external auditors?	Y		
h.	Does the Committee review the Letter of Representation before signature by management and give particular attention to non-standard issues of representation?	Y		
5.2	<i>International Standards on Auditing ISA 260 and External Audit</i>			
a.	ISA 260 requires the communication of audit matters to those charged with governance. Does the Audit Committee liaise fully with the external auditors on matters concerning the financial statements?	Y		
b.	Are there discussions on the unadjusted misstatements in the draft financial	Y		

No	Questions	Respond with "Yes" or "No" by checking appropriate box and providing any comment		
	statements?			
c.	Does the Committee consider why unadjusted errors in the draft financial statements detected by the external auditors are not corrected?	Y		
5.3	Compliance with regulations			
a.	Does the Audit Committee review whether the Organization complies with relevant regulatory matters?	Y		Within the TORs of AC
b.	Does the Committee monitor whether the Organization's procedures for identifying and managing business risk have regard to relevant policy and regulations?	Y		
c.	Does the Committee enquire into whether there are procedures for making all employees aware of whistle blowing procedures and responsibilities for reporting irregularity?	Y		
6	Membership, Induction and Training			
6.1	Size			
a.	Is the membership appropriate for the Organization and consistent with good practice?	Y		
b.	Are the numbers attending the meetings (members and non-members) sufficient to deal adequately with the agenda but not so many as to blur issues; and is the requirement for a quorum observed?	Y		
c.	Does the Committee ensure that the right people attend, especially those who will have meaningful input on agenda items?	Y		
d.	Is the Committee membership wholly or mostly composed of independent (non-executive) members?	Y		
6.2	Membership			
a.	Do the Chairperson of the Committee and the President of WMO/Executive Council consult appropriately before making recommendations to EC on membership of the Committee?	Y		
b.	The Chairmanship of the Committee and the Executive Council should not be combined. Is this the case?	Y		
c.	Is the Head of Internal Audit invited to attend rather than being a member?	Y		
d.	Is the appointment of members for an appropriate period of time (e.g. 3 years)?	Y		
6.3	Independence, skills, experience			

No	Questions	Respond with "Yes" or "No" by checking appropriate box and providing any comment		
a.	Does the Executive Council ensure that the membership of its Audit Committee demonstrates independence and the required mix of skills and experience?	Y		Via AC ToRs and selection procedures
b.	Is the Chairperson of the Committee required to have leadership experience, knowledge of WMO and a strong finance, accounting or business background?	Y		
c.	Do the Committee's competencies include accountancy skills, recent and relevant financial experience, risk management, audit, technical skills relevant to the Organization, and an understanding of the UN environment?	Y		
d.	Does the Committee set down requirements for areas of collective understanding?	Y		Informally
e.	Is there a formalized process for the Executive Council to consider what the independent, non-executive, members bring to the Committee?	Y		AC selection and appointment process
f.	Do the assessment criteria include knowledge, experience, personal qualities, time available?	Y		
g.	Are there formal assessment criteria for the appointment of the Chairperson, including attitudes to non-executives, strength of personality; experience of chairing and time commitment?		N	Not considered necessary. AC elects Chairperson
h.	Do candidates declare any conflicts of interest before appointment?	Y		Not specifically required but see Question 6.3 i below.
i.	Are members required to declare interests in a register of interests and declare conflicts of interest on agenda items?	Y		
j.	Are Committee members subject to regular appraisal by the Executive Council?	Y		No formal, explicit process but implicit. EC reviews AC Reports
6.4	<i>Dynamism and performance of Audit Committee</i>			
a.	Does the Executive Council ensure that the membership of the Audit Committee retains its dynamism?	Y		AC provided with feedback from FINAC

No	Questions	Respond with "Yes" or "No" by checking appropriate box and providing any comment		
b.	Does the Committee maintain an environment in which members are comfortable to challenge each other and the Audit Committee Chairperson as appropriate?	Y		
c.	Have recent developments indicated the need for a review of the work of the Audit Committee?		N	Kept under review
d.	Does the Audit Committee assess its effectiveness annually?	Y		AC ToRs refer
e.	Does the Committee understand the structure of the Organization and the processes to deliver on its mandate?	Y		
f.	Does the Committee report on its own effectiveness to the Executive Council?	Y		Required by AC ToRs
g.	Does the Committee benchmark itself against others?	Y		Comparison informed by, e.g. JIU reports and comments; and AC Members serve on other committees.
h.	As part of self-assessment, does the Committee discuss the quality of the information it receives and make recommendations to the Executive Council on its training needs?	N/A		
6.5	Induction of new members			
a.	Do new members receive a copy of the Terms of Reference, a formal letter of appointment setting out their responsibilities, term of appointment and conditions?	Y		
b.	Do new members receive recent financial statements and other public reports, executive summaries of internal audit reports, commentaries on how recommendations have been followed up, external audit management letters, codes of conduct etc.?	Y		
c.	Is there an induction for new members?	Y		
d.	Is there an induction for new Audit Committee members including, for example:	Y		Briefing note created
i.	Site visits or visits to relevant operational sectors?	N/A		
ii.	Attendance at sessions of the World Meteorological Congress and/or Executive Council?		N	
iii.	Meeting with the Risk Manager?	Y		
iv.	Meeting with the Head of Internal Audit?	Y		
v.	Meeting with External Audit?	Y		

No	Questions	Respond with "Yes" or "No" by checking appropriate box and providing any comment		
6.6	<i>Access to advice</i>			
a.	Does the Chairperson contact the Secretary-General for approval of access to legal or professional advice?	Y		If and when necessary
b.	Does the Secretary-General ensure adequate budget to ensure that members of the Committee have access to legal and professional advice where necessary?	Y		Issue would be addressed according to need
