

2 Report of Independent Expert Oversight Advisory Committee

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In focus

Highlights of the Advisory Committee report (in [PBAC27/2](#)) include comments on:

- internal oversight services - general approval but facing budget pressures;
- external audit - no substantive comments;
- overview of EMRO regional office and compliance and internal controls - general approval but notes a range of issues facing the regional office;
- risk management - appreciates progress with risk register but urges more focus on risk management;
- post-polio transition planning - concerns about risks to regional revenue (and in some cases country office revenue) as polio winds down;
- implementation of FENSA - critical of the lack of a “structured, cohesive, project management plan for implementation of the Framework”;
- evaluation and organisational learning - no substantive advice;
- reform in management of health emergencies especially in EMRO - “key external challenges to the programme are sustainable, predictable and multiyear funding. It is crucial that partners and donors understand the business costs of operating in fragile and weak countries with high security risks”; reviews a number of challenges associated with emergencies in the EMRO region;
- visit to Egypt country office - general appreciation of the work of the country office; comments on some of the challenges facing the country office including communications with the Ministry of Health and inadequate and unpredictable funding;
- investment function - approval;
- information technology - notes new governance structure for ICT development; and
- procurement policy roll-out - general appreciation.

PBAC advice on this report is in [EB142/25](#) (PBAC report to EB142).

Background

[Tracker links](#) to previous IEOAC reports

[Tracker links](#) to previous audit reports

Useful further reading:

- [Internal controls framework](#);
- [WHO principal risks \(2017\)](#);
- [A70/14 Add.1 - Risks ass'd with wind-down Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#)
- [A70/9 'WHO response in severe, large-scale emergencies'](#)

PHM comment

PHM notes the repeated examples, particularly in relation to emergencies and polio transition, of the harmful impact of the ACs freeze, budget ceiling, tight donor earmarking and donor dependence generally.