



UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS
P.O. BOX 21642, NICOSIA, CYPRUS – TEL: 357-22-614401 FAX: 357-22-614752

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF MISSION

TO: Ms. Eleanor T. Burns
A: Chief, Peacekeeping Audit Service
Internal Audit Division
Office of Internal Oversight Services
New York

DATE: 2 August 2011

REFERENCE: MO11-622

FROM: Lisa Bittenheim, Special Representative
DE: of the Secretary-General and Chief of Mission,
UNFICYP

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SUBJECT: **Assignment No. AP2011/654/03 – Audit of Aviation Safety in UNFICYP**
OBJET:

1. Reference is made to the draft report on the Audit of Aviation Safety in UNFICYP, submitted by OIOS on 30 June 2011.
2. Please find attached completed Annex I, indicating acceptance of the audit recommendations issued, implementation status and the Mission's comments.
3. I would like to express my appreciation to OIOS for submitting a comprehensive and valuable draft report which will contribute to the improvement of the Mission's Aviation and Safety internal control mechanisms.

cc: Major General Chao Liu, Force Commander, UNFICYP
Mr. Paul Aghadjanian, Chief of Mission Support, UNFICYP
Mr. Nabeel Arif, Director, Logistic Support Division, DFS
Mr. Ricardo Garcia, Regional Aviation Safety Officer, UNLB
Ms. Amy Wong, Programme Officer, Internal Audit Division, OIOS

ANNEX I
SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS
 Audit of aviation safety in UNFICYP

Para. no.	Recommendation	Accepted? (Yes/No)	Implementation date	Client comments
14	UNFICYP should establish timelines for the implementation of the aviation Operational Risk Management (ORM) policy to the remaining air operation processes which have not yet been implemented, and ensure that progress is monitored by the Regional Aviation Safety Officer or the Mission Aviation Safety Council	Yes	15/09/2011	During the next visit of the RASO to the Mission (September / October 2011), after the arrival of the new Military ASO, a road map for the remaining selected areas for the implementation of the ORM methodology will be prepared and presented to the Mission Aviation Safety Council for approval.
16	UNFICYP should amend its decision-making structure for flights to ensure that the Head of Mission is responsible for the overall safety of air assets in compliance with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations/Department of Field Support Service Policy Directive on Aviation Safety.	Yes	31/08/2011	Aviation ORM decision-making structure for air mission planning will be amended so as to ensure that the HoM is responsible for the overall safety of the air assets in the Mission area.
22	UNFICYP should ensure that its Aviation Emergency Plan is: (i) harmonized with that of the other Military Units in the Mission; (ii) coordinated with the host country including local airports, Civil Aviation Authorities and first responders; and (iii) regularly tested in compliance with Aviation Safety Manual.	Yes	(i) implemented (ii) implemented (iii) ongoing	(i) – An updated AERP coordinated with all aviation related stake holders in the Mission has been approved on 07/07/2011; (ii) – Copies of the new AERP have been provided by the Military ASO to Larnaca Airport after its approval; (iii) – As part of the UNFICYP Aviation Safety Programme, the AERP was tested in May 2011 and will be re-tested after the arrival of the new Military ASO.