

Monthly Recommendations Report

January 31, 2021



Office of Inspector General

Department of State
U.S. Agency for Global Media
(USAGM)

Recommendation Status

As of January 31, 2021, the OIG Management Information System (MIS) reported the following recommendation counts:

		Unclassified	Sensitive and Classified	Total
Open	State	517	44	601*
	USAGM	18	14	
Closed within Month	State	36	3*	36
	USAGM	0	0	
Newly Issued	State	37	0	37
	USAGM	0	0	

*Classified recommendations are not included in these totals because of delays in preparing classified materials due to OIG's effort to maximize telework and social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Recommendation Status Explained

Unresolved: No agreement between OIG and management on the recommendation or proposed corrective action (remains open).

Resolved: Agreement on the recommendation and proposed corrective action (remains open) but implementation has not been completed.

Closed: Agreed upon corrective action is complete.

Action Office: The organization to which a recommendation has been assigned for action.

Searching Explained

The recommendations are sorted alphabetically by action office, then by the date the report containing the recommendations was issued.

Use Ctrl+F within your internet browser to search for keywords within this PDF document.

Example searches:

- To find recommendations related to a particular bureau or office, type the name of that bureau or office. For example, "Office of the Deputy Secretary" or "Bureau of Diplomatic Security." [View the Department of State Organizational Chart](#) for more information on Department bureaus and offices.
- To find recommendations related to a particular embassy, type "Embassy" and the city in which the embassy is located. For example, "Embassy Berlin" or "Embassy Kabul."
- To find recommendations with a specific word or phrase, type the keyword. For example, "information technology" or "contracts."

Additional Information

- This report includes only unclassified information entered into our MIS system as of the last business day of the previous month. For example, the November report will include information in our system as of 4 P.M. on the last business day of November.
- Action office have up to 30 days after a report is issued to respond to newly issued recommendations.
- Questions? Contact the OIG [Office of Congressional and Public Affairs](#).

UNCLASSIFIED
U.S. Department of State - Office of Inspector General
Recommendations Closed in January 2021
Unclassified

Use CTRL+F to Enter Search Terms

#	ACTION OFFICE	REPORT NUMBER	REPORT TITLE	ISSUE DATE	REC NUMBER	RECOMMENDATION	REC STATUS	REC CLOSE DATE
1	Bureau of African Affairs	AUD-MERO-20-29	Management Assistance Report: The Bureau of African Affairs Should Improve Performance Work Statements and Increase Subject Matter Expertise for Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership Projects	4/22/2020	1	OIG recommends that the Bureau of African Affairs review the decision to expend \$3,336,898 on revisions to contract SAQMMA15F3938 and make a determination as to whether the expenditures were necessary or reasonable.	Closed - Implemented	1/26/2021
2	Bureau of African Affairs	AUD-MERO-20-45	Audit of Department of State Foreign Assistance Grants and Cooperative Agreements in Somalia	9/18/2020	8	OIG recommends that the Bureau of African Affairs (a) conduct a review of awards that provide Federal funds to Somali National Army units with participants whose Leahy vetting has lapsed, (b) determine whether any participants received Federal funds while in violation of the Leahy Law, and (c) take corrective actions, as necessary.	Closed - Implemented	1/7/2021
3	Bureau of African Affairs	AUD-MERO-20-45	Audit of Department of State Foreign Assistance Grants and Cooperative Agreements in Somalia	9/18/2020	9	OIG recommends that the Bureau of African Affairs develop and implement procedures for the execution of Leahy vetting requirements, to include annual vetting procedures, that are consistent with established Department of State policies.	Closed - Implemented	1/7/2021
4	Bureau of African Affairs	AUD-MERO-20-45	Audit of Department of State Foreign Assistance Grants and Cooperative Agreements in Somalia	9/18/2020	10	OIG recommends that the Bureau of African Affairs update the terms of the Stipends Support for the Somali National Army award (SLMAQM18GR2254) to include the "State Department Leahy Vetting Requirements" or coordinate with the Bureau of Administration, Office of Procurement Executive and Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor to make alternate arrangements for compliance, in accordance with the Federal Assistance Directive.	Closed - Implemented	1/7/2021
5	Bureau of Counterterrorism and Countering Violent Extremism	AUD-MERO-20-32	Follow-Up Audit of Department of State Efforts To Measure, Evaluate, and Sustain Antiterrorism Assistance Objectives in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs	5/12/2020	2	OIG recommends that the Bureau of Counterterrorism, in coordination with the Bureau of Diplomatic Security, establish a mechanism to report Department of Defense-funded Antiterrorism Assistance training and update the 2015 Memorandum of Agreement to clarify which bureau is responsible for collecting and reporting this information.	Closed - Implemented	1/7/2021
6	Bureau of Counterterrorism and Countering Violent Extremism	AUD-MERO-20-32	Follow-Up Audit of Department of State Efforts To Measure, Evaluate, and Sustain Antiterrorism Assistance Objectives in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs	5/12/2020	3	OIG recommends that the Bureau of Counterterrorism, in coordination with the Bureau of Diplomatic Security, establish a mechanism to monitor regionally funded and mentorship Antiterrorism Assistance training programs and update the 2015 Memorandum of Agreement to clarify which bureau is responsible for collecting and reporting this information.	Closed - Implemented	1/7/2021

UNCLASSIFIED
U.S. Department of State - Office of Inspector General
Recommendations Closed in January 2021
Unclassified

Use CTRL+F to Enter Search Terms

#	ACTION OFFICE	REPORT NUMBER	REPORT TITLE	ISSUE DATE	REC NUMBER	RECOMMENDATION	REC STATUS	REC CLOSE DATE
7	Bureau of Counterterrorism and Countering Violent Extremism	AUD-MERO-20-32	Follow-Up Audit of Department of State Efforts To Measure, Evaluate, and Sustain Antiterrorism Assistance Objectives in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs	5/12/2020	4	OIG recommends that the Bureau of Counterterrorism, in coordination with the Bureau of Diplomatic Security, revise the Antiterrorism Assistance Monitoring Plan and quarterly report template to include measures on sustainability in accordance with the Foreign Affairs Manual and update the Memorandum of Agreement to clarify which bureau is responsible for collecting and reporting this information.	Closed - Implemented	1/7/2021
8	Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs	ISP-I-20-12	Inspection of Embassy London and Constituent Posts, United Kingdom	8/10/2020	1	The Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, in coordination with the Office of Civil Rights, should assess the Chief of Mission's compliance with Department Equal Employment Opportunity or leadership policies and based on the results of the review, take appropriate action.	Closed - Implemented	1/28/2021
9	Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations	ISP-I-19-26	Inspection of Embassy Tirana, Albania	8/7/2019	7	The Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations, in coordination with Embassy Tirana, should provide a mitigation plan to address seismic concerns with at-risk embassy compound buildings.	Closed - Implemented	1/12/2021
10	Consulate General Hamilton	ISP-I-21-03	Inspection of Consulate General Hamilton, Bermuda	11/3/2020	8	Consulate General Hamilton should install an environmental monitoring system in the unclassified server room in accordance with Department standards.	Closed - Implemented	1/15/2021
11	Embassy Beirut	AUD-MERO-20-19	Audit of Mission Turkey and Embassy Beirut Fuel Oversight and Payment Process	1/30/2020	36	OIG recommends that Embassy Beirut, Lebanon, review all invoices submitted by fuel contractors and paid by the embassy from October 1, 2013, through September 30, 2018, for gasoline and diesel fuel contracts (a) to determine whether the \$2.2 million paid against those invoices and identified by OIG as unsupported costs was allowable and (b) to recover any costs determined to be unallowable.	Closed - Implemented	1/5/2021
12	Embassy Beirut	AUD-MERO-20-19	Audit of Mission Turkey and Embassy Beirut Fuel Oversight and Payment Process	1/30/2020	44	OIG recommends that Embassy Beirut, Lebanon, (a) perform a reconciliation of all invoices submitted and paid against gasoline and diesel fuel contracts from October 1, 2013, through September 30, 2018, to determine whether the contractors were overpaid or underpaid, and (b) either pursue reimbursement or pay any additional amounts owed to the contractors.	Closed - Implemented	1/5/2021

UNCLASSIFIED
U.S. Department of State - Office of Inspector General
Recommendations Closed in January 2021
Unclassified

Use CTRL+F to Enter Search Terms

#	ACTION OFFICE	REPORT NUMBER	REPORT TITLE	ISSUE DATE	REC NUMBER	RECOMMENDATION	REC STATUS	REC CLOSE DATE
13	Embassy Canberra	ISP-I-20-07	Inspection of Embassy Canberra and Constituent Posts, Australia	2/18/2020	1	Embassy Canberra, in coordination with the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, the Office of the Legal Adviser, and the Office of Management Strategy and Solutions, should determine which U.S. Government personnel in Australia are under chief of mission authority, in accordance with Department guidelines.	Closed - Implemented	1/15/2021
14	Embassy Canberra	ISP-I-20-07	Inspection of Embassy Canberra and Constituent Posts, Australia	2/18/2020	15	Embassy Canberra should close out procurement files in accordance with Department standards.	Closed - Implemented	1/15/2021
15	Embassy Guatemala City	ISP-I-18-16	Inspection of Embassy Guatemala City, Guatemala	5/16/2018	19	Embassy Guatemala City should manage its classified and unclassified Active Directory groups in accordance with Department standards.	Closed - Implemented	1/15/2021
16	Embassy Guatemala City	ISP-I-18-16	Inspection of Embassy Guatemala City, Guatemala	5/16/2018	22	Embassy Guatemala City should implement a plan for conducting initial and annual refresher information technology contingency training for employees with information technology contingency planning responsibilities.	Closed - Implemented	1/15/2021
17	Embassy Helsinki	ISP-I-20-08	Inspection of Embassy Helsinki, Finland	12/31/2019	2	Embassy Helsinki should dispose of excess expendable property in accordance with Department standards and put up to \$1.3 million to better use.	Closed - Implemented	1/25/2021
18	Embassy Koror	ISP-I-19-06	Inspection of Embassy Koror, Republic of Palau	2/4/2019	9	Embassy Koror, in coordination with the Bureau of Administration, should request authorization to maintain the additional vehicles or dispose of three vehicles according to Department guidelines and put proceeds of sale to better use.	Closed - Implemented	1/21/2021
19	Embassy Koror	ISP-I-19-06	Inspection of Embassy Koror, Republic of Palau	2/4/2019	21	Embassy Koror, in coordination with Embassy Manila, should implement standard operating procedures for managing its unclassified networks.	Closed - Implemented	1/15/2021
20	Embassy London	ISP-I-20-12	Inspection of Embassy London and Constituent Posts, United Kingdom	8/10/2020	3	Embassy London should correct line of sight issues in the Consular Section to comply with Department guidance for consular officers to visually monitor all consular operations.	Closed - Implemented	1/28/2021
21	Embassy London	ISP-I-20-12	Inspection of Embassy London and Constituent Posts, United Kingdom	8/10/2020	5	Embassy London should install signage at the Consular Section's public entrance with all information required in Department guidance.	Closed - Implemented	1/28/2021

UNCLASSIFIED
U.S. Department of State - Office of Inspector General
Recommendations Closed in January 2021
Unclassified

Use CTRL+F to Enter Search Terms

#	ACTION OFFICE	REPORT NUMBER	REPORT TITLE	ISSUE DATE	REC NUMBER	RECOMMENDATION	REC STATUS	REC CLOSE DATE
22	Embassy London	ISP-I-20-12	Inspection of Embassy London and Constituent Posts, United Kingdom	8/10/2020	7	Embassy London should create a disaster assistance plan that outlines support to be provided to Consulate General Edinburgh in the event of a crisis and includes a portable disaster assistance kit at Consulate General Edinburgh, in accordance with Department standards.	Closed - Implemented	1/28/2021
23	Embassy London	ISP-I-20-12	Inspection of Embassy London and Constituent Posts, United Kingdom	8/10/2020	16	Embassy London should bring its residential fire protection program into compliance with Department standards.	Closed - Implemented	1/28/2021
24	Embassy London	ISP-I-20-12	Inspection of Embassy London and Constituent Posts, United Kingdom	8/10/2020	18	Embassy London should update and test the information technology contingency plan for its classified operations in accordance with Department standards.	Closed - Implemented	1/28/2021
25	Embassy London	ISP-I-20-12	Inspection of Embassy London and Constituent Posts, United Kingdom	8/10/2020	19	Embassy London should complete all information systems security officer responsibilities for the embassy and constituent posts in accordance with Department standards.	Closed - Implemented	1/28/2021
26	Embassy London	ISP-I-20-12	Inspection of Embassy London and Constituent Posts, United Kingdom	8/10/2020	22	Embassy London should complete all required steps of a systems development lifecycle methodology for its locally developed applications, in accordance with Department standards.	Closed - Implemented	1/28/2021
27	Embassy N'Djamena	ISP-I-20-02	Inspection of Embassy N'Djamena, Chad	11/7/2019	2	Embassy N'Djamena, in coordination with the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, should implement a strategic plan for the new embassy compound's American Center that meets Department standards.	Closed - Implemented	1/15/2021
28	Embassy N'Djamena	ISP-I-20-02	Inspection of Embassy N'Djamena, Chad	11/7/2019	4	Embassy N'Djamena should bring documentation of its public diplomacy grants program into compliance with Department standards.	Closed - Implemented	1/15/2021
29	Embassy N'Djamena	ISP-I-20-02	Inspection of Embassy N'Djamena, Chad	11/7/2019	6	Embassy N'Djamena should comply with applicable Department overseas motor vehicle safety requirements for chauffeurs and incidental drivers under chief of mission authority.	Closed - Implemented	1/15/2021
30	Embassy N'Djamena	ISP-I-20-02	Inspection of Embassy N'Djamena, Chad	11/7/2019	12	Embassy N'Djamena should bring its Contracting Officer's Representative program into compliance with Department standards.	Closed - Implemented	1/15/2021
31	Embassy Windhoek	ISP-I-20-32	Inspection of Embassy Windhoek, Namibia	9/21/2020	2	Embassy Windhoek should comply with Department standards in managing the American Corner in Keetmanshoop.	Closed - Implemented	1/25/2021

UNCLASSIFIED
U.S. Department of State - Office of Inspector General
Recommendations Closed in January 2021
Unclassified

Use CTRL+F to Enter Search Terms

#	ACTION OFFICE	REPORT NUMBER	REPORT TITLE	ISSUE DATE	REC NUMBER	RECOMMENDATION	REC STATUS	REC CLOSE DATE
32	Embassy Windhoek	ISP-I-20-32	Inspection of Embassy Windhoek, Namibia	9/21/2020	4	Embassy Windhoek should bring its consular cashiering operations into compliance with Department standards.	Closed - Implemented	1/25/2021
33	Embassy Windhoek	ISP-I-20-32	Inspection of Embassy Windhoek, Namibia	9/21/2020	10	Embassy Windhoek should bring the Marine Security Guard driver schedule into compliance with Department standards.	Closed - Implemented	1/25/2021
34	Libya External Office	ISP-I-21-04	Inspection of the Libya External Office	11/2/2020	1	The Libya External Office, in coordination with the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, should review Libya-based management controls and include any noted deficiencies in its FY 2020 Annual Chief of Mission Management Control Statement of Assurance.	Closed - Implemented	1/15/2021
35	Major Events	AUD-CGI-17-07	Management Assistance Report: Department of State Conference Reporting	10/27/2016	1	OIG recommends that the Under Secretary for Management, Office of Management Policy, Rightsizing, and Innovation, develop and disseminate formal guidance regarding registering, approving, and reporting conferences in compliance with Federal requirements.	Closed - Implemented	1/5/2021
36	Office of the Procurement Executive	AUD-SI-19-43	Audit of Cooperative Agreement Sub-Award Recipients Supporting the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief	9/25/2019	9	OIG recommends that the Bureau of Administration, Office of the Procurement Executive, in coordination with the Office of U.S. Foreign Assistance Resources, Resources and Appropriations Division, calculate an estimate of the anticipated savings within the first year of including the standard provision related to obtaining reimbursements for value added taxes in grants and cooperative agreements.	Closed - Implemented	1/19/2021