



U.S. Embassy Baghdad, Iraq

February 2025

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

In July 2022, State OIG offered fourteen recommendations to improve the management of \$164 million worth of nonexpendable U.S. government personal property at Embassy Baghdad (*Audit of Nonexpendable Personal Property at U.S. Embassy Baghdad, Iraq; AUD-MERO-22-44*). Of the fourteen recommendations offered, eleven have been fully implemented, strengthening Embassy Baghdad’s management processes and oversight for the Personal Property Program.

State OIG inspections continue to pay off long after reports are issued. Recent examples of funds put to better use at U.S. missions and embassies include:

- **\$731,939 was put to better use by Embassy Brussels** following our 2023 report ([ISP-I-23-11](#)) which recommended reprogramming information management positions to ICASS-funded positions.
- **\$85,020 was put to better use by Embassy Abuja** after our 2023 report ([ISP-I-23-09](#)) identified overdue travel advances which were subsequently cleared.
- **\$75,556 was put to better use by Embassy Warsaw** after our 2024 report ([ISP-I-24-18](#)), identified excess inventory of nonexpendable property, which was subsequently auctioned.
- **\$49,433 was put to better use by Embassy Kuala Lumpur** after inspectors recommended a review of unliquidated obligations without activity for more than one year. Our 2024 report ([ISP-I-24-14](#)) found the potential of up to \$109,000 in invalid unliquidated obligations.

## RECOMMENDATIONS STATUS\*

as of February 28, 2025

**1,081\*\***

Open  
Recommendations

**49\*\*\***

Recommendations  
Closed During January

[View Recommendations](#)

\* OIG delivers monthly SBU/classified recommendation reports to congressional committees of jurisdiction.

\*\* Includes 56 recommendations associated with the U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC).

\*\*\* Includes 7 recommendations closed on OIG’s classified network.

[Reports](#)

[Ongoing Work](#)

## SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

**U.S. Mission to the United Nations Increased U.S. Private Sector Access to UN Procurement** (*Inspection of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, New York, ISP-I-25-06*)

The Management and Reform Section at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, in collaboration with the U.S. Commercial Service, which is the trade promotion arm of the U.S. Department of Commerce’s International Trade Administration, increased U.S. private sector access to the \$30 billion United Nations (UN) procurement process. The section expanded a series of seminars—some with more than 200 participants and including representatives of U.S. companies from 26 different states—and used those seminars to advise U.S. businesses on how to submit successful UN procurement bids. From 2021 to 2022, the number of contracted U.S. suppliers increased from

4,236 to 4,746. The seminar series also provided opportunities for U.S. companies to conduct work globally. Furthermore, it fostered public-private dialogue between the UN and U.S. industry leaders such as Google Cloud Services and Microsoft. It served to align U.S. businesses with the Secretary-General’s United Nations Global Compact, which seeks to uphold UN values in the private sector. Increased U.S. business participation in the UN Global Compact helps to protect U.S. competitiveness.

### NOTABLE OPEN RECOMMENDATION

In the September 2016 report, *Audit of the Department of State Travel Card Program (AUD-CGI-16-48)*, State OIG found that by failing to ensure that Department-issued travel card holders use the charge card for all travel-related expenses, the Travel Card Program may have indirectly reduced the Department’s sales refund. For demonstration purposes, OIG highlighted one category of official travel expenses: total lodging expense paid for Department travelers from October 1, 2013, through March 31, 2015. If 100% of the \$118 million in expenses had been applied to Department-issued travel cards, the Department could have earned up to \$47,291 in sales refunds. OIG recommended that the Bureau of the Comptroller and Global Financial Services (CGFS) develop and implement split disbursement procedures as required by the Office of Management and Budget for all Department-issued travel card holders. In response, CGFS funded a project to develop and implement split disbursement procedures, but halted implementation in anticipation of a planned transition to a travel service application, ETSNext, in February 2027. As a result, CGFS remains without split disbursement procedures more than 8 years after OIG issued its recommendation.

### NEW WORK STARTED

- *Inspection of Embassy Port Louis, Mauritius*
- *Classified Inspection of Embassy Port Louis, Mauritius*

## UKRAINE AND AFGHANISTAN OVERSIGHT

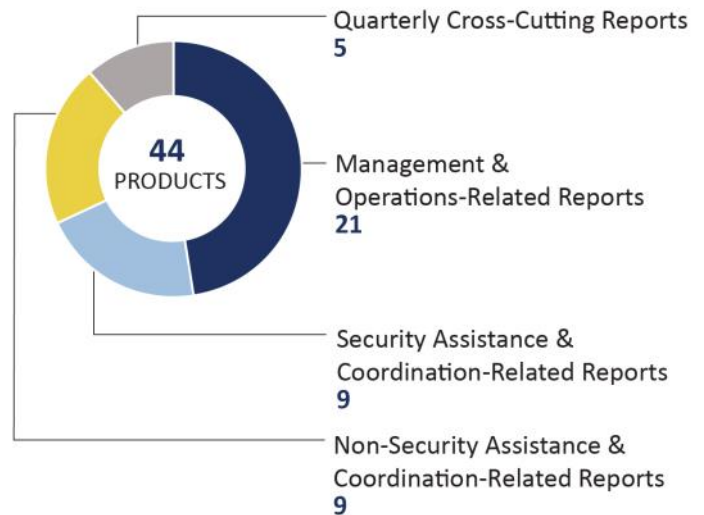
[Special Inspector General for Operation Atlantic Resolve | Final Quarterly Report to the United States Congress | October 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024](#)

This fifth quarterly report submitted by the Special Inspector General for Operation Atlantic Resolve (OAR) summarizes U.S. Government support to Ukraine and the broader response to Russia’s full-scale invasion, including support for the Ukrainian Armed Forces (UAF), support for NATO partners, and U.S. military, diplomatic, and humanitarian activity

[Click here for a complete list of completed, ongoing, and planned work related to Ukraine.](#)

[Click here for a complete list of completed, ongoing, and planned work related to Afghanistan.](#)

### UKRAINE COMPLETED OVERSIGHT WORK



TOTAL RECOMMENDATIONS	OTHER PRODUCTS	ONGOING & PLANNED OVERSIGHT PROJECTS
<b>233</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>15</b>



The Office of Inspector General conducts independent oversight of the Department of State and the U.S. Agency for Global Media on behalf of American taxpayers to:

- Promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness.
- Prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse.
- Identify vulnerabilities and recommend constructive solutions.

# REPORT RECAP



## February 2025

The following reports were issued in February by the *Department of State Office of Inspector General (OIG)*.



### *Management Letter Related to the Audit of the U.S. Department of State FY 2024 Financial Statements (AUD-FM-25-13)*

During the audit of the Department of State's (Department) FY 2024 financial statements, an independent external auditor identified matters involving internal control, which it brought to the Department's attention. These matters related to controls over untimely obligations, personnel data for locally employed staff, personnel records and actions, supporting data related to the asbestos remediation estimate, access privileges reviews for a supply chain application, and logging and monitoring of controls for a real property application.



### *Management Letter Related to the Audit of the U.S. Agency for Global Media FY 2024 Financial Statements (AUD-FM-IB-25-12)*

During the audit of the U.S. Agency for Global Media FY 2024 financial statements, the independent external auditor identified weaknesses relating to grantee monitoring; accounting for property, plant, and equipment; and segregation of duties in the property management system



### *Lead Inspector General for Operation Enduring Sentinel | Quarterly Report to the United States Congress | October 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024*

This quarterly report describes the activities of the U.S. Government in support of OES, as well as the work of the DoD, the Department of State (State), and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to further the U.S. Government's policy goals in Afghanistan. This report covers the period October 1-December 31, 2024. In January 2025, the President issued an Executive Order on Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid. In response, the Secretary of State subsequently paused most U.S. foreign assistance funded by or through State and USAID for review.



### *Lead Inspector General for Operation Inherent Resolve | Quarterly Report to the United States Congress | October 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024*

The 40th quarterly report submitted by the Lead Inspector General for Operation Inherent Resolve summarizes the quarter's key events and oversight of the U.S. mission to defeat ISIS and train, advise, and assist local partners—including the Iraqi Security Forces, Peshmerga Forces, and Syrian Democratic Forces—to improve regional stability.



### *Special Inspector General for Operation Atlantic Resolve | Final Quarterly Report to the United States Congress | October 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024*

See summary of report under "Ukraine and Afghanistan Oversight" above.



### *Inspection of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, New York (ISP-I-25-06)*

State OIG found that the Representative of the United States to the United Nations led the U.S. Mission to the United Nations consistent with Department of State leadership and management principles and advanced U.S. policy in a challenging multilateral environment. The mission's Integrated Mission Strategy was out of date, and there was unclear delineation of roles and responsibilities among USUN and Department offices, which hindered some aspects of policy, security, administrative, and consular operations. The mission successfully advanced U.S. policy priorities, including those related to Ukraine, Israel/Gaza, and UN management and reform. However, coordination on monitoring and countering the People's Republic of China and engaging with the UN General Assembly can be improved. The Political Affairs Section was not managed according to Department leadership and management principles. The mission lacked guidance for reporting UN system waste, fraud, and abuse to the Office of Inspector General.



### *Classified Inspection of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, New York (ISP-I-25-06A)*

This report contains information that is Classified and unavailable for public viewing.



### *Inspection of Embassy Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo (ISP-I-25-05)*

State OIG found that the Ambassador and Deputy Chief of Mission managed Embassy Kinshasa in a professional and collaborative manner. The embassy successfully advanced key U.S. foreign policy priorities, such as strengthening democracy, combating trafficking in persons, and addressing climate change, despite a non-permissive security environment that constrained travel by embassy staff. Chronic staffing challenges contributed to pervasive internal control issues and increased vulnerability to fraud, waste, and mismanagement in embassy operations. Twenty-three percent of Department of State U.S. direct-hire positions were vacant at the time of the inspection.