



United States Mission to the OSCE

Response to the Annual Report of Activities of the Office of Internal Oversight, Financial Report and Financial Statements for 2024, the Report of the External Auditor, and the Annual Report of the Audit Committee

As delivered by Chargé d'Affaires Katherine Brucker
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
July 10, 2025

We value the diligent work by the Secretariat, the Department of Management and Finance, the Office of Internal Oversight, and the External Auditor to provide appropriate oversight of the organization. Their reports reflect a commitment to transparency, accountability, and financial integrity that underpin this Organization's credibility.

The Financial Statements and External Auditor's report highlight the OSCE's resilience and prudent resource management despite the absence of a unified budget since 2021. Capable stewardship has enabled the Organization to sustain activities despite significant financial uncertainty.

The lack of a unified budget, however, continues to strain operations across all institutions and missions. As the External Auditor emphasized, this threatens the Organization's ability to deliver on its mandates and undermines its long-term stability.

We need a sustainable, predictable budgetary framework. The Chair-in-Office, the Director of Management and Finance, and the Secretariat need to cooperate and coordinate on functional, administrative, and operational reforms or adjustments that enable the organization to operate in the budget provided, not the other way around.

We understand that other participating States share our concerns regarding the budget, and therefore we urge the Chair to take the initiative to gather views and ideas from all participating States on reform. At the same time we urge all participating States to join consensus on a unified budget as soon as possible.

Finally, we express deep gratitude to the Austrian Court of Audit for its exemplary service as External Auditor.

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