and results to be achieved each year in relation to four key areas: implementation of effective corporate evaluation systems; implementation of effective decentralized evaluation systems; promotion of United Nations coordination on gender-responsive evaluation; and strengthening of national evaluation capacities for gender-responsive monitoring and evaluation systems.

The budget of core resources for the Evaluation Office for 2014 was $1,730,000, with an additional $1,300,000 to cover the costs of the regional evaluation specialists. The Office also received cost-sharing funds from Switzerland ($675,000), Finland ($350,000) and the United States ($125,000).

On 19 June [UNW/2014/6 (dec. 2014/3)], the Executive Board took note of the report on the evaluation function for 2013 and of the programme of work for 2014, and requested the Entity to continue to strengthen its evaluation capacity.

**Administrative and budgetary matters**

**Board of Auditors report**

In its financial report and audited financial statements [A/69/5/Add.12] on UN-Women for the year ended 31 December 2013, the Board of Auditors reported a total revenue of $288.5 million and total expenses of $264.1 million, resulting in a surplus of $24.4 million. Of the total revenue, voluntary contributions accounted for $283.4 million and comprised: voluntary regular resources of $156.9 million (54.4 per cent) of all contributions, which were unearmarked and funded the operational requirements; voluntary other resources of $118.5 million (41.1 per cent), which were earmarked for specific programmes and projects; and assessed resources from the UN regular budget of $8 million (2.8 per cent), which funded the normative and intergovernmental work of UN-Women. The increase in voluntary contributions was a result of the resource mobilization strategy established in 2012 and positive donor support. The net current assets balance was $277.6 million, resulting from current assets of $312.7 million and current liabilities of $35.1 million. UN-Women thus had good short-term financial strength, with assets exceeding liabilities.

The Board regarded the implementation by UN-Women of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (ipsas) in 2012 as a major achievement. Key findings of the report were related to the recognition and disclosure of revenue; the limited scope of inventory recognition; management of property, plant and equipment; long outstanding project advances; and understaffing of the procurement unit and improper delegates procurement authority.

The Board recommended that UN-Women improve coordination and information flow between the Strategic Partnership Division and the Finance Section to ensure that concluded agreements were recognized in correct periods, in line with the revenue accounting policy; review its Programme and Operations Manual to match the requirements of ipsas 12 and improve its year-end closure instructions; review its current procurement catalogue to avoid, inter alia, misclassifications in the Atlas system; enhance its monitoring of advances to implementing partners to verify, among other things, the correct use of funds; and introduce a mechanism for ensuring that procurements below $30,000 were reviewed by a committee or an individual with procurement expertise.

**Report of Secretary-General.** By a September report [A/69/353/Add.1], the Secretary-General transmitted to the General Assembly the responses of the executive heads of the funds and programmes, including UN-Women, on measures taken or to be taken to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors.

UN-Women agreed with all the Board’s recommendations. With reference to the recommendation of improving the coordination and information flow between the Strategic Partnership Division and the Finance Section, UN-Women confirmed that coordination between the two was regular and consistent. There had been monthly meetings held during 2013 and a year-end meeting was held where the Strategic Partnership Division confirmed to the Finance Section that all pledges were included as regular resources prior to preparation of the financial statements. Concerning the recommendation to review its Programme and Operations Manual to match the requirements of ipsas 12, UN-Women informed the Board that the Manual had been updated in line with the Accounting Policy Manual and ipsas 12, Inventories.

Concerning the recommendation to review its current procurement catalogue, UN-Women developed and issued new asset verification and impairment guidelines to the business units to enhance the documentation and credibility of the physical verification process. UN-Women also completed the migration of the assets to the newly created business unit codes to ensure accountability of the assets by each business unit rather than by the regional offices. Concerning the recommendation to enhance its monitoring of advances to implementing partners, UN-Women informed the Board that it had put in place mechanisms to follow up outstanding advances. Additional measures taken during 2013 included messages from senior management to offices to aggressively pursue advances older than 12 months. Those efforts resulted in a more than 50 per cent reduction in long-outstanding advances as at 30 September 2013. In response to the Board of Auditor’s recommendation to ensure that procurements below $30,000 were reviewed by a committee, UN-Women was considering initiating a quality-check mechanism for low value procurement between $5,000 and $30,000.