

Follow-up audit on the implementation of key recommendations

Federal Coordination Commission for Occupational Safety

Key facts

The Swiss Federal Audit Office (SFAO) conducted a follow-up audit on the implementation of key recommendations at the Federal Coordination Commission for Occupational Safety (FCOS). It concerned two of the original six recommendations from an audit published in 2016. The SFAO recommended that the Coordination Commission update its corporate governance rules and further develop the existing service level agreement with Suva.

The business regulations were revised but have still not been approved

The aim of updating the corporate governance rules was to boost the independence and decision-making freedom of the FCOS office vis-à-vis Suva. The office is actually attached administratively to Suva in accordance with the applicable legal provisions. Based on the follow-up audit, the SFAO considers this recommendation to have been implemented within the scope of the applicable law and within the area of responsibility of the FCOS. As part of a revision of its business regulations, the FCOS decided on several measures and put them into practice.

The revised business regulations adopted by the FCOS in 2018 have not yet been approved by the Federal Department of Home Affairs (FDHA). In the SFAO's view, this calls into question the sustainability of the corporate governance improvements that have been achieved. The SFAO therefore recommends that the FDHA validate the revised business regulations and inform the Coordination Commission of its decision.

The new service level agreement with Suva creates more transparency

The further development of the service level agreement should bring the goods/services of Suva much closer to the FCOS's remuneration, enable effective controls and avoid duplications. The FCOS has now concluded a new service level agreement with Suva that meets the concerns of the recommendation. The SFAO thus considers it to have been implemented. Together with a greater degree of detail in the budgeting and accounting for Suva's goods/services, various provisions of the new service level agreement allow for better control.

Moreover, the FCOS has separately taken measures to avoid duplication between the activities of the implementing bodies.

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