

## **Implementation of the cross-departmental offices' directives Federal Office for Buildings and Logistics**

### **Key facts**

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The Federal Office for Buildings and Logistics (FOBL) performs cross-divisional functions in the area of real estate management and procurement. The FOBL's real estate portfolio has a replacement value of CHF 5 billion; according to current reporting, the Confederation's procurements amount to approximately CHF 5.5 billion on an annual basis.

The FOBL heads up the Federal Procurement Conference (FPC), the Coordination Group for Construction and Property Services (KBOB) and the Federal Commission for Construction Products. With respect to the key cross-divisional tasks of the FOBL, the Federal Council, the Federal Department of Finance and the FOBL have issued ordinances and directives that describe the tasks in greater detail. Instruments have thereby been created for the implementation of standards for the entire Federal Administration.

The SFAO audited whether or not the tasks, powers and responsibilities are clearly defined and whether or not control of compliance with and implementation of the directives is sufficiently regulated. It came to the conclusion that strategy, supervision, management and control in the area of procurement should be improved. In the area of buildings, by contrast, it is satisfied that sufficient instruments are available in this regard.

### **The FPC is still not enough of a strategy body for the procurement of goods and services**

As a federal strategy body, the FPC has insufficient powers and must be strengthened. It currently has no directive-issuing, enforcement or supervisory powers. The SFAO believes that the FPC can become more effective and efficient with the renewal of its organisation. To this end, the existing bodies should be dismantled and built up from scratch, and also be assigned clearly defined tasks and powers. At present, the FPC is not managed by using clear objectives and too little attention is paid to core procurement issues.

The SFAO identified potential for optimisation in two areas to ensure better operational procurement management and control. Firstly, procurement controlling must be stepped up so that it can also be used as a steering instrument. Secondly, the SFAO believes that it is necessary for restrictive requirements to be defined for the granting of procurement delegations (currently 56) by the FOBL. Compliance with these provisions and correct processing of delegated procurement transactions must also be checked periodically and must be transparently disclosed in the annual report on procurement controlling.

The Competence Centre for Federal Public Procurement (CCPP), which is part of the FOBL, should establish uniform minimum standards to improve support for the procurement offices. Moreover, the powers of the CCPP should be formulated in a binding manner so that it can intervene and escalate issues across offices and departments within the scope of its cross-disciplinary tasks.



### **The KBOB should issue binding guidelines**

The SFAO examined the business practices of the KBOB in connection with the strategy and supervision in the area of buildings. The KBOB has become established as the strategy body of the Confederation and has generally left a positive impression. However, the SFAO came to the conclusion that the possibility of issuing directives should be utilised to a greater extent. Aside from the ongoing key areas of activity, the KBOB board should set new annual targets. In addition, the SFAO welcomes the KBOB's initiative to better promote the Confederation's interests in standards bodies.

As far as the SFAO was able to examine, the standards for the commercial use of federal buildings are also applied in the construction area. Implementation work on the reallocation of responsibilities between the FOBL and the ETH is on track according to the FOBL. A detailed audit would not make sense until later on.

### **Original Text in German**