This is a summary of our report on the “Audit of the U.S. African Development Foundation’s Fiscal Year 2013 Compliance With the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002.” The Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 (FISMA) requires agencies to develop, document, and implement an agency-wide information security program to protect their information and information systems, including those provided or managed by another agency, contractor, or other source. The act also requires agencies to have an annual assessment of their information systems.

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) contracted with the independent certified public accounting firm of Cotton & Company LLP to conduct the audit. Cotton was required to conduct the audit in accordance with U.S. Government Auditing Standards. The objective was to determine whether the U.S. African Development Foundation (USADF) implemented selected minimum security controls for selected information systems to reduce the risk of data tampering, unauthorized access to and disclosure of sensitive information, and disruptions to USADF’s operations.

The audit concluded that USADF is in substantial compliance with FISMA and has developed and documented the majority of the information security policies and procedures required under FISMA. While USADF is in substantial compliance with FISMA, Cotton noted a number of weaknesses in which either documented policy and procedures were inadequate or management had a policy or procedure but was not following it.

Based on those weaknesses in USADF’s information security controls, OIG made 17 recommendations to help USADF strengthen its information security program. Management decisions were made on all 17 recommendations.