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AGENCY RESPONSE TO THE OIG REPORT ON MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES

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	Date:	November 13, 2008
	То:	Peter McClintock Acting Inspector General
	From:	Jovita Carranza Deputy Administrator
	Subjec	t: FY 2009 OIG-Identified Major Management Challenges
	Manage annuall challen	October 20, 2007, the OIG published a report, entitled: "FY 2009 Report on the Most Serious ement Challenges Facing the Small Business Administration." Each Inspector General publishes y in the Agency Financial Report (AFR) a list and assessment of major Agency management ges based on cost to taxpayer, visibility, impact on overall management, and other subjective SBA's eight major challenges fall into two major categories:
		Those that pose <u>risk of losing taxpayers' money</u> (i.e., guarantee purchase process, lender oversight, loan agent fraud, SBIC program risk); and Those that pose <u>risk of delivering inefficient programs</u> (i.e., human capital, IT security, contracting loopholes, 8(a) program).
	steward	e of my primary functions as Deputy Administrator is to ensure that SBA exercises cost-effective lship over its resources and offers transparent and accountable service to its customers. To e our focus on improved risk management through increased compliance and oversight, the strator launched his Initiative #9 early in 2007 and advanced two key objectives:
		Create a strong program management integrity and control culture beginning with a clear "tone from the top" about the importance of transparency, accountability, and efficiency; and Ensure an effective tracking and reporting process for demonstrating progress in improving management and reducing opportunities for waste, fraud, and abuse.
	challen to the ta Report focus o	A appreciates the cooperation and work done by the OIG in helping the Agency to address these ges. Instituting sound internal management processes lead to reduced government risk; lower cost axpayer; and reduced potential for waste, fraud and abuse. The Agency concurs with the FY 2008 that reflects improvements gained from a more serious monitoring process and a more consistent n addressing the challenges. In addition to reducing the number of red ("no progress" ratings) 2 to 1 since 2004, the report also reflects the following tangible results:
	2.	Improved ratings in all 8 rated challenges (i.e., in 20 of the 39 existing recommended actions). Achieved 12 green or "fully successful" ratings out of 39 actions. Reduced the number of recommended actions from 53 to 39, down from 136 in FY 2004.
	organiz	ly through our continued collaboration with the OIG can we create the high performing ation that the Congress asks, the President demands, and the taxpayers expect. Thank you and aff for your continued help in improving our management environment.

