



Management comments to the internal audit report of WFP's Aviation Service and Aviation Safety Unit (AR/13/07)

Management Comments

Management welcomes and appreciates the findings and recommendations made in this audit of WFP's Aviation Service and Aviation Safety Unit. Management views this audit report as a tool to improve and strengthen a well-established and essential activity of the Programme as well as that of the entire humanitarian community through the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS).

Recognizing the achievements made by the Aviation Service and Aviation Safety Unit, as well as the challenges faced, Management accepts the overall rating of this audit.

WFP Aviation Services has recently filled some essential positions. This is expected to impact positively on the way business is conducted, immediately addressing a number of the audit findings. Further organizational alignment is being proposed for consideration/approval in addition to the development and implementation of clear procedures on mandates, roles and responsibility of the Aviation Service and Aviation Safety Unit, changes which will be incorporated in the Aviation Safety Manual and the Aviation Transport Manual.

Although the current system is in compliance with the United Nation Aviation Standards for the Humanitarian and Peace Keeping Operations as well as the recommendations of the United Nations Aviation Advisory Group, Management has identified room for further improvement in ensuring that practices are adequately documented and institutionalized. In this regard, normative guidance and development of tools are of utmost importance in enabling the delivery of services at its best level possible.

Management has tasked Aviation Service to develop, in consultation with relevant divisions, a system for management of aviation specific risks with relevant processes for elevation, where needed. For example, in consultation with the Business Innovation and Support Office and the Logistics Division, Aviation Service will evaluate whether the Aviation Service should be separately analysed in WFP's internal control framework and assurance processes.

To ensure continuous improvement in the delivery of the services provided as well as the effectiveness and efficiency in doing business while addressing recommendations related to financial accountability and others, Management is closely monitoring the efforts made by the Aviation Service in developing an innovative tool to measure our field air operations performance and impact made to Humanitarian Community project implementation. This tool is expected to be piloted in the near future in our largest operations, namely South Sudan and DRC.