



**Management comments to the internal audit report of WFP's Hosting Arrangements for the REACH Secretariat (AR/13/08)**

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**Management Comments**

Management welcomes and appreciates the findings and recommendations made in the audit report of WFP's hosting arrangements for the REACH Secretariat.

Management is pleased with the overall rating of satisfactory as well as with the recognition that a number of positive practices and initiatives have been put in place.

Management is committed to continuous improvement and is pleased to report that recommendations have been addressed or are in the process of implementation, as follows:

- All staff /consultants and secondees have clear terms of reference and reporting lines in accordance with the REACH 2013 organogram. The REACH Secretariat will endeavour to work with HR to improve efficiency in future recruitment and performance evaluation processes;
- REACH Standard Operational Procedures have been developed, approved and disseminated on 14 December 2012 and there are regular, monthly calls and bilateral discussions with REACH facilitators to support planning, budgeting and work planning processes. As from 2013, annual project budgets have been prepared and linked to activities in the Country Implementation Plans;
- Annual work plans, progress and financial reports are prepared and submitted to the Steering Committee in accordance with the REACH MOU.
- Regarding programme monitoring and evaluation, performance criteria for hosting arrangement and the REACH M&E framework have been established along with related guidance;
- In terms of Enterprise Risk Management, REACH is developing a risk register template that is now being tested. We expect that this work will be finalised by end November 2013.

Management appreciates the insightful support provided by the Office of the Inspector General in identifying opportunities to improve internal controls, governance and risk management processes.