

Management comments to the Internal Audit Report of WFP Operations in Haiti (AR/14/07)

WFP management welcomes and appreciates the constructive observations and recommendations made by the Office of Internal Audit through this audit report on WFP operations in Haiti covering the period from 1 April 2011 to 30 September 2012. During this period, the office transitioned from a large-scale corporate emergency to a protracted relief and recovery operation.

Recommendations regarding both UN security standards and corporate organizational and reporting structure were immediately addressed and implemented. The Country Office took action and addressed seven areas identified under control activities for internal environment, risk assessment and monitoring.

WFP management has used the recommendations to help and guide the Country Office to focus particularly on the areas of risk and control that needed greater attention and improvement in addressing the challenges faced by the operation. For instance the Country Office developed a business continuity plan to ensure the effectiveness and the efficiency of WFP's response to beneficiary needs. The number of cooperating partners has been drastically reduced and all field level agreements have been revised, ensuring compliance with WFP standards.

Of note are the positive practices and initiatives identified in the audit report including among others: the process of developing a Country Strategy; the training delivered to cooperating partners; the introduction of new tools to improve oversight; and the finalization of a needs mapping exercise.

WFP management will work on the remaining recommendations to ensure that its operations in Haiti are successfully implemented with adequate controls and management of risk.