

Management comments to the Internal Audit Report of Select WFP Corporate Processes (AR/14/12)

Management acknowledges the findings and recommendations of the Office of Internal Audit (OIGA) contained in the audit report on Select WFP Corporate Processes identified in the context of the audit of the WFP response to the drought emergency affecting the Sahel region and the Mali conflict crisis.

Management welcomes the observations on positive corporate practices and initiatives including: the WFP Emergency Response Activation Protocol; the WFP Emergency and Preparedness intranet portal; and the preparation of a lessons learned exercise on the crisis as well as the availability of an online database containing all corporate lessons learned outcomes since 2010.

Management will ensure that the audit recommendations are addressed in a timely manner. Actions are underway to address the high risk recommendation relative to the roll-out of the corporate monitoring and evaluation (M&E) tool; in this regard, the complete roll-out of corporate M&E tools, which entails prioritizing countries involved in regional projects, is planned by December 2015.

By mid-2014, Management had successfully implemented actions to address three of the 12 medium risk observations, namely: an analysis of the risks of non-compliance with food storage specification by WFP transporters/implementing partners, as well as the design of a system to monitor compliance; a review of the process of programme implementation to enable the easy alignment of needs and project documents; and the preparation of guidelines to set up and terminate small, ad-hoc donor links and portals for emergency operations.

During 2014, WFP Management plans to address seven of the medium risk recommendations relating to: procedures to monitor staffing needs in Level 2 regional emergencies; a process to record liabilities and monitor overdue payables; the development of guidelines for the management of United Nations Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) revenue; a strategy to respond to interruptions in supplies of key food and nutrition products; a lessons learned exercise on purchases from local governments; and the enforcement of the second language requirement for staff.

During 2015, WFP Management will address, as part of wider corporate review processes, the remaining two medium risk recommendations relating to: strengthening the composition of the Regional Bureau Procurement Committee; and a review of the allocation of roles and responsibilities between different staff levels and types.

WFP Management appreciates the organizational strengthening opportunities identified by the audit report and is working towards further enhancement of WFP Corporate Processes.