



World Food Programme

Programme Alimentaire Mondial

Programa Mundial de Alimentos

برنامج الأغذية العالمي

July 2015

Internal Audit of WFP Operations in Nicaragua (AR/15/08)

Management Comments

WFP Management appreciates and welcomes the observations made by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) in its audit report on WFP Operations in Nicaragua (AR/15/08) for the period 1 January to 31 December 2014. Management has started implementing the agreed actions.

WFP Management further welcomes the OIG's recognition of WFP Nicaragua's positive practices and initiatives, including the alignment of its interventions to national development plans and programmes; good working relations with the Government of Nicaragua allowing for advocacy and enabling WFP to reach vulnerable populations; open and effective communication and engagement with private and government donors and a proactive approach by the CO to address funding challenges to and continuity of its operations.

WFP Management recognizes the overall conclusion of a partially satisfactory audit. With reference to the two high-risk observations on Programme Management and Programme Monitoring and Evaluation, Management has started implementing agreed actions including developing an advocacy plan to ensure project agreements and plans of operations are signed on a timely basis with key stakeholders; ensuring roles and responsibilities of partners are clearly defined in future agreements with them; strengthening operational handover plans with partners and applying the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) framework and tools whenever possible and relevant. Further, WFP Management will continue its ongoing efforts to develop evidence based programme interventions and communicate the challenges to donors as well as review the term of reference of field staff as regards data gathering responsibilities.

WFP Management is fully committed to ensure the implementation of all of the agreed actions within the agreed timeline and appreciates the opportunities to improve Country Office internal controls. WFP Management will also ensure that updates on the implementation status of the agreed actions are provided to OIG on a regular basis. In addition, WFP Management will ensure continued operational oversight and support for the Nicaragua Country Office to further strengthen internal control and risk management practices.

WFP Management appreciates the opportunities identified in the context of the Internal Audit to improve internal controls and processes and would like to thank the Office of Inspector General for the meaningful collaboration and support.