December 2015

Internal Audit of WFP Operations in Zimbabwe (AR/15/15)

Management Comments

WFP Management welcomes the observations made by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) in its audit report on WFP operations in the Zimbabwe country office for the period of 1st of January 2014 to 30th of June 2015. Management has already started the implementation of agreed upon actions and has put in place a robust action plan to ensure full compliance.

WFP Management appreciates OIG's recognition of the positive practices and initiatives including the adoption of a new resource mobilization strategy and the development of a prioritized list of activities aiming to facilitate decision-making in connection to alternative funding scenarios. Furthermore, Management appreciates the recognition of the strong technical capacity of WFP staff in the country office (CO) and the excellent working relations with the Government and Partners; the CO willingness to advance in innovative corporate initiatives and a commitment to consolidating and augmenting resilience building activities while maintaining a strong capacity to respond to humanitarian needs. The audit is seen as an instructive opportunity for the CO to align itself with the corporate quality control and requirements for WFP.

The CO has been proactive in taking immediate actions in the high-risk area by revising its standard operating procedures on programme design, beneficiary targeting, registration and verification processes.

Furthermore, Management is addressing medium risk issues related to staff capacity, asset management, resource and programme management and monitoring. The CO is in the process of reviewing and reassess its staffing capacity in order to ensure appropriateness and consistency with the objectives of the Country Strategic Plan 2016-2020 and forecasted contributions.

WFP Management appreciates the opportunities identified in the context of the Internal Audit Report to improve internal controls, governance systems and would like to thank the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) for the meaningful collaboration and support.