

## Round Table

November 9, 2018

### Management Response to Recommendations of the Summary Evaluation Report of the Somalia Country Portfolio Evaluation (2012-2017)

1. I am pleased to present the management response to the recommendations of the Summary Evaluation Report of the Somalia Country Portfolio Evaluation (2012-2017).
2. This report covers all WFP operations in the country during the evaluation period. This evaluation was timed to support the country office in the development of the interim Country Strategic Plan (iCSP). Overall, the evaluation findings indicate that WFP strategically positioned itself to adequately respond in areas of its comparative advantage such as emergency preparedness and response, common services and nutrition programming.
3. Management “*agrees*” with all recommendations.
4. Looking at the specific recommendations, **Recommendation 1** focuses on providing technical leadership in developing and piloting a national safety net programme. WFP is currently partnering with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to support with technical expertise the ongoing efforts by the Government and other humanitarian and development stakeholders in developing a social protection policy and subsequently a safety net programme in Somalia. WFP is also contributing to the testing of the safety nets system with its shock-responsive urban social safety net programme, expanded under the iCSP. Learning from the programme will be reflected in consultations with the Government and other actors to build the parameters of the national Somalia safety net.
5. As part of the ongoing initiatives led by the Government - supported by the UN and the World Bank – to develop voter registration and Digital identification documents (IDs), WFP will use its expertise to support efforts in the establishment of a national single registry. WFP is engaging in discussions to promote efforts to enable interoperability of established systems, drawing from WFP’s experience in scaling up SCOPE with partners.
6. **Recommendation 2** calls on WFP to develop a long-term approach to assist internally displaced persons. Management is committed to establishing a longer-term approach to supporting internally displaced persons as a key recovery objective and high priority in Somalia for lasting stability.
7. WFP is currently exploring possible scenarios for the expansion of urban livelihoods programmes for IDPs under the iCSP. This will be based on market

assessments, collaboration with other stakeholders - including private sector working in urban areas- leveraging on opportunities and learning from ongoing urban livelihood programmes in the region. A long-term approach is adopted whereby when feasible, employment opportunities will be fostered through skills training based on assessed market needs.

8. Shifting the primary objective of food for assets (FFA) and food for training (FFT) activities to creating productive assets and livelihoods is the highlight of **Recommendation 3**. WFP acknowledges the importance of strengthening its FFA and FFT activities to effectively build the resilience of targeted populations to withstand shocks, with demonstrable benefits over time.
9. WFP's FFA activities will be planned and implemented over a three-year cycle, ensuring alignment with the national and regional strategies. This is already the case in areas where WFP has multi-year funding for FFA. This longer-term approach to programming will help to build resilience to shocks in targeted communities. This is, however, contingent in receiving multi-year funding, and this funding modality will be sought to ensure the sustained implementation of activities. Also, WFP Somalia has elaborated a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework that will help to assess the short and longer-term results of FFA and FFT.
10. **Recommendation 4** calls for WFP to strengthen the integration of gender and protection considerations in programming. Management will prioritise efforts to integrate gender and protection considerations in programming by including a gender and protection position in the iCSP budget and by mainstreaming gender and protection in M&E to inform programme design. Also, WFP Somalia will place emphasis on improving partner capacity for mainstreaming gender and protection into programmes and monitoring.
11. WFP is requested, under **Recommendation 5**, to improve the targeting of beneficiaries, including internally displaced persons. Management fully recognises the criticality of effective targeting to ensure its assistance reaches those most in need in Somalia. WFP will review the targeting process following the Food Security Cluster's community-based targeting guidelines for Somalia.
12. **Recommendation 6** calls for the engagement of WFP in broader inter-agency dialogue for coordinating approaches to planning and implementing capacity building efforts. WFP is deeply committed to working closely with Federal and State structures - alongside humanitarian and development stakeholders - and to support them in strengthening the capacity of national institutions to assist food-insecure and vulnerable Somalis. WFP has established the specific Strategic Objective 5 under the ICSP, focusing on capacity strengthening in social protection and safety nets, nutrition, food systems, food security, and disaster management and early warning.
13. Under **Recommendation 7**, WFP is requested to engage with the Ministry of Health on annual strategic planning and provide support to the integration of

nutrition monitoring data into the ministry's existing health management information system. Management remains deeply committed to engaging with the Ministry of Health throughout the design and implementation of nutrition activities whilst also improving nutrition monitoring for the effective provision of nutrition assistance. The WFP nutrition database will provide disaggregation of coverage figures by urban, rural and IDP populations.

14. **Recommendation 8** calls on WFP to position and evaluate the contribution of school meals as part of an inter-agency education strategy. While a review of the school meal programme conducted in 2017 recognises the value of school meals on the individual food security of beneficiary children, it also underlines the very positive impact of the programme on nutrition outcomes. As such, Management is committed to engaging further with education stakeholders to ensure the role of school meals is recognised in supporting education outcomes and embedded in education strategies.

I would like to conclude my remarks on the management response here. Thank you Mr Chairperson.