



**Fw: OCHA Comments on the OIOS Audit of OCHA Zimbabwe**

**Gurpur Kumar** to: Tilchand Acharya, Malick M Diop

28/06/2011 12:14 PM

Cc: Fatoumata Ndiaye

History:

This message has been forwarded.

FYA, please.

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----- Forwarded by Gurpur Kumar/NY/UNO on 28/06/2011 12:14 PM -----

**From:** Valerie Amos/OCHA/NY/OCHA  
**To:** Gurpur Kumar/NY/UNO@UNHQ  
**Cc:** Fernando Arroyo/OCHA/FD/OCHA, Aimee Wielechowski/OCHA/NY/OCHA, Bethany Aquilina/OCHA/NY/OCHA, Zola Dowell/OCHA/NY/OCHA  
**Date:** 28/06/2011 12:06 PM  
**Subject:** OCHA Comments on the OIOS Audit of OCHA Zimbabwe  
**Sent by:** Marianne Moran@OCHA

Dear Gurpur,

Thank you for sharing the draft report on the audit of OCHA Zimbabwe and for seeking comments from my office.

Overall OCHA was pleased with the consultative process and the audit's findings. This was our first experience with OIOS's new audit reporting method and we found the new format straightforward.

I accept audit recommendations 1, 3 and 4. OCHA has addressed the issues raised in recommendation 4. My office will provide the relevant documentation in a follow-up email.

I feel that Recommendation 2 is quite broad and open to interpretation. I would appreciate further clarification on the specific processes and procedures that OIOS observed to be in need of strengthening. OIOS's proposed actions for closing the recommendation could also be more clearly articulated.

From OCHA's perspective, there are mechanisms in place for information sharing between the regional office and OCHA Zimbabwe, particularly related to cross-border issues. There may be opportunities for greater complementarity on analysis of regional trends and surge support. Advocacy is another area in which the regional office could add value to the Zimbabwe country office.

Please see the attached documents with additional comments. I look forward to receiving your response.

Regards,

Valerie Amos



OCHA Zimbabwe Audit Recs Matrix\_22 Jun.doc

**ANNEX I**  
**SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Audit of OCHA Zimbabwe**

Paragraph No.	Recommendation	Accepted? Yes/No	Implementation Date	Client Comments
15	OCHA should ensure that the risk framework includes procedures for monitoring that the risks included in the annual work plans are regularly updated and related mitigation strategies identified for implementation.	Yes	30/06/2012	6/11 - IN-PROGRESS:  OCHA is developing an Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) framework for the organization, based upon the UN Secretariat's ERM policy and methodology framework. Risks and mitigation strategies will be identified and detailed by headquarters, regional offices and field offices in their work plans. SPU will monitor these risks in accordance with the planning process timeline at the mid-year and end-of-cycle.
17	OCHA should consider establishing ways to strengthen synergies and complementarities with the regional office.	No		6/11 – OCHA rejects the recommendation as currently written because it is too vague. Please provide further clarification on the processes/procedures that are in need of strengthening.  From OCHA's perspective, there are mechanisms in place on information sharing between the regional office and OCHA Zimbabwe, particularly related to cross-border issues. Where synergies and complementarities can be improved, however, are in the areas of analysis and surge support. In particular,

26	<p>OCHA Zimbabwe should consider developing in conjunction with OCHA Geneva, a joint fundraising strategy to address the risk of sustained decline in the CAP funding</p>	Yes	31/12/2011	<p>advocacy by the regional office could also add value to the Zimbabwe country office.</p>
<p>6/11 – IN-PROGRESS:</p> <p>It is not yet evident that there is a sustained decline in funding to Zimbabwe. Funding requirements peaked in 2009 (the height of the political/economic crisis) at \$722 million, of which \$456 million (63%) was received. Requirements have reduced every year as the situation stabilised. Either side of that peak, requirements have been 'stable' at approximately \$450 - \$480 million, with funding at an average of \$286 million. The current CAP is not far off those averages and the funding pattern over time has been relatively consistent, with Food receiving the largest share of funding, and Coordination, Health, and WASH generally receiving the next most. Although this funding pattern is more or less in line with the acute elements of the emergency as reflected in the CAP, it does mean, however, that donors are staying away from elements of the emergency that humanitarian agencies (and the Government) have been consistently highlighting, namely early recovery. There are doubtless contextual, mainly political, reasons for this which no humanitarian fund-raising strategy will likely influence.</p> <p>OCHA HQ, as well as the regional office, will continue to support OCHA Zimbabwe's efforts in fundraising for the appeal. The following elements</p>				

				<p>have been developed and will be further strengthened: programme-based approach in CAP 2011; reinforcement of cluster support for the programme-based approach; funding advocacy; work with regional partners.</p>
31	<p>OCHA Zimbabwe should consult with UNDP country office to consider establishing long-term agreements with major vendors and institute a tracking system to ensure individual vendors do not exceed \$30,000 without submission of the cases for review to UNDP's Contracts, Assets and Procurement Committee for OCHA Zimbabwe procurement activities.</p>	Yes	31/12/2011	<p>6/11 – IMPLEMENTED:</p> <p>The UNDP CO only has one local staff member to deal with procurement for all non - Atlas Agencies/Funds and Programmes which include <i>inter alia</i>, UNDSS, UN Clinic, UNOCHA, GLOBAL FUND, UNAIDS, UNWomen, UNHabitat, Common Services, etc. The same staff member is also responsible for management of UNDP capital assets, for presenting cases to the Committee of Assets and Property (CAP) and, for inserting vendor data in Atlas, among other tasks. In this regard, UNDP lacked capacity to properly render services to all their clients. Immediately after the audit mission, OCHA met with the UNDP Operations Manager to further discuss the issue and to receive assurances that the problem identified would be corrected by UNDP and that UNDP would render the services for which OCHA is paying for. OCHA was then informed that UNDP was starting to implement a Procurement Tracking Tool to properly monitor the amount of purchases that all Agencies/Funds and Programmes were making through UNDP from suppliers with whom UNDP hadn't signed a Long term Agreement (LTA). At the same time, and through the</p>



				<p>Operations Management Team (OMT) a procurement working group was established, aimed at creating a Common Procurement Unit to serve all UN Agencies and sign LTAs with several suppliers. This unit is being created within the framework of "Delivering as One" and is part of the OMT Work Plan for 2011. Please see attached information on UNDP's "Procurement Tracking Tool."</p>
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