Progress Update DFID Management Response to the Independent Commission for Aid Impact recommendations on:

The Department for International Development's Support to the Health Sector in Zimbabwe, September 2012

ICAI Recommendation	Accept/ Partially Accept/ Reject	Original Management Response		March 2013 update
		Action	Target date	
Recommendation 1: As noted by the International Development Committee, DFID should support the Zimbabwe Ministry of Health to strengthen its capability to manage the health system	Accept	 DFID will work closely with other funding partners and with the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare (MOHCW) to ensure the newly launched Health Transition fund (HTF) strengthens the capability of the Ministry. DFID will consider with others the options for providing further technical assistance within HTF to strengthen the capability of the MOHCW. 	March 2013 June 2012	Complete. The activities carried out and the results delivered during first 15 months of the HTF have strengthened the capacity of the Ministry in a variety of ways (for example the level of resources available to them and increasing planning capacity). The HTF workplan for 2013 was agreed at the end of February 2013. It contains a series of activities in areas such as health policy planning, human resources, and monitoring and evaluation that will strengthen the Ministry even further. Complete. A Health Transition Fund Coordinator took up post last Summer. In September an additional health specialist was recruited through the HTF to provide technical support to the Ministry. Both posts sit in the Directorate of Policy and Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation in the MOHCW

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Recommendation 2: DFID should plan to address the risk of falling value for money if funding is scaled up further. This should include identifying the major value for money risks and specifying how they will be managed and monitored.	Accept	 3. DFID will produce a detailed Value for Money Strategy which will enable it to effectively prevent falling value for money in any of its projects. 4. Value for money will include agreeing measures to mitigate the risks of corruption taking into account those to be agreed by DFID in response to the ICAI review of DFID's approach to Anticorruption. 	April 2012 June 2012	Complete. Risks of corruption are addressed fully in DFID Zimbabwe's Anti-Corruption strategy. The strategy was approved in December 2012 and a summary published in February 2013.
Recommendation 3: DFID should continue its effort to promote the removal of user fees for pregnant women	Accept	5. DFID officials will seek ministerial approval for financial support to the Implementation of the Health Transition Fund	March 2012	Already Completed.

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and children under five and ensure that this is a core objective in future support to maternal health.		(HTF). 6. DFID will work with partners during implementation of the Health Transition Fund to continue to press for the removal of user fees as soon as possible.	Ongoing	Complete. Following extensive discussions and support from DFID and other partners, on 28 th February 2013 the Minister of Health announced that pregnant and lactating women, children under five years and people above 65 years of age will henceforth receive free medical treatment, starting with clinics in rural areas and moving to district hospitals and urban clinics.
Recommendation 4: DFID should ensure more comprehensive reporting across the delivery chains, with clearer linking of funds provided with performance delivered	Accept	7. DFID will continue to support efforts to monitor and track user fee charges through the Vital Medicines and Health Survey (VMAHS) and will also monitor this through accountability initiatives currently being designed as part of DFID's Operational Plan for Zimbabwe.	Quarterly VMAHS reporting September 2013	On track. DFID continues to fund the VMAHS which gives health facility trend data including on user fees. The most recent report was received in February 2013. We will also spend around £2 million by 2015 to support an accountability initiative to help revitalise community health centre committees and support citizen engagement in health care delivery. The community accountability contract negotiations should be concluded by May 2013.

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		8. DFID Zimbabwe's new Value for money Strategy will ensure a more consistent and systematic approach to collecting data on our projects which will strengthen monitoring of results delivered against funding provided. 9. The focus of the Annual Review and Project	April 2012 January 2012	On track. The first Annual Review of the Health Business Cases approved in 2012 is due to be
		Completion templates on Value for money will help support this process.	onwards	completed by June 2013.
Recommendation 5: DFID should take the lead in the donor community to agree a common definition of administrative costs	Accept	10. DFID Zimbabwe will work with other bilateral agencies in Zimbabwe to seek to agree a common definition of administration costs and	March 2013	On track. DFID chaired a meeting with other bilateral agencies in November. Following that a questionnaire was commissioned whose results are now being analysed. The results will be discussed with other bilateral agencies in March 2013 to decide whether a common definition can be reached and if so how that

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and require implementing partners to report administrative costs on that basis.		identify a suitable mechanism for regular reporting.		should be monitored.