

**Progress report on implementing Independent Commission for Aid Impact recommendations on:
DFID'S SUPPORT TO THE HEALTH SECTOR IN ZIMBABWE**

March 2012

ICAI Recommendation	Action specified in Management Response	Target date	March 2012 progress
<p>Recommendation 1: <i>As noted by the International Development Committee, DFID should support the Zimbabwe ministry of Health to strengthen its capability to manage the health system</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<p>2012 (progress reviewed annually in March).</p> <p>June 2012</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> On track. The first steering committee for the Health Transition Fund took place on 8th Feb 2012. The committee is co-chaired by the Permanent Secretary and a donor representative (DFID for year 1). Workplans have been developed for each of the four pillars of the HTF. Two pillars focus on human resources for health, and on health policy planning, monitoring and evaluation. Completed. A ToR for the Health Transition Fund Coordinator has been developed. The HTF coordinator will sit in the Directorate of Policy and Planning, M&E in the MOHCW. Further options for technical assistance are being considered.
<p>Recommendation 2: <i>DFID should plan to address the risk of falling value for money</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> DFID will produce a detailed Value for Money Strategy which will enable it to effectively prevent falling value for money 	<p>April 2012</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Completed. DFID Zimbabwe produced a Value for Money strategy that was approved in

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<p><i>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.</i></p> <p>Recommendation 3: <i>DFID should continue its effort to promote the removal of user fees for pregnant women and children under five and ensure that this is a core objective in future support to maternal health.</i></p> <p>Recommendation 4: <i>DFID should ensure more comprehensive reporting across the delivery chains, with clearer linking of funding to performance delivered.</i></p>	<p>in any of its projects.</p> <p>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 Anti-corruption.</p> <p>5. DFID officials will seek ministerial approval for financial support to the Implementation of the Health Transition Fund (HTF).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>June 2012</p> <p>March 2012</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Quarterly VMAHS reporting</p>	<p>January 2012.</p> <p>4. On track. DFID is in the process of producing a comprehensive Anti-Corruption strategy and recruiting an additional Governance adviser. This will serve to strengthen the Value for Money of DFID's programme.</p> <p>5. Completed. The Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) business case was approved in February. This includes £50 million for the HTF over 4 years.</p> <p>6. On track. DFID continues to press for the removal of user fees. Discussions are ongoing in the HTF coordination fora.</p> <p>7. On track. DFID continues to fund the VMAHS which is providing useful health facility trend data including information on user fees. And within the newly approved MNCH business case, £2 million will be used to support an accountability initiative to help revitalise community health centre committees and support citizen engagement in health care delivery. A tender process will be</p>

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<p>Recommendation 5: <i>DFID should take the lead in the donor community to agree a common definition of administrative costs and require implementing partners to report administrative costs on that basis.</i></p>	<p>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.</p> <p>9. The focus of the Annual Review and Project Completion templates on Value for money will help support this process.</p> <p>10. DFID Zimbabwe will work with other bilateral agencies in Zimbabwe to seek to agree a common definition of administration costs and identify a suitable mechanism for regular reporting.</p>	<p>April 2012</p> <p>January 2012 onwards</p> <p>June 2012</p>	<p>launched in the next few months.</p> <p>8. Completed. The recently approved Value for Money Strategy will ensure a more rigorous approach to VFM across the portfolio.</p> <p>9. On track.</p> <p>10. On track. The new Deputy Head of Office who arrives at the end of March will lead implementation of this action.</p>

NB. We will not report on completed actions in future progress reports.