

2013 Update of the DFID Multilateral Aid Review

Response by UNFPA

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) would like to express its appreciation for the Multilateral Aid Review (MAR) 2013 update. We welcome the opportunity to be fully engaged in the review process, and the collaborative manner in which this assessment has been conducted.

UNFPA has prioritised the recommendations set forth in the MAR and has been committed to and successful in improving operational and managerial efficiency and effectiveness at headquarters and in the field. UNFPA will give significant attention to these matters in the context of the implementation of the new Strategic Plan 2014-2017. As such, it is important to note that we were disappointed by our recent rating, which does not, in our view, accurately reflect the significant developments undertaken over the past two years.

The 2013 MAR report validated the efforts made by the organisation since the 2011 MAR, acknowledging, to name just a few areas, the clean audit opinion, the timely implementation of the IATI to improve transparency and the progress across all reform priorities, such as financial resources management, cost and value consciousness, and strategic and performance management. There appears to be, what we believe, a discrepancy between the narrative report and the ratings.

The Fund has a critical role to play, in the international development arena, in ensuring that sexual and reproductive health and rights, family planning and maternal health remain at the core of the development agenda. The partnership with the UK Government is instrumental to these efforts and therefore we look forward to continuing our engagement to address ways in which we can accurately measure and report on our progress of strengthening the organisation's capacity to effectively deliver aid and to achieving results that are adequately reflected in our scores and progress ratings in the future.

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