

14 January 2025

Follow-up Review of the Implementation of Agreed Actions from the 2023 Internal Audit of WFP Operations in Madagascar (AR/24/24)

WFP Management welcomes the observations made by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) through their follow-up review of the agreed actions identified in the 2023 internal audit report on WFP operations in Madagascar (AR/23/21), covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2022. The audit team conducted the remote fieldwork for the Madagascar Country Office follow-up review (AR/24/24) from 25 November to 6 December 2024.

WFP's current operations in Madagascar are outlined in its country strategic plan (CSP), covering the period 2024 -2028. This CSP capitalizes on achievements in shock preparedness, early warning, social protection and rural transformation to enhance long-term resilience by strengthening government capacities and expanding cooperation with partners. In 2023, WFP assisted 3.2 million individuals, including 19,000 persons living with disabilities. This was a 13 percent increase in people assisted compared to 2022 and 141 percent of the planned caseload.

WFP Management appreciates the outcome of the follow-up review, noting that concrete steps have been made to reinforce efforts undertaken since the December 2023 internal audit in the identification and mitigation of risks, in coordination with the Regional Bureau for Southern Africa and relevant headquarters divisions.

WFP Management recognizes that 19 of the 20 agreed actions have been implemented and closed in the corporate tracking system, corresponding to six high and three medium-priority observations. Regarding the one remaining open action on the digitalization of the delivery process, final closure is pending the implementation of the new Payment Instrument Tracking System and the completion of a headquarters cash-based transfer support mission to the country office in 2025. WFP Management notes that the Regional Bureau for Southern Africa and relevant headquarters divisions will provide guidance and technical support to ensure the outstanding action is implemented within the prescribed timeline.

WFP Management is grateful for the constructive and supportive way OIG undertook the follow-up review with the country office team. Implementation of the agreed actions in the 2023 audit will continue to serve as a crucial instrument to improving operational effectiveness, as well as to further strengthen the governance, risk management and internal control processes of WFP's operations in Madagascar.