March 11, 2015

Dear IRP Members,

I want to thank the Independent Review Panel for reviewing last year’s report and providing invaluable feedback. I am grateful that the collaborative spirit of working together contributes to improving reporting and enhanced accountability within our organisations. I assure you that I found all your comments important and they will be taken into consideration in our future reports to the INGO Accountability Charter. However, please allow me to provide some feedback to your comments:

- I welcome introduction of the ‘improvement analysis’ tool. My hope is that this helps us focus better on issues relevant to each organization, rather than on those prevailing industry matters that are a challenge and difficult to resolve to all of us. It is therefore important to avoid creating unrealistic expectations of NGOs, considering the nature of challenges and trade-offs that are made in establishing accountability priorities and ensuring the necessary investment.

- Our organization’s pillars of engagement are: advocacy, development and humanitarian response. Our work therefore calls for better ‘evidence’ of efficiency and effectiveness, reaffirming the Charter Company’s role in compiling and disseminating examples of good practice.

As you are already aware, World Vision considers this report a fitting opportunity to assess our internal accountability work, in departments and entities within our federated structure. The report is a product of extensive internal consultation, generation of crucial information, included in this report.
Unlike 2012, our 2013 report was a shorter update. Our 2010 report was widely recognized as having set new standards for Accountability Reporting. On this basis, to achieve brevity and readability, we ‘experimented’ with a short-form report in 2011. A more comprehensive report – attempting an even larger number of indicators was however prepared in 2012. This however changed again in 2013, when we reverted to a short report but with an improved format.

While our approach was appreciated and contributed to the newly adopted approach of coming up with a smaller update for agencies that demonstrated quality of accountability reporting, it seems our updated version was not entirely well received by the IRP. I take note of the Panel’s concern on the size and will make appropriate changes, while maintaining quality content. To make the document tight, I will include more internet links to relevant documents. I am committed to working with you to help attain the INGO Accountability Charter’s reporting requirements, while upholding high accountability quality reporting.

I am delighted our efforts in a number of areas have been considered ‘Good Practices’. I once again thank you for your feedback. Going forward, be assured that, we will thoroughly edit and review reports, to ensure they are of the highest quality. Attached are detailed comments to the IRP feedback table.

Regards,

Elie Gasagara
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Global Accountability
World Vision International.