Minutes of the 31st Board Meeting of the Independent Commission for Aid Impact 16th June 2014

<u>Attendees</u>

Chief Commissioner: Graham Ward (GW)

Commissioners: Diana Good (DG)

Mark Foster (MF)

Secretariat: Alexandra Cran-McGreehin (AC-M)

Sam Harrison (SH) Matthew Wilkins (MW)

External: Annabel Gerry, DFID (AG)

Phil Mason, DFID (PM) Stewart Dolier, DFID (SD)

Lance Croffoot-Suede, Contractor (LC-S)

Apologies: John Githongo (ICAI Commissioner)

Elspeth Robinson (Secretariat)

Details of the meeting: Monday 16th June 2014, 09:00 – 13:30

Welcome

1. The Chief Commissioner welcomed everyone to ICAI's 31st Board Meeting. He thanked everybody for their hard work on the ICAI Annual Report.

Minutes of the 30th Board Meeting

2. The minutes of the last ICAI Board meeting, held on 12th May 2014, were formally approved.

Action Log

3. AC-M led a discussion of progress against both outstanding and completed actions from previous Board meetings. There was a discussion of the planned July stakeholder event hosted by ICAI to follow on from past engagement activities. It was agreed that useful agenda items would include debating key findings from ICAI's recently published Annual Report and holding a discussion to feed into ICAI's review of DFID's Approach to Delivering Impact.

Correspondence and Meetings

- 4. AC-M summarised the correspondence received and recent meetings held. This included GW's meetings with: Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP; Fabian Hamilton MP; the Deputy Inspector General at SIGAR (the Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction); and Alan Downey, KPMG. GW also gave a speech at British Expertise and attended a Crown Agents event.
- DG reported on: the Oxford Governance Conference that she had attended; her meeting with WaterAid; and the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict.

Risk Management

6. AC-M led a discussion of risk management issues, particularly around ICAI's transition to Phase 2.

Programme Update

- 7. MW updated the meeting on the current status of the programme. He reported that the Year 3 and 4 programmes were on track and that the Lead Commissioner for the other government department ODA study would be GW. Commissioners emphasised the importance of carrying out programmatic as well as thematic reviews in the future ICAI work plan.
- 8. There was a discussion about the changing security situation in parts of East Africa and potential impacts on upcoming country visits. It was agreed that the situation would be closely monitored.
- 9. MW led a discussion on the briefing materials which Team Leaders should produce for both media and parliamentary engagement when reports are published. The proposed arrangements were agreed by Commissioners.
- 10. Commissioners requested that a mapping of ICAI's country visits by review be produced and then regularly updated.

Action: To produce a mapping of ICAI's country visits to date.

Discussion with Annabel Gerry, Head of Governance, Open Societies and Anti-Corruption Department

- 11. GW welcomed AG, PM and SD to the meeting. AG outlined progress on anti-corruption since our report of 2011. She highlighted the development of 28 anti-corruption country strategies; senior management leadership; training initiatives; and improved processes. She explained that DFID was working with partners, both multilaterals and bilaterals, to improve accountability and to drive the anti-corruption agenda. She also spoke of the work with the G8 in 2013.
- 12. There was discussion of programmatic approaches and some local successes. Commissioners raised the questions of how DFID assesses what it is realistic for it to aim to do in this arena; how it can measure the progress of its programmes; and how well country offices are able to flex programmes to take advantage of changing circumstances.
- 13. AG stated that an evidence paper was in development and that it would be discussed at a seminar in July she agreed to pass the details on to us. GW thanked AG for her contribution.

Action: DFID to pass on the anti-corruption evidence paper and details of the July session.

Phase 2 Update

14. ACM updated the meeting on the Early Market Engagement session held on Tuesday 10th June and on the procurement process for the Phase 2 contractor. It was also noted that the issue of ensuring appropriate accommodation for ICAI in future was important and that progress was critical.

Preparation for the International Development Committee

15. SH led a discussion on the upcoming engagements with the International Development Committee.

AOB

16. None

Action Log from 28th ICAI Board Meeting (3rd March 2014)

Secretariat	To arrange a follow-up meeting with NGO partners	Ongoing
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Action Log from 29th ICAI Board Meeting (7th April 2014)

Secretariat	To develop a draft a set of protocols for ICAI interaction on Twitter.	Ongoing
Secretariat	To fix a date and attendee list for the summer engagement event.	Ongoing
Secretariat	To update the Assessment Framework to include a question on compliance with new gender equality legislation.	Complete

Action Log from 30th ICAI Board Meeting (12th May 2014)

Secretariat	To keep ICAI's website updated on processes related to the transition.	Ongoing	1
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Action Log from 31st ICAI Board Meeting (16th June 2014)

Secretariat	To produce a mapping of ICAI's country visits to date.	
DFID	To pass on the anti-corruption evidence paper and details of the July session.	