Reviewer's report

Title: Health systems performance in sub-Saharan Africa: governance, outcome and equity.

Version: 2 Date: 17 February 2011

Reviewer: David Peters

Reviewer's report:

The authors have adequately addressed the reviewer's comments.

Discretionary Revisions

The paper would benefit by some discussion of what kind of research should pursued next. For example, rather than relying on a cross-sectional analysis, data sets exist to measure changes in governance and U5 Mortality, which would provide stronger evidence about the association than a cross-sectional. Governance interventions (or natural experiments) are difficult to study at the national level, but I would think that there are research opportunites at the sub-national level.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I still have no competing interests.