Reviewer's report

Title: Burden of micronutrient deficiencies by socio-economic strata in children aged 6 months to 5 years in the Philippines

Version: 4 Date: 10 October 2013

Reviewer: Susan Horton

Reviewer's report:

The authors have worked to respond to the (many) major comments made by two of the reviewers. I am satisfied with all except one of the response to my comments. I suggested that basing the whole productivity estimates attributable to stunting on one old study of rural Philippines, wasn't appropriate. Nor do I think adding one old study of Brazil is much of an improvement (page 17, table 7, line 3 of table starting "stunting". I will upload a study where table 8.2 (in the attached study) has a larger literature review, which suggests that the effects of stunting could be 10 times larger than studies [52] and [53] cited here. Hence, the "sensitivity analysis" of the stunting parameter is not very sensitive at all, since it amounts to + or - 20% of a value which in table 8.2 is shown to be at the very lowest end of the distribution in the literature. If the authors feel there are methodological issues with the newer studies with better data than the two studies now cited [52] [53], then I would be satisfied with a good rebuttal of why all these other studies can be discarded; alternatively these other estimates should at minimum be considered in the sensitivity analysis

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests