Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Transversal analysis of public policies on user fees exemptions in six West African countries

**Version:** 7  **Date:** 28 September 2012

**Reviewer:** Bart Criel

**Reviewer’s report:**

Following my previous review, the authors have submitted a revised version of the paper.

I have however the impression that my two comments on the better performance of exemption policies (be it in terms of the funding of these policies or in terms of the effectiveness of the systems put in place to monitor & evaluate the effects of these exemption policies) for health problems for which there is a vertical program (e.g. malaria, HIV/AIDS), has not really been understood and thus not addressed as I would have liked it. The data indeed suggest that fee exemption policies for health problems that are NOT covered by a specific program, and thus not benefiting from the specific resources (financial, human) programs bring along, seem to do worse in terms of funding and M&E…