

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

COUNCIL FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH JUNE 2017

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

UGANDA

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS COUNCIL
FOR THE ENDED 30TH JUNE 2017

THE RT. HON. SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Allied Health Professionals Council for the period ending 30th June 2017. These financial statements comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 30th June 2017, the Statement of Income and Expenditure, Cash Flow Statement and Statement of Changes in Equity for the period then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes, as set out on pages 1 to 9.

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Allied Health Professionals Council's as at 30th June 2017 and its financial performance and cash flows for the period then ended, in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards.

Basis of Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs). My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am independent of the Council in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995) as amended, the National Audit Act, 2008, the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (Parts A and B) (IESBA Code), the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) Code of Ethics and other independence requirements applicable to performing audits of Financial Statements in Uganda. I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IESBA Code, and in accordance with other ethical requirements applicable to performing audits in Uganda. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Other Matter

I consider it necessary to communicate the matters below other than those presented or disclosed in the financial statements.

- **Staffing gaps**

The Allied Health Professionals Council (AHPC) is required to regulate and control practices of Allied Health Professionals. Review of the staff establishment of the council revealed that out of 67 approved posts only 45 (67%) were filled leaving 22 (33%) vacancies. Among the key vacancies were; the inspection and quality insurance manager and the registration and licensing manager.

Management attributed the staffing gaps to the limited wage bill and failure to attract qualified staff in the key positions.

I advised the Accounting Officer to liaise with the stake holders to exploit avenues of increasing the wage bill and attracting qualified staff.

- **Un-registered laboratories**

I noted from the visits to some sampled laboratories that 11 out of the 17 laboratories visited had not yet registered with the Council contrary to section 32(11) of the AHPC Act. Six (6) of the laboratories had also not renewed their Licenses. This is a weakness on the side of the Council which management acknowledged and promised to engage law enforcement on the matter. This not only creates room for substandard laboratories to operate thus posing a danger to people's lives but also affects the revenue performance of the Council.

I advised the Accounting Officer to ensure that all eligible labs are duly registered or else be closed to safe guard the public. I await management action on the matter.

Management's Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), and for such internal control as is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, Management is responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless Council's management either intend to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISSAIs will always detect a material misstatement, when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users, taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISSAIs, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:-

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of Management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a

material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Council to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with Management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I also provide Management with a statement that I have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on my independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with Management, I determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. I describe these matters in my auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, I determine that a matter should not be communicated in my report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Muwanga', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

John F.S. Muwanga

AUDITOR GENERAL

13th December, 2017