



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL
ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF MUNI UNIVERSITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2017

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL
UGANDA

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF MUNI UNIVERSITY FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2017

THE RT. HON. SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying Financial Statements of Muni University, which comprise the Statement of Financial Performance, the Statement of Financial Position as at 30th June 2017, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes, as set out on pages 6 to 38.

In my opinion, the financial statements of the Muni University for the year ended 30th June 2017 are prepared, in all material respects in accordance with section 51 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015.

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 University 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.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in my professional judgment, were of most significance in my audit of the financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of my audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming my opinion thereon, and I do not provide a separate opinion on these matters. I have determined the matters described below as key audit matters to be communicated in my report;

Inadequate Controls Surrounding Management of Domestic Arrears

Domestic arrears refer to the total value of unpaid bills for goods and services rendered to a government entity, including wages and pension that remain outstanding at the closure of a financial year. There has been persistent accumulation of domestic arrears to unmanageable levels which has led to settlement of arrears that are not authorized, unbudgeted for, inadequately supported and in some instances there has been inadequate recognition and disclosure of the domestic arrears. The variances between the reported figures in the financial statements and the amounts verified by Internal Auditor General formed a basis of my qualification of consolidated GOU financial statements for the year ended 30th June 2016.

Consequently, domestic arrears were considered a key audit matter which needed to be examined to assess: the appropriateness of recording, recognition and disclosure of domestic arrears; the trend and the underlying factors; and the adequacy of the internal controls surrounding management of domestic arrears.

During audit planning, I focused on examination of domestic arrears in regard to goods and services, salaries and wages, pension and gratuity. I undertook the following procedures in relation to domestic arrears: trend analysis over a period of three years to ascertain the underlying causes of accumulation; reviewed budget and commitment control procedures to assess their effectiveness;_ascertained the authenticity of the supporting documentation and assessed the appropriateness of the accounting treatment. I also engaged the Accounting Officer to obtain explanations on findings to enable me arrive at my audit conclusions.

Based on the procedure performed, I observed that an amount of UGX.920,590,821 was irregularly incurred as domestic arrears outside the approved estimates appropriated by Parliament. Though the amount shows a downward trend from UGX.2,188,558,215 to UGX.1,118,860,696 over the period of two years, the continued accumulation of new domestic arrears is against the commitment control system initiated by Government. I further observed that there was no budget provision for settlement of previous year domestic arrears totalling to UGX.1,990,288,341 and funds were diverted from planned activities to settle them.

I noted that this may be as a result of existence of a weak and ineffective internal control system over the control and management of domestic arrears. For example, the government commitment control system was not adhered to.

The accounting officer explained that the main cause for the domestic arrears was under release of funds from Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development.

I advised management to adhere to the commitment control system in the management of public funds.

Other Matter

In addition to the matter raised above, I consider it necessary to communicate the following matters other than those presented or disclosed in the financial statements.

- **Non implementation of planned activities**

Review of the budget performance of the University ascertained that only UGX.2,535,000,000 out of UGX.4,550,000,000 appropriated by Government of Uganda as contribution for capital development was realized resulting in a shortfall of UGX.2,015,000,000.

As a result planned activities were not implemented. Notable among them were acquisition of land and procurement of specialized equipment budgeted UGX.220,000,000 and UGX.293,000,000 respectively.

Failure to carry out planned activities affects service delivery and attainment of the University objectives.

Management was advised to liaise with the Ministry of Finance to have the shortfall made good, so as to implement the planned activities.

Responsibilities of the Accounting Officer for the Financial Statements

Under Article 164 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995 (as amended) and Section 45 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015, the Accounting Officer is accountable to Parliament for the funds and resources of the University.

The Accounting Officer is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 and the Financial Reporting Guide, 2008, and for such internal control as management determines 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, the Accounting Officer is responsible for assessing the University's ability to continue delivering its mandate, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to delivery of services, unless Government either intends to discontinue the University's operations, or has 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 University'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 University's ability to deliver its mandate. 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 University to fail to deliver its mandate.
- 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 the 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 the 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.F.S. Muwanga', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

John F.S. Muwanga

AUDITOR GENERAL

10th December 2017