



**THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**

**REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL**

**ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF UGANDA EMBASSY IN PARIS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2017**

**OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL**

**UGANDA**

**REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**OF UGANDA EMBASSY IN PARIS FOR THE YEAR**  
**ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2017**

**THE RT. HON. SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT**

**Qualified Opinion**

I have audited the accompanying Financial Statements of Uganda Embassy in Paris, which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017, the Statement of Financial Performance 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 14 to 42.

In my opinion, except for the possible effect of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of my report, the financial statements of the Uganda Embassy in Paris for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 are prepared, in all material respects in accordance with the Public Finance Management Act, 2015.

**Basis of Qualified Opinion**

- **Cash in Transit reported in the Financial Statements**

The Mission, in Note 18 - Cash and Cash equivalents, reported a cash in transit figure of UGX.248,491,354, purportedly remitted to Ministry of Finance as Non Tax Revenue, but was not supported by any form of schedule or receipt from the recipient account. The figure has been reported as cash and cash equivalents for over two years. The anomaly was attributed to the former accountant who misappropriated funds.

The above circumstances casts doubt on whether the funds were remitted to finance and I cannot rule out misappropriation. In addition, the financial statements are also misstated in that regard.

Management in response acknowledged that they could not reconcile the figure due to lack of the supporting documents and stated that the culpable officer has since been recalled from his workstation to answer to the anomalies.

I await the outcome of the actions taken by the concerned government bodies towards recovering the funds and/or reprimanding the culpable officer.

- **Funds Misappropriated**

Audit noted that funds totaling €48,350.61 was reported as misappropriated in the preceding financial period (2015/16). The payment vouchers relating to the amount from the expenditure account were neither signed nor approved by the Accounting Officer, as required. Besides, there was no supporting documentation as evidence of accountability for the funds.

The funds meant to implement Mission activities were lost and the financial statements expenditure figure was overstated, in that regard. This affects the comparative figures of the current period's financial statements.

Management acknowledged that the funds were neither accounted for nor recovered, implying that it was misappropriated.

I advised that, since the former Accountant was still an employee of government, he should be tasked to refund the money.

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 Embassy 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, are of most significance in my audit of the financial statements of the current period.

I have determined that there are no key audit matters to communicate in my report.

### **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 Embassy.

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 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 Embassy's ability to continue delivering its mandate, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to delivery of services, unless Government either intends to discontinue the Agency'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 Embassy'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 Embassy'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 Embassy 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**

8<sup>th</sup> December 2017