



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF UGANDA HIGH COMMISSION, LONDON

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2017

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

UGANDA

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF UGANDA HIGH COMMISSION,LONDON FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2017

THE RT. HON. SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying Financial Statements of Uganda High commission, London which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 30th June 2017, the Statement of Financial Performance, 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 1 to 24.

In my opinion, the financial statements of the Uganda High Commission, London 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 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.

Emphasis of Matter

Without qualifying my opinion, I draw your attention to the cash and cash equivalents balance in the financial statements:

- **Unauthorized excess expenditure**

Review of the statement of appropriation revealed that a sum of UGX.57,518,166 was incurred over and above the budget on two items without necessary approval as follows;

Item	Budget	Actual	Excess
Employee costs	3,222,270,000	3,266,409,026	44,139,026
Consumption of property	206,239,000	219,618,140	13,379,140
Total			57,518,166

The practice contravenes the intentions of the appropriating authority.

The Accounting officer attributed the anomaly to the posting of new staff to settle insurance and rate charges for the commercial property which had not been budgeted for.

I advised management to always comply with the budget provisions and where inevitable seek necessary authority before reallocation of funds in accordance with the prescribed procedures.

- **Decline in Non tax revenue(NTR) collections**

Review of the statement of Financial performance revealed that the NTR collections declined from UGX.2,810,512,319 in 2015/2016 to UGX.1,679,062,853 in 2016/2017 indicating a decrease of UGX.1,131,449,466 (40%). Further review of implementation of the mission charter revealed that whereas the High Commission

was expected to attract 100,000 tourists from UK and Ireland during the year, only 7,133 visas were issued implying a variance of 92,867.

Management attributed the decline to reduction of the visa fees from \$100 to \$50 and issuance of visas at the port of entry in a bid to increase tourist numbers.

Management is advised to liaise with the ministry of foreign affairs and the immigration department so as to carry out comprehensive analysis of tourist numbers with a view of determining the impact of decrease in visa fees to the non-tax revenue realized by the High Commission and the Immigration department.

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 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 Embassy's ability to continue delivering its mandate, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to delivery of services, unless Government either intends to discontinue the embassy'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 'John F.S. Muwanga', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

John F.S. Muwanga

AUDITOR GENERAL

4th December, 2017