



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF
UGANDA REGISTRATION SERVICES BUREAU-LIQUIDATION ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2017

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL
UGANDA

**REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF
UGANDA REGISTRATION SERVICES BUREAU-LIQUIDATION ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2017**

THE RT. HON. SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT

REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of the Uganda Registration Services Bureau-Liquidation Account for the year ended 30th June 2017. These financial statements comprise of the statement of financial position, the statement of financial performance, and cash flow statement together with other accompanying statements, notes and accounting policies.

In my opinion, the financial statements of the Uganda Registration Services Bureau-Liquidation Account 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, and the Financial Reporting Guide, 2008.

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 Statement's section of my report. I am independent of the Ministry 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 attention to the following matter described in note 21 of the financial statements.

- **Receivables - UGX. 6,252,764,629**

I observed that outstanding receivables amounted to UGX.6,252,764,629. These comprised of funds payable to the office of the official receiver by companies in liquidation and funds borrowed by other agencies from the liquidation funds.

Included in the receivables amount is UGX.3,353,802,640 borrowed by the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional affairs to pay rent for the department of the Registrar General in the Ministry of Justice. The continued holding of these funds by the debtors increases the risk of the outstanding receivables turning into bad debts.

Management explained that they are in the process of engaging the Law Council and an external debt recovery firm to support the Liquidation unit in recovery of the outstanding debts.

I await the outcome of management action on the matter.

- **Appointment of Data Entry Clerks**

UGX.108,000,000 was spent on salary and 10% contribution to NSSF for Data Entry Clerks. The Clerks are employed on temporary appointment contract, based on approval of funds by the court. Most of them have served for more than two (2) years having been first appointed on 7th April 2014 with their current appointment dated 7th July 2017.

However, some entry clerks have been serving for a very long period of time on temporary terms as compared to the recommended one (1) year period provided in the Human Resource Manual. Besides, these temporary appointments have not been authorized by the board.

There is a risk of suing the entity because of irregular employment terms. There is also a risk of mishandling key information in the Unit, as staffs that have continued to be employed temporarily for such a long time keep accessing and handling vital Unit records.

Management explained that the data entry clerks under the Liquidation Section are employed under the normal and acceptable terms for contract staff as per terms approved by the URSB Board of Directors (BOD) with a one year contract term renewable upon satisfactory performance. The data entry clerks are contract staff and were approved by the BOD as provided for in the HR manual.

Although management explained that there was a Board resolution, no minute was available. I advised the Accounting Officer to liaise with the Board to create posts for data entry clerks instead of allowing people to serve on temporary terms, yet they are holding permanent positions.

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 Uganda Registration Services Bureau-Liquidation Account.

The Accounting Officer is also responsible for the preparation of 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 Bureau's ability to continue delivering its mandate, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to affecting the delivery of the mandate of the Uganda Registration Services Bureau-Liquidation Account, and using the Financial Reporting Guide 2008 unless the Accounting Officer has a realistic alternative to the contrary.

The Accounting Officer is responsible for overseeing the Uganda Registration Services Bureau-Liquidation Account's financial reporting process.

Auditor's 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 the 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 judgment and maintain professional skepticism 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 our 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 Uganda Registration Services Bureau-Liquidation Account's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by 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 Uganda Registration Services Bureau'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 Uganda Registration Services Bureau-Liquidation Account 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 Accounting Officer 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 Accounting Officer with a statement that I have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with him/her 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 the Accounting Officer, 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 long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John F.S. Muwanga

AUDITOR GENERAL

KAMPALA

19th December, 2017

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS