Office of the Auditor General

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



What You Ought To Know

JUNE 2024

Background

The Office of the Auditor General (OAG) is the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) of Uganda, and it became a body corporate after the enactment of the National Audit Act, 2008. The headquarters of the OAG are located at Audit House, Plot 2C Apollo Kaggwa Road, Kampala.
The Office has 11 Branch Offices located in Gulu, Fort Portal, Mbarara, Masaka, Mbale, Soroti, Jinja, Kampala, Hoima, Arua, and Moroto.

Below is a map of Uganda showing OAG Branch Offices and their areas of coverage.



Vision

A model Supreme Audit Institution that adds value to society.

Mission

To provide our stakeholders with independent audit results that promote good governance for better service delivery.

Core Values

- **Integrity and Ethical conduct:** Being honest and morally upright.
- **Professional competence:** To act with diligence, proficiency, and team spirit.
- **Objectivity:** Being impartial.
- **Service – delivery oriented:** Value addition centered.

The Functions and Powers of the Auditor General

As prescribed under the National Audit Act, 2008;

a. Audit and report on the public accounts of Uganda and of all public offices including the courts, the central and local government administrations, universities and public institutions of a similar nature, and any public corporation or other bodies or organisations established by an Act of Parliament.
b. Audit of Public Monies in private organisations and bodies.
c. Carry out procurement audits.
d. Audit all government investments.
e. Audit classified expenditure.
f. Audit treasury memoranda.

g. Conduct Value for money audits and specialized audits in respect of any project or activity involving public funds.
h. Conduct Special Audits and Forensic Investigations.
i. Engage private auditors to assist him or her in performance of his or her functions.
j. Recommend to Parliament that a person in default or responsible for any loss or deficiency established in the course of audit, shows cause why he or she should not be surcharged with the amount.
k. Refer to an appropriate committee of Parliament any non-compliance, deficiency and nonattainment of Value for Money.
l. Make recommendations to the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to minimise unproductive expenditure and maximize revenues, as well as averting any loss.
m. Grant warrants for the withdrawal of public funds from the Consolidated and Petroleum Funds

Mandate of the Auditor General

The Office of the Auditor General (OAG) is the Supreme Audit institution of Uganda (SAI).
The office is a body corporate established by the National Audit Act 2008 and is headed by the Auditor General who is appointed under Article 163(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda 1995 as amended.

The mandate of the Auditor General as provided in Article 163(3) of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda and detailed in Sections 13(1) and 18 of the National Audit Act 2008, is to audit and report to Parliament on the accounts of all public offices, including the courts, central and Local government administrations, universities and public institutions of like nature,

and any public corporations or other bodies established by an Act of Parliament.

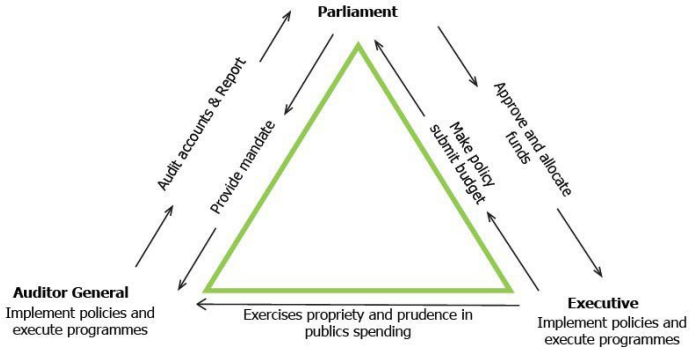
In addition, Article 163(3) (b) of the Constitution requires the Auditor General to conduct financial and value for money audits with respect to any project involving public funds, while Article 163(4) requires him or her to submit to Parliament a report of the accounts audited by him or her for the financial year immediately preceding and audits undertaken under clause 3.

Article 154(3) requires the Auditor General to approve the withdrawal of funds from the consolidated fund as prescribed by Parliament.
Furthermore, section 19(2) of the NAA, 2008 as amended by section 82(4), of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) 2015, requires the Auditor General to audit and report to Parliament within 6 months after the end of the financial year.

Accountability and Reporting

The Office plays a vital role in the National Accountability Value Chain in providing assurance on the use of funds appropriated by Parliament and management of other resources by the Executive in the delivery of public services.

An illustration of the accountability cycle, which shows Auditor General's relationship with Parliament and the Executive.



As illustrated, Parliament provides the mandate and discusses the Auditor General's report in executing its oversight role, whereas the Executive provides resources (budget) to the Auditor General and in turn, the Auditor General provides audit assurance on management of resources.



Presentation of the Audit Report to the Speaker of Parliament

The Auditor General's Statutory Reporting Period

Whereas the operation periods of Government Ministries, Departments, Agencies and Local Governments follow the Financial year running from 1st July to 30th June the following year, the Audit year runs from 1st January to 31st December following the enactment of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 under section 82 (4).

As such, the Auditor General is required to submit a report of the

accounts audited annually to Parliament by 31st December for the year immediately preceding.

Who audits the Auditor General?

Section 36(1) of the National Audit Act, 2008 states, "The accounts of the Office of the Auditor General shall, in each financial year, be audited and reported upon by an auditor appointed by Parliament".

The OAG Structure

The macro-structure of the OAG comprises the Auditor General, who is the head as stipulated in the law, deputized by the Assistant Auditor General- Audit(AAG/A), who is the technical coordinator of the Audit Directorates and the Assistant Auditor General- Corporate(AAG/C), who is the head of the Corporate Division and also the Accounting Officer.

Our Directorates

Audit Division

Central Government 1 and 2

These undertake financial audits in Central Government Ministries, Departments, Agencies, Projects, Public Universities, Uganda Missions abroad, Commissions, National referral Hospitals and Consolidated Government of Uganda Financial Statements.

Local Authorities 1 and 2

These conduct financial audits on the financial statements of District Local Governments, Cities, Municipal and Town Councils, Lower Local Governments, Schools and Tertiary Institutions.

Value for Money and Specialised Audits (VFM)

A VFM audit is an independent examination that provides an objective and constructive assessment of the extent to which the audited entity has used its resources in carrying out its responsibilities with due regard to economy, efficiency, and effectiveness.

The VFM Directorate endeavors to evaluate if activities, programmes or projects involving public funds in ministries, departments, local government councils and any public organizations have been managed with regard to economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

Forensic Investigations and Information Technology (FIIT)

This Directorate is mandated to conduct Forensic Investigations, Special Audits, Information Systems Audits and Financial Audits in selected government entities. In addition, the Directorate provides support to other OAG Directorates in regard to IT systems controls, reviews and data analysis.

Corporate Division

This is the administrative wing of the Office with five directorates;

- Finance and Administration
- Human Resource Management and Development
- Information Technology
- Quality Assurance and Audit Development
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Legal Services

The above Directorates support the audit function by providing financial and administration services, human resources, quality

assurance, legal services, communication and stakeholder engagements, Parliamentary liaison and general office operations.

Finance and Administration

The Directorate supports the Office through;

- provision of financial management and administration services,
- planning and budgeting,
- guiding the accounting processes,
- asset management and availability,
- prepa ration of periodic financial,
- monitoring & evaluation,
- performance reports,
- provision of effecient and effective procurement required services

Human Resource management and Development (HRMD)

The Human Resource Management and Development function is mandated to attain higher organizational performance through staff recruitment, retention and management of the retirement process and staff welfare.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) development is considered a critical requirement for the OAG in attaining higher organizational performance and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of internal and external communications.

Quality Assurance and Audit Development (QAAD)

The Directorate is responsible for quality assurance reviews to ensure that audits are carried out in compliance with the relevant

auditing standards, as well as audit development, which involves the development of audit manuals and guidelines and the training of staff in audit related areas.

Legal Services

The primary role of the Legal Directorate is to provide timely legal advice and guidance to the Auditor General and staff in respect of matters involving the Auditor General's constitutional and statutory mandate. It is further vested with the authority to avert legal risks in the operations of the OAG by emphasizing compliance with the existing legal framework.

Stakeholder Engagement

This directorate is responsible for effective communication and stakeholder engagement to enhance utilization of audit reports, increease demand for accountability and raise OAG profile.

This function comprises the following departments;

Stakeholder Engagement

This department is responsible for managing the implementation of stakeholder engagement strategies, as well as fostering collaboration with various stakeholders.

Communications

This aims at promoting effective internal and external communication. In this regard, the function supports the office by ensuring that stakeholders' information flow is effectively maintained, as required for any effective Supreme Audit

Institution (SAI) based on International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions which states that "the extent to which a SAI is able to make a difference to the lives of citizens depends on the SAI Principle of Communicating effectively with stakeholders.

Parliamentary Liaison

This function provides technical support to parliamentary oversight committees; Public Accounts Committee (PAC) Central, Committee on Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises (COSASE) and PAC Local Government. It also coordinates and links the Office of the Auditor General and Parliament.

International Relations

International Relations is responsible for facilitating international relations strategies, donor relations, and partnerships. The department coordinates the implementation of Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), partnership agreements and the OAG's participation in international audit engagements.

Internal Audit and Risk Management

The function supports the audit process by providing independent, objective assurance and a consulting function that strengthens OAG's operations. This is done through a systematic evaluation aimed at improving the effectiveness of risk management, control, and governance processes.

How we engage our Stakeholders

In line with the broader mission for the Office to provide her stakeholders with independent Audit Results that promote good governance for better service delivery, the Office also updates her stakeholders on key developments using the;

- OAG website (www.oag.go.ug)
- Email (info@oag.go.ug)
- Social media, our Twitter handle is @OAG_Uganda
- Quarterly Newsletter, which updates stakeholders on key developments in the Office. The Issues are available on the OAG website.

The Office has also developed other major innovations to facilitate stakeholder involvement in undertaking impactful audits that target service delivery;

The Citizen Feedback Platform (CFP)

The CFP is a mobile-based communication tool that enables citizens to share feedback on issues of accountability and service delivery in a fast and confidential manner. The tool enables the Auditor General to receive feedback and analyze it to inform the planning, execution and reporting of respective audits.
The App can be downloaded from the Google PlayStore.





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