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Investigations into the possible fraud at the National Medical Store (NMS) in Uganda

Reference is made to the previous report dated 31 August 2023 regarding suspicions of fraud on a grant to the National Medical Store (NMS) in Uganda. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (MFA) supported NMS under the Health Sector Support Programme II. In 2005, the MFA disbursed DKK 1,409,273 to NMS.

In 2007, the MFA received a report about a suspicion of fraudulent double delivery of drugs. An internal forensic audit was conducted and submitted to the Uganda Criminal Investigation Department for further investigation. The estimated amount of Danish funds under suspicion was DKK 700,000.

A criminal proceeding was instituted in the High Court of Uganda against the suspected staff. The accused were interdicted and dismissed from their job. Following, the interdicted officers instituted a counterclaim against NMS for wrongful dismissal. NMS lost both the main suit and the counterclaim because the evidence submitted was not sufficient to support the allegations. NMS was ordered to pay the dismissed officers for the wrongful dismissal. Since the suspected fraud was not confirmed by the court, the Danish funds were no longer under suspicion of being misused.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs thus regards the case as closed without loss of Danish funds.