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Irregularities at CERVO d'Afrique in Burkina Faso

Reference is made to the previous report dated 8 July 2021 regarding mismanagement of funds by CERVO d'Afrique in Burkina Faso. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (MFA) committed DKK 1,064,959 to CERVO d'Afrique, and DKK 1,003,071 was disbursed to the partner.

The final audit in 2006 concluded that there had been ineligible expenses of approx. DKK 649,297 (CFA 56,053,264).

The MFA demanded that the ineligible expenses be reimbursed. The case was presented in court in May 2018. Two out of the three accused were found guilty. They received a suspended sentence of 36 months' imprisonment and were ordered to reimburse the full amount to the MFA. After appeal by the defendants, the court ruled publicly, in absentia, in a criminal matter and as a final instance in March 2025. The court upheld the verdict rendered by the tribunal in all its provisions, ordering the defendants to pay the Danish Embassy the sum of CFA 56,053,264 in reimbursement and CFA 1 in damages, as well as CFA 1,000,000 (approx. DKK 11,500) in costs incurred. The judges now have two months to decide on the full verdict for possible execution and the closure of the case.

A new report will be forwarded when there are further developments in the case.