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Irregularities at a partner under the Danida Business Partnership Programme in Vietnam

Reference is made to the previous report dated 23 March 2023 regarding suspicions of fraud on a grant to a Danish and a Vietnamese company under the Danida Business Partnership programme aimed at supporting a green energy production. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (MFA) has disbursed DKK 3,235,548 for the period 2014-2021 to the companies.

A forensic audit found indications of misrepresentation of supporting documents of ineligible expenses of DKK 289,800 in connection with reimbursement claims of consultant costs submitted by the Vietnamese partner. The Danish partner agreed and fully covered the ineligible expenses in December 2021.

Based on consultations with a lawyer, the Danish Embassy in Hanoi submitted a crime notice regarding the case to the police on 8 December 2023. The Embassy followed up by contacting the police multiple times but did not receive any response as to whether the case would be processed or not. In that light, the lawyer assessed that the likelihood of the police taking up the case was low. The lawyer also viewed that the Embassy's submission of the notice of criminal information constitutes the compliance of its obligation of crime denunciation and reflects its efforts to protect its legal rights and interests.

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