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Suspicion of irregularities in relation to local partner of Danish Refugee Council in Central African Republic

The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) had a Humanitarian Strategic Partnership Agreement with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) running from 2018-2021. In line with the agreement, DKK 678 million was disbursed out of which DRC allocated DKK 4 million for DRC's activities in the Central African Republic (CAR).

Suspicion of misuse of funds was reported by the DRC country management to the DRC code of conduct focal point at the DRC regional office level in July 2021. The suspicion relates to intentional inclusion of false prices for accommodation in travel accounts settlements. The initial suspected amount was DKK 75,000. After the DRC carried out an investigation mission with two DRC internal investigators, it was concluded that the amount in question was DKK 72,844.

DRC launched an investigation and it has been concluded that the suspected amount has been misused.

Following the investigation, DRC initiated a number of corrective actions in light of the suspicion and investigation. These include fraud and corruption trainings for all DRC CAR operations, follow-up on the investigation findings via disciplinary actions, as well as further risk mitigating measures to be implemented.

The MFA is in dialogue with DRC to establish the Danish share of the suspected amount and is following up on further sanctions and mitigating actions.

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