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TILSKUD

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Suspicion of irregularities in relation to International Media Support's activities in Mali

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (MFA) supports International Media Support (IMS) through a Strategic Partnership for the period 2022-2025. The partnership involves yearly grants of DKK 21 million. IMS supports projects in Mali implemented by Association des Professionnels de la Presse en ligne au Mali (APPEL MALI). The sum of grants for IMS's partnership with APPEL MALI is DKK 187,600 which has been disbursed in 2023 and 2024. All funds come from the Danish grant.

The suspicion first arose in January 2024 when staff from the IMS Niger Sahel Programme discovered lacking documentation for costs related to workshops and events. The amount under suspicion was DKK 14,400.

IMS initiated an audit process which further uncovered lacking documentation and raised suspicion of potential double funding. In April 2024, IMS was notified that the audit had been reopened following submission of the missing documentation from the local partner. An updated audit report confirmed that all expenses were now documented and that no suspicion of double funding was sustained. Considering APPEL MALI's low financial and administrative capacity, IMS will include additional capacity-building measures in any future potential collaboration with APPEL MALI.

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