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## **Suspicion of irregularities in relation to Philippine Business for Social Progress' (PBSP) activities in the Philippines**

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The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark provides support to Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP) with the aim of creating sustainable income opportunities for smallholder farmers in the Philippines. PBSP is the administrative partner in a consortium with Kennemer Foods International, Agronomika Finance Corporation and Mars Foods. A total of DKK 8 million has been granted for the period 2018-2025 of which DKK 7,992,546 has been disbursed to PBSP.

The suspicion of irregularities arose after a spot compliance review in 2024 showed probable irregularities in the supporting documents of per diem claims, including falsification of travel expense reports.

Following, PBSP conducted an internal investigation, which found that three employees had been falsifying travel expense documents amounting to DKK 1,800. The employment of the three employees was terminated, and the funds of DKK 1,800 has been returned to the project funds. Further steps have been taken to secure compliance and minimize the risk of financial irregularities.

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