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Irregularities in relation to Plan International Egypt's activities in Egypt

Reference is made to the previous report dated 19 March 2025 regarding suspicions of falsification of reporting and lack of quality on a grant to Plan International Egypt (PIE) with services provided by two local service providers with the aim of creating jobs for youth through job training. DKK 220 million has been granted to Plan International Denmark under the Danish-Arabic Partnership Programme for the period 2022-2027, of which DKK 43,095,539 has been granted to PIE. The two service providers have in total received DKK 1,007,140.

Plan International's Counter Fraud Unit (CFU) performed a spot check on the two service providers which confirmed that both service providers falsified beneficiary data and provided ineffective training. The CFU concluded that the project team in Egypt failed to fulfil their oversight responsibilities, leading to insufficient monitoring, weak verification processes, and a lack of accountability in service provider performance.

Consequently, PIE completed a new tender for the 2025 training and job placement activities instead of automatically renewing contracts with previous service providers. The service contracts have been revised by PIE's legal and project teams, incorporating clear targets, milestone-based payment schedules, and detailed reporting requirements. Workplans have been thoroughly reviewed with the selected providers. Roles and responsibilities for quality control within PIE have now been clearly defined, including increased field visits and direct beneficiary communication to validate participation and cross-check reported data.

Finally, PIE has taken disciplinary measures against staff who neglected their monitoring responsibilities, in consultation with the organisation's lawyer and in accordance with Egyptian law. The amount paid to the two service providers was declared ineligible and has been removed from the financial reporting to the DAPP secretariat. PIE has acknowledged its obligation to reimburse the MFA for the ineligible amounts, and the repayment process has been initiated.

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