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Suspicion of irregularities regarding a project supported by Center for Kirkeligt Udviklingssamarbejde (CKU), in Cambodia

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark provides annual support of DKK 25 million to the Center for Church Development Cooperation (CKU) for the implementation and management of pool funds. CKU collaborates with Danmission, which carries out activities in Cambodia through its local partner, Continued Learning Organisation (CLO). DKK 200,000 has been disbursed annually for this project during the period from 2022 to 2024.

In July 2024, Danmission conducted a monitoring visit to CLO, during which irregularities were identified in the handling of HR costs. CLO made unauthorized payments to employees involved in the project, which did not include the necessary taxes and other legal deductions. This irregularity arose because the project commenced mid-year, and the salary budget allocated was based on a higher salary than what was actually paid through payroll. CLO has acknowledged the issue and demonstrated full transparency throughout the process. The amount under suspicion is DKK 36,676.

Danmission has established an internal committee dedicated to reviewing CLO's systems and processes, ensuring that any amounts under suspicion are classified as ineligible and excluded from the final project accounts. Additionally, CLO has strengthened its financial capacity by hiring financial staff within the leadership team. Danmission and CLO have agreed to continue their collaboration, provided that the remaining issues are resolved satisfactorily. The outstanding matter involves determining the final reimbursement amount that CLO owes to Danmission. Furthermore, Danmission has requested that CLO change its auditor, as the current auditor has not met the expected standards.

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