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## **Suspicion of irregularities in relation to local partner of Danish Refugee Council in Somalia**

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The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (MFA) provides support for Danish Refugee Council (DRC) through a strategic partnership for the period 2022-2025 with a yearly grant of DKK 179 million. DRC cooperates with DRC's field office in Somalia with the aim to improve livelihoods, enhance socio-economic integration, and build resilience for the local communities in the region between Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia, through the Mandera Triangle project. DKK 863,722 has been disbursed to DRC Somalia for this project.

In November 2024, during a supplier pre-qualification visit, suspicion arose that invoices from one of DRC Somalia's supplier of non-food items, shelters and hygiene aids, and a supplier of vehicles were perhaps fake. There were suspicions of employees being involved in faking the invoices. The potential amount under suspicion could not be specified.

An internal investigation conducted by DRC was completed in March 2025. The investigation included that employees were interviewed, key relevant documentations related to procurement processes were reviewed, and review of internal communications between the subjects. The investigation concluded that the allegations were not substantiated and no funds were lost. However, the review showed that one subject had worked against using Framework Agreements and had directed staff to seek local suppliers who had not been pre-approved. This was determined to be a breach of duty and violation of DRC's Code of Conduct. The subject has been terminated. The Investigation Team is looking into the possibility of drafting recommendations for the DRC Supply Team to avoid similar instances in the future.

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