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Suspicion of irregularities in relation to Agricultural Business Initiative Development's (aBi Development) support to MMACKS Investment Ltd, Uganda

Reference is made to the previous report dated 3 February 2022 regarding suspicion of irregularities regarding forgery at MMACKS Investment Ltd totalling DKK 390,597. The share of Danish funds is DKK 281,229. The Agricultural Business Initiative Development (aBi Development) is a multi-donor entity devoted to private sector agribusiness development. aBi Development is supporting MMACKS Investments Ltd with a grant of DKK 6,663,566 of which DKK 1,463.308 has been disbursed.

During a routine quarterly project accountability review, forged project bank statements were detected at MMACKS. The firm admitted to having submitted forged bank statements after diverting the said funds to meet contractual obligations. Furthermore, the firm confirmed that the diverted funds were reinstated into the project bank accounts. A forensic audit was conducted and concluded that there had been ineligible expenses of DKK 26,500, for which a demand note was issued to MMACKS.

After close follow-up, MMACKS repaid all outstanding amounts. aBi Development has placed criminal charges against MMACKS in the Uganda courts of law. The police have decided not to enforce the criminal proceedings. aBi Development has suspended all forms of collaboration with the partner.

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