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Suspicion of irregularities in relation to SOS's Children Villages activities in Somaliland

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark provides support to SOS's Children Villages Denmark (SOS DK) as part of the strategic partnership agreement 2022-2026 with an annual grant of DKK 15 million. SOS DK cooperates with SOS Children's Villages Somaliland (SOS SO) with the aim of supporting vulnerable children and youth. DKK 13,427,103 has been disbursed to SOS SO for the period of 2022-2025.

During a monitoring visit in May 2024 conducted by SOS Regional office, it was noted that some funds were charged twice for the MFA funded project. An internal investigation was initiated by internal audits. The amount under suspicion is DKK 149,200.

The investigation concluded that the primary root cause for the irregularities was a breakdown in financial control procedures and a lack of clear communication channels between the finance and programme teams during the initial project setup. This was further compounded by insufficient real-time budget monitoring at SOS SO. As the findings were concluded to be procedural, relating to documentation and approval processes for certain activities and expenditures, SOS DK has continued the partnership with SOS SO, with a higher focus on implementing stricter real-time budget monitoring controls to ensure all expenditures are continuously controlled against approved activity plans and budget lines before processing. Corrective measures have been implemented. The DKK 149,200 which was charged twice has been corrected in the bookkeeping system. Relevant staff has been re-oriented on the compliance requirements.

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