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Irregularities at CERVO D'AFRIQUE in Burkina Faso

Reference is made to the previous report dated 30 April 2025 regarding mismanagement of funds by CERVO d'Afrique in Burkina Faso. In the period 2004 to 2006, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (MFA) committed DKK 1,064,959 to CERVO d'Afrique, and DKK 1,003,071 was disbursed to the partner.

The final audit in 2006 concluded that there had been ineligible expenses of approx. DKK 649,297.

The MFA demanded that the ineligible expenses should be reimbursed. The case was presented in the Court of Appeals in Ouagadougou in May 2018. Two out of the three accused were found guilty. They received a suspended sentence of 36 months' imprisonment and were ordered to reimburse the full amount (DKK 649,297) to the MFA. After appeal by the defendants, the court ruled publicly, in absentia, in a criminal matter and as a final instance in March 2025.

The court sided with the MFA and ordered the full amount plus CFA 1 million to be returned. Subsequent enforcement attempts against the accused have been unsuccessful, as the debtors cannot be located, and their bank accounts are functionally empty.

The MFA thus regards the case as closed with a loss of Danish funds amounting to DKK 649,297.