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Suspicion of irregularities in relation to Intergovernmental Authority on Development's (IGAD's) activities at headquarter level in Djibouti

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark supports the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), focusing on strengthening its Peace and Security Division through earmarked contributions primarily targeting conflict early warning systems, conflict prevention, and mediation. A total of DKK 12,000,000 has been pledged for the period 2024–2026, of which DKK 6,500,000 has been disbursed to IGAD.

In June 2026, IGAD and its donor partners received an anonymous whistleblower report alleging executive mismanagement, financial irregularities, and governance failures within the Secretariat. The allegations included fund diversion, excessive spending, irregular recruitment, procurement interference, staff intimidation and retaliation, centralisation of power, and weaknesses in audit independence and financial oversight. IGAD has denied the allegations, which are not substantiated by documentary evidence.

Although no allegations of irregularities were specifically linked to Danish funding, it was decided to commission an audit to investigate potential wrongdoing relating to project funds, with a particular focus on activities funded by Denmark. The audit examined procurement transactions, travel and mission expenditures, and hospitality expenditures. The findings did not identify any instances of non-compliance with IGAD's governance, procurement, or expenditure management procedures.

The management of the Danish Embassy has decided to proceed with the disbursement of the remaining pledged amount to IGAD for 2026. As a risk mitigation measure, and pending further clarity on the measures taken and findings reported by other like-minded donors, the planned 2026 disbursement will be split into two instalments. Although the audit procedures relating to Danish funding have been completed, the Embassy is still awaiting the findings from other like-minded donors.

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

