

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL ON REGISTRATION OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC SECRETARIES BOARD FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Registration of Certified Public Secretaries Board set out on pages 1 to 22, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, and the statement of financial performance, statement of changes in net assets, statement of comparison of budget and actual amounts and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information in accordance with the provisions of Article 229 of the Constitution of Kenya and the Public Audit Act, 2015. I have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of my knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purpose of the audit.

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Registration of Certified Public Secretaries Board as at 30 June 2017, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards (Accrual Basis) and comply with the Certified Public Secretaries Act, Cap 534 of the Laws of Kenya.

In addition, as required by Article 229(6) of the Constitution, except for the matter described in the Other Matter section of my report, I confirm that nothing has come to my attention to cause me to believe that public money has not been applied lawfully and in an effective way.

Basis of Opinion

The audit was conducted in accordance with International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs). I am independent of Registration of Certified Public Secretaries Board in accordance with ISSAI 30 on Code of Ethics. I have fulfilled other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the ISSAI and in accordance with other ethical requirements applicable to performing audits of financial statements in Kenya. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that in my professional judgement are of most significance in the audit of the financial statements. Except for the matter described in the Other Matter section of my report, I have determined that there were no Key Audit Matters to communicate in my report.

Other Matter

Lack of Internal Audit Function

The internal audit function which is an integral part of the board as required by good corporate governance is not functional. The board has not hired the services of an internal auditor and therefore there is no oversight on management. Although the management has indicated that it has a governance and finance committee of the board whose terms of reference include monitoring of financial management, developing and implementing effective internal controls, providing internal audit services and ensuring financial reporting accuracy and compliance. It's important to note that the existence of the committee is important but its effectiveness is dependent on the input of the internal auditor. Therefore, without the input of the internal auditor, the committee's output may not have an effect on the overall management of the institution.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged With Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards (Accrual Basis) and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Board's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the management either intends to liquidate the Board or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Management is also responsible for the submission of the financial statements to the Auditor-General in accordance with the provision of Section 47 of the Public Audit Act, 2015.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Board's financial reporting process.

Auditor-General's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

The audit objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion in accordance with the provisions of Section 48 of the Public Audit Act, 2015 and submit the audit report in compliance with

Article 229(7) of the Constitution of Kenya. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISSAIs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit conducted in accordance with ISSAIs, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and for the purpose of giving an assurance on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Board's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Board's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in the auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my audit report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Board to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities to express an opinion on the financial statements.
- Perform such other procedures as I consider necessary in the circumstances.

I communicate with the management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that are identified during the audit.

I also provide management with a statement that I have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on my independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.



FCPA Edward R. O. Ouko, CBS
AUDITOR-GENERAL

Nairobi

24 April 2018