

# **REPORT OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL ON KENYA NATIONAL INNOVATION AGENCY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE, 2020**

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## **REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### **Opinion**

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Kenya National Innovation Agency set out on pages 1 to 12, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June, 2020, and the statement of financial performance, statement of cash flows, statement of changes in net assets and statement of comparison of budget and actual amounts 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 Section 35 of 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 Kenya National Innovation Agency as at 30 June, 2020 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 Science, Technology and Innovation (ST&I) Act of 2013 and the Public Finance Management Act, 2012.

### **Basis for Opinion**

The audit was conducted in accordance with International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs). I am independent of Kenya National Innovation Agency Management in accordance with ISSAI 130 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. I have determined that there are no key audit matters to report in the year under review.

### **Other Matter**

### **Budgetary Control and Performance**

The Agency had an approved expenditure budget of Kshs.35,226,363 for the year under review but spent Kshs.18,950,573 resulting under-expenditure of Kshs.18,897,578 equivalent to 53.65% of the budget.

In view of the under-expenditure, a significant number of activities planned for implementation in the year were implemented.

## REPORT ON LAWFULNESS AND EFFECTIVENESS IN USE OF PUBLIC RESOURCES

### **Conclusion**

As required by Article 229(6) of the Constitution, based on procedures performed, I confirm that, except for the matters described in the report on lawfulness and effectiveness in use of public resources section of my report, nothing else has come to my attention to cause me to believe that public Resources has not been applied lawfully and in an effective way.

#### **1.0 Irregular Payment of Allowances**

Examination of expenditure records indicated payments totalling Kshs.3,054,422 incurred on remuneration of the Board in the year under review. Included in the balance was honorarium and airtime paid to the Chairman for the month of May and June, 2019. The expenses were denoted as unpaid obligations inherited from the State Department of University Education.

Payment of the allowances and air-time earned by the Chairman in a different entity was irregular since the services thus provided were not enjoyed by the Agency and the expenditure had not been provided for in its budget.

#### **2.0 Lack of Staff Establishment**

Review of the Agency's human resource function indicated that there was no staff establishment in place. As a result, there was no clarity on roles and responsibilities of various staff, and on how they were expected to grow their careers in the Agency. In addition, only the Chief Executive Officer was employed on permanent terms with the other six staff having been seconded to the Agency from the parent Ministry. There was no record provided for audit to indicate the Board's plans to set up the staff establishment and have the Agency employ its own staff.

Without its own human resource, the Agency may not be able to execute its mandate in an effective way.

The audit was conducted in accordance with ISSAI 4000. The Standard requires that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain assurance about whether the activities, financial transactions and information reflected in the financial statements are in compliance, in all material respects, with the authorities that govern them. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my conclusion.

## REPORT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL CONTROLS, RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

### **Conclusion**

As required by Section 7(1)(a) of the Public Audit Act, 2015, based on the audit procedures performed, I confirm that, nothing has come to my attention to cause me to believe that internal controls, risk management and overall governance were not effective.

### **Basis for Conclusion**

The audit was conducted in accordance with ISSAI 2315 and ISSAI 2330. The Standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain assurance about whether effective processes and systems of internal control, risk management and governance were operating effectively, in all material respects. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my conclusion.

### **Responsibilities of Management and those Charged with Governance**

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 maintaining effective 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 and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control, risk management and overall governance.

In preparing the financial statements, Management is responsible for assessing the Agency's ability to continue to sustain its services, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to sustainability of services and using the applicable basis of accounting unless Management is aware of the intention to dissolve the Agency, or to cease operations.

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

In addition to the responsibility for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements described above, Management is also responsible for ensuring that the activities, financial transactions and information reflected in the financial statements are in compliance with the authorities which govern them, and that public resources are applied in an effective way.

The Board of Directors is responsible for overseeing the financial reporting process, reviewing the effectiveness of how the entity monitors compliance with relevant legislative and regulatory requirements, ensuring that effective processes and systems are in place to address key roles and responsibilities in relation to governance and risk management, and ensuring the adequacy and effectiveness of the control environment.

## **Auditor-General's Responsibilities for the Audit**

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. 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 and weakness 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.

In addition to the audit of the financial statements, a compliance audit is planned and performed to express a conclusion about whether, in all material respects, the activities, financial transactions and information reflected in the financial statements are in compliance with the authorities that govern them and that public resources are applied in an effective way, in accordance with the provisions of Article 229(6) of the Constitution, and submit the audit report in compliance with Article 229(7) of the Constitution.

Further, in planning and performing the audit of the financial statements and audit of compliance, I consider internal control in order to give an assurance on the effectiveness of internal controls, risk management and governance processes and systems in accordance with the provisions of Section 7(1)(a) of the Public Audit Act, 2015 and submit the audit report in compliance with Article 229(7) of the Constitution. My consideration of the internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses under the ISSAIs. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control may not prevent or detect misstatements and instances of noncompliance. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies and procedures may deteriorate.

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.

- 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 Management's use of the applicable 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 Agency's ability to sustain its services. 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 Agency to cease to or to sustain its services.
- 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 and business activities of the Agency to express an opinion on the financial statements.
- Perform such other procedures as I consider necessary in the circumstances.

I communicate with 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 communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on my independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.



**CPA Nancy Gathungu, CBS**  
**AUDITOR-GENERAL**

**Nairobi**

**10 January, 2022**