

# **REPORT OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL ON NATIONAL GOVERNMENT CONSTITUENCIES DEVELOPMENT FUND - MANDERA WEST CONSTITUENCY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE, 2019**

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## **REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### **Qualified Opinion**

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of National Government Constituencies Development Fund - Mandera West Constituency set out on pages 9 to 42, which comprise the statement of financial assets as at 30 June, 2019 and the statement of receipts and payments, statement of cash flows and the summary statement of appropriation: recurrent and development combined 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, except for the effect of the matters described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of my report, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of National Government Constituencies Development Fund - Mandera West Constituency as at 30 June, 2019 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards (Cash Basis) and comply with the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 and the National Government Constituencies Development Fund Act, 2015.

### **Basis for Qualified Opinion**

#### **1. Unconfirmed Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The cash and cash equivalents as at 30 June, 2019 reflects a balance of Kshs.36,543,963 whose bank reconciliation statements indicated unrepresented cheques of Kshs.8,300,886 which in turn includes stale cheques of Kshs.587,849 some dating back to 26 April, 2018. It was not clear why the cheques were not validated or written back to cash book.

Consequently, it has not been possible to confirm that cash and cash equivalents balance of Kshs.36,543,963 as at 30 June, 2019 is fairly stated.

#### **2. Other Grants and Other Payments**

##### **2.1 Unauthorized Utilization of Emergency Reserve Fund**

Included in the other grants and other payments balance of Kshs.30,107,500 is an expenditure on emergency projects amounting to Kshs.3,340,000. However, a review of the project files, payment vouchers and other supporting documents revealed that the Fund management made a payment of Kshs.3,340,000 in respect of renovation of eight (8) classrooms at El-Bofa Primary School. It was also noted that the utilization of emergency funds was not reported to the board within thirty (30) days of the

occurrence as required by Section 20(2) of the National Government Constituencies Development Regulations, 2016.

In the circumstances, it has not been possible to ascertain the probity of the expenditure on emergency fund for Kshs.3,340,000 as at 30 June, 2019.

## **2.2 Unsupported Payment of Bursary Expenses**

Included in other grants and transfers balance of Kshs.30,107,500 reflected under Note 7 to the financial statements is an expenditure on bursary totaling to Kshs.20,567,500 in respect to secondary schools and tertiary institutions. However, examination of payment vouchers and their supporting documents revealed that bursaries amounting to Kshs.1,065,000 were not acknowledged and were not supported with the bursary vetting committee minutes.

Consequently, the probity of the expenditure on bursaries of Kshs.1,065,000 as at 30 June, 2019 could not be ascertained.

## **3. Unaccounted for Monitoring and Evaluation**

Included in the use of goods and services of Kshs.7,838,308 is payment of Kshs.993,407 incurred for car hire services for monitoring and evaluation exercise. However, although field inspection was conducted, progress reports on the status of the projects were not made available for audit review. Further, temporary work tickets and copies of the logbooks for the vehicles alleged to have been hired for the exercise were not made available for audit review.

In the circumstances, probity of the expenditure on monitoring and evaluation of Kshs.993,407 as at 30 June, 2019 could not be ascertained.

The audit was conducted in accordance with International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs). I am independent of National Government Constituencies Development Fund - Mandera West Constituency 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 qualified opinion.

### **Key Audit Matters**

Key audit matters are those matters that, in my professional judgment, are of most significance in the audit of the financial statements. There were no key audit matters to report in the year under review.

### **Other Matter**

### **Budgetary Control and Performance**

Review of summary statement of appropriation: recurrent and development combined revealed that during the year under review, the Fund had an approved budget amounting to Kshs.188,051,815 inclusive of Kshs.79,010,940 unspent balance from the financial year 2018/2019.

During the year, the Fund had actual receipts of Kshs.126,087,277 against budgeted amount of Kshs.188,051,815 resulting in a short fall of Kshs.61,964,538 representing 33% of undisbursed funds from the Constituencies Development Fund Board. Further, the Fund incurred under expenditure of Kshs.92,267,645 representing 49% of the approved budget of Kshs.188,051,815.

Failure to fully utilize the budget is likely to lead to non- delivery of vital services to the constituents.

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

### Conclusion

As required by Article 229(6) of the Constitution, based on the audit procedures performed, except for the matter described in the Basis for Conclusion on Lawfulness and Effectiveness in Use of Public Resources section of my report, I confirm that, nothing else has come to my attention to cause me to believe that public resources have not been applied lawfully and in an effective way.

### Basis for Conclusion

#### Project Implementation and Management

During the financial year under review, the Fund allocated Kshs.68,388,204 to ninety (90) projects in various sectors including education, security, sport, and others. Analysis as per project implementation status presented for audit revealed that three (3) projects were completed, eighty-seven (87) had not started as analyzed below: -

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Project Status</b>	<b>Project Cost Kshs.</b>	<b>Number of Projects</b>
<b>Sports</b>	Complete	0	0
	Ongoing	0	0
	Not started	368,204	1
<b>Security</b>	Complete	9,800,000	3
	Ongoing	0	0
	Not Started	0	0
<b>Education</b>	Complete	0	0
	Ongoing	0	0
	Not started	55,820,000	83

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Project Status</b>	<b>Project Cost Kshs.</b>	<b>Number of Projects</b>
<b>Others</b>	Complete	0	0
	Ongoing	0	0
	Not started	3,000,000	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>68,988,204</b>	<b>90</b>

The projects were however, not physically verified due to the insecurity in the region

The audit was conducted in accordance with ISSAI 4000. The standard requires that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit so as 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 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 (Cash 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.

In preparing the financial statements, Management is responsible for assessing the Fund's ability to sustain 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 terminate the Fund 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 money is applied in an effective manner.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Fund's 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 review is planned and performed to express a conclusion with limited assurance as to 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 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. The nature, timing and extent of the compliance work is limited compared to that designed to express an opinion with reasonable assurance on the financial statements.

Further, in planning and performing the audit of the financial statements and review 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 non-compliance. 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 Fund's policies and procedures may deteriorate.

As part of an audit conducted in accordance with ISSAIs, I exercise professional judgment 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 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 Fund's ability to continue 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 Fund to cease to continue 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 Fund 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.



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

**Nairobi**

**29 December, 2021**