

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



REPORT

OF

THE AUDITOR-GENERAL

ON

NATIONAL RESEARCH CRIME CENTRE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE, 2025

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

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REPORT OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL ON NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE, 2025

PREAMBLE

I draw your attention to the contents of my report which is in three parts: -

- A. Report on the Financial Statements that considers whether the financial statements are fairly presented in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework, accounting standards and the relevant laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the financial statements;
- B. Report on Lawfulness and Effectiveness Use of Public Resources which considers compliance with applicable laws, regulations, policies, gazette notices, circulars, guidelines and manuals and whether public resources are applied in a prudent, efficient, economic, transparent and accountable manner to ensure Government achieves value for money and that such funds are applied for the intended purpose,- and,
- C. Report on Effectiveness of Internal Controls, Risk Management and Governance which considers how the entity has instituted checks and balances to guide internal operations. This responds to the effectiveness of the governance structure, the risk management environment and the internal controls, developed and implemented by those charged with governance for orderly, efficient and effective operations of the entity.

An Unmodified Opinion is issued when the Auditor-General concludes that the financial statements are fairly presented in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework. The Report on Financial Statements should be read together with the Report on Lawfulness and Effectiveness in the Use of Public Resources, and the Report on Effectiveness of Internal Controls, Risk Management, and Governance.

The three parts of the report are aimed at addressing the statutory roles and responsibilities of the Auditor-General as provided by Article 229 of the Constitution, the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 and the Public Audit Act, 2015. The three parts of the report when read together constitute the report of the Auditor-General.

REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of National Crime Research Centre set out on pages 1 to 15, which comprise of the statement of financial position as at

30 June, 2025, and the statement of financial performance, statement of changes in net assets, statement of cash flows 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 the National Crime Research Centre as at 30 June, 2025, 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 National Crime Research Act, 1997 (Revised 2012) 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 the National Crime Research Centre 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.

Emphasis of Matter

Budgetary Control and Performance

The statement of comparison of budget and actual amounts reflects final expenditure budget and actual on comparable basis of Kshs.182,524,957 and Kshs.189,709,995 respectively, resulting to an over expenditure of Kshs.7,185,038. Management did not provide evidence of a supplementary budget to support the over expenditure. This was contrary to Regulation 44(2) of the Public Finance Management (National Government) Regulations, 2015 which states that National Government entities shall execute their approved budgets based in the annual appropriations, and the approved annual cash flow plan with exception of unforeseen and unavoidable spending dealt with through the Contingencies Fund, or supplementary estimates.

My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

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 Information

The Management is responsible for the other information set out on page iii to lxiii which comprise of Key Centre's Information and Management, National Crime Research Centre Governing Council, Management Team, Chairman's Statement, Report of the Chief Executive Officer, Statement of Performance Against Predetermined Objectives, Corporate Governance Statement, Management Discussion and Analysis, Environmental and Sustainability Reporting, Report of the Governing Council, and Statement of Governing Council Responsibilities. The Other Information does not include the financial statements and my audit report thereon.

In connection with my audit on the National Crime Research Centre financial statements, my responsibility is to read the Other Information and in doing so, consider whether the Other Information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this Other Information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

My Opinion on the financial statements does not cover the Other Information and accordingly, I do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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, I confirm that nothing 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

The audit was conducted in accordance with ISSAI 3000 and ISSAI 4000. The standards require 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, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Conclusion on Effectiveness of Internal Controls, Risk Management and Governance section of my report, I confirm that nothing else has come to my attention to cause me to

believe that internal controls, risk management and overall governance were not effective.

Basis for Conclusion

Understaffing of the Centre

Review of the staff establishment revealed that the Centre had twenty-three (23) staff in post against an authorized staff establishment of one hundred and thirty-four (134) employees resulting in understaffing of one hundred and eleven (111) or 83%.

In the circumstances, the understaffing may hinder the effective and efficient delivery of services by the Centre.

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 controls, risk management and overall 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

The 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 controls as the 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 controls, risk management and governance.

In preparing the financial statements, the Management is responsible for assessing the National Crime Research Centre 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 is aware of the intention to cease operations.

The 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, the Management is also responsible for ensuring that the activities, financial transactions and information reflected in the financial statements comply with the authorities which govern them and that public resources are applied in an effective way.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the National Crime Research Centre financial reporting process, reviewing the effectiveness of how Management 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

My responsibility is to conduct an audit of the financial statements in accordance with Article 229(4) of the Constitution, Section 35 of the Public Audit Act, 2015 and the International Standards for Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs). The standards require that, in conducting the audit, I obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion in accordance with Section 48 of the Public Audit Act, 2015. 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.

In conducting the audit, Article 229(6) of the Constitution also requires that I express a conclusion on whether or not 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 addition, I consider the entity's control environment 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.

Further, I am required to submit the audit report in accordance with Article 229(7) of the Constitution.

Detailed description of my responsibilities for the audit is located at the Office of the Auditor-General's website at: <https://www.oagkenya.go.ke/auditor-generals-responsibilities-for-audit/>. This description forms part of my auditor's report.


FCPA Nancy Gathungu, CBS
AUDITOR-GENERAL

Nairobi

04 December, 2025

