INSPECTORATE OF GOVERNMENT

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THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
Our Ref.....HQT/36/6/2017

Zero Tolerance to Corruption

INSPECTORATE OF GOVERNMENT

8th August 2019

The Clerk to Parliament
Parliament of the Republic of Uganda
Parliament House
KAMPALA

REPORT ON THE ALLEGED CORRUPTION PRACTICES BY TWO PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA DIRECTORS; MR. EMMANUEL BAKWEGA AND MR. CHRIS OBORE (HQT/36/6/2017)

1.0 Background

The Inspectorate of Government received a complaint with allegations of corrupt practices by, Mr. Emmanuel Bakwega, Director of Clerks and Mr. Chris Obore, Director of Information and Communication at the Parliament of Uganda.

It was specifically alleged that Mr. Emmanuel Bakwega received UGX 100 million as facilitation for training in Kigali and UK between December 2015 and June 2016 but did not attend the trainings. It was further alleged that Mr. Chris Obore irregularly procured a camera at UGX 148 million and a camera stand at UGX 3.4 million in June 2015.

2.0 Findings

Mr. Emmanuel Bakwega's Trainings

Mr. Emmanuel Bakwega, Director of Clerks and Mr. Paul Wabwire, Deputy Clerk Parliamentary Affairs were advanced a total of UGX. 99,235,200 to attend a seminar, "*Beyond aid: Innovative Governance, Financing and Partnership for post 2015 Agenda*", at Wilton Park in June 2016. However, the duo failed to produce evidence of attending the said seminar. Information obtained from Wilton Park (through the British High Commission) and from its website indicates that the

seminar actually took place in February 2015 not in June 2016 as indicated by Mr. Bakwega Emmanuel and Mr. Wabwire. Wilton Park also denied issuing invitation letters, invoices and receipts that were submitted by the above officials as part of their accountability documents. Therefore the investigation concluded that the sum of UGX 99,235,200 advanced to the two officials was not used for the intended purpose and was misappropriated/embezzled.

ii. Although there is no documentary evidence to show that Mr. Emmanuel Bakwega attended the 3rd EALA meeting in Kigali-Rwanda in 2015, Mr. Madete Kenneth, Clerk to the EALA Parliament in a written response confirmed that he attended that meeting.

Procurement of a professional heavy duty camera and camera stand.

i. Mr. Chris Obore, Director Communication and Public Affairs at Parliament of Uganda, was not party to the procurement of the professional heavy duty camera and camera stand since he joined Parliamentary Service after the video camera had been procured.

ii. The Procurement Unit of Parliament, as the user department, failed to develop elaborate specifications for the procurement of the heavy duty video camera. Mrs. Kaganzi Julian, Chief Procurement Officer and Mr. Lassu Patrick, Senior Procurement Officer did not seek due guidance from the user department (Communication and Public Affairs) regarding the specifications required.

iii. M/S MTA Computers Limited who were contracted to supply the professional video camera delivered it in bits and pieces. Initially the camera components were delivered without the lens and this caused misunderstandings and arguments with the user department. Eventually, the tripod was substituted for the lens which in effect altered the specifications. Mr. Kasule Abdu Kagimu, Public Affairs Officer who was the Acting Contract Manager did not seek approval of the Contracts Committee and the Accounting Officer as by law required. Hence that decision amounted to an irregularity.

iv. The camera supplied was of a different model (PDW-850) from PDW-800 which was ordered for. The reason given for the change of model was that the lower model ordered for (PDW-800) was no longer on the market. The concurrence of the Contracts Committee and the Accounting Officer was not sought. The newer model delivered however requires a card reader estimated to cost about UGX 40 million. Since the card reader has not been purchased the heavy duty camera remains redundant.

v. Another requisition was later raised by the user department for the camera stand which had been substituted at an additional cost of UGX 3.4 million. Payment for it was made before it was actually delivered on advice of Mr. Bosio Sam and Mrs. Nabitaka Barbra from stores office and user department (Communication and Public Affairs) respectively. The duo therefore misled the Accounts Unit into paying for the camera stand before it was delivered.

3.0 Recommendations

Given the findings, the Clerk to Parliament should:

i. Ensure that Mr. Emmanuel Bakwega, Director of Clerks refunds UGX 48,139,600 while Mr. Paul Wabwire, Deputy Clerk Parliamentary Affairs refunds UGX 51,095,600 within a period of three (3) months. This is money they received to undertake training in the UK, which they did not do but accounted for fraudulently. The money should be refunded on the Inspectorate of Government Asset Recovery Account number **003030088000007** in Bank of Uganda, failure of which the duo shall be prosecuted.

ii. Submit Mr. Emmanuel Bakwega and Mr. Paul Wabwire to the Parliamentary Commission for appropriate disciplinary action for receiving public funds to attend training abroad, which they did not attend but fraudulently accounted for the money. This should be done within a period of two months from receipt of this letter.

iii. Submit Mr. Kasule Abdul Kajimu, Public Affairs Officer to the Parliamentary Commission to be severely reprimanded for neglect

of duty and breach of procurement procedures when acting as the Contract Manager and failing to ensure that the appropriate authority was sought in adjusting the specifications to substitute the camera stand with the lens.

iv. Submit Mrs. Kaganzi Julian, Chief Procurement Officer and Mr. Lassu Patrick, Senior Procurement Officer to the Parliamentary Commission to be warned for neglect of duty when they failed to require the user department to develop elaborate specifications for the heavy duty camera.

v. Submit Mr. Bosio Sam, Assistant Inventory Management Officer and Mrs. Nabitaka Barbra, Public Affairs Officer to the Parliamentary Commission to consider relieving them of their duties for misleading accounts unit to pay for the camera stand before it was delivered.

A detailed report of the findings is sent herewith for your information and action.

Irene Mulyagonja Kakooza
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF GOVERNMENT

Copied to: The Rt. Hon. Speaker
Parliament of Uganda