



CSBAG BUDGET NEWS BRIEF



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Auditor General Commissions Forensic Audit in BoU Currency Saga

On 3rd May 2019, the Governor Bank of Uganda (BoU), Emmanuel Mutebile wrote to the Head of State House Anti-Corruption Unit, Lt. Col. Edith Nakalema asking her to conduct a probe into 13 boxes of unauthorized printed material that had been carried on a chartered plane.

In the event, three BoU officials namely; Currency Director, Charles Malinga Akol, Francis Kakeeto, the Assistant Director Mbale Currency Centre and Fred Wanyama Vito, the BoU Verification Officer were arrested and have since been charged in the Anti-Corruption Court as investigations carry on.

It is alleged that around 1st March and 27th April 2019, between Uganda, Belgium and France and Entebbe International Airport, BoU officials allowed the inclusion of unauthorized cargo on a plane chartered by the Central bank. The officials had contracted the UK based plane through a global transport and logistics company, Kuehne + Nagel International, to deliver printed material for BoU which had been printed from France.

The chartered plane however ended up in Liege Airport, Belgium before landing at Entebbe International Airport on 27th April. This however caused suspicion on how a chartered plane would go to Belgium where the Central Bank had no business.

Auditor General Intervenes

The Director of Forensics at the Auditor General's Office, James Bantu, has commissioned an audit in regards to the extra cargo that was loaded on the chartered plane.

In his letter to Mutebile, Bantu says an audit will be conducted in regards to printed material transported on 27th April 2019 following the letter dated 18th July 2019 from the Criminal



Bank of Uganda offices in Kampala. The Bank's officials allowed the inclusion of unauthorized cargo on a plane chartered by the Central bank.

Investigations Department Director.

"The purpose of this letter therefore is to inform you that pursuant to Article 163 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda as amended and sections 13 and 22 of the National Audit Act, 2008, the Auditor General has commissioned an audit in regards to the above subject matter,"

Bantu adds that the forensic audit will be undertaken by his staff, Martin Wamboza, the Principal Auditor, and Jasper Oketa, the Auditor. The team will be supervised by Dr. Andrew T Nsamba, Senior Principal Auditor and Anthony Kimuli, the Assistant Director of Audit.

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Last year, BoU requested Oberthur Fudiciare, which prints only two of Uganda's bank notes, to print an undisclosed amount of notes. As part of its long running contract with BoU, Oberthur was to deliver these at Entebbe on 27th April.

Justice

On Friday 2nd August 2019, Malinga, Kakeeto, and Wanyama appeared in court presided over by Grade One Magistrate, Abert Asimwe, and demanded that their phones, which were confiscated upon their arrest, should be returned to them. The group which will return to court on August 28th, 2019 has since been interdicted.

Source: Uganda Radio Network (URN)

OUR WORK IN PICTURES



CSBAG's Executive Director, Julius Mukunda, deliberating on Good Governance for socio economic transformation during the third NDP III consultations organized by National Planning Authority and UNDP on 1st August 2019. © CSBAG 2019



CSBAG's Budget Policy Specialist, Siragi Magara training budget monitors on Gender Responsive Budgeting in Kitswamba Subcounty, Kasese district on 2nd August 2019. © CSBAG 2019



CSOs participating in the development of the Agriculture position paper for the 2019 Joint Agricultural Sector Annual Review (JASAR) at Golf Course Hotel in Kampala on 2nd August. © CSBAG 2019