

**Office of the Auditor General**

3rd Floor, Block C, Unity House

Victoria, Republic of Seychelles

Telephone: 248-4672500 Email: auditgen@oag.sc

Website: www.oag.sc Facebook: OAG Seychelles

Please address all correspondence to the Auditor General

Our ref: SQA/AI

Date: 27th September 2024

Ms Fiona Ernesta
Chief Executive Officer
Seychelles Qualifications Authority
Ibrahim Building
Victoria

Audit of the Seychelles Qualifications Authority - 2022

Please find enclosed 2 sets statement of accounts for the year 2022 duly stamped as 'examined and certified for your records. It is to be noted that 'examined and certified' does not convey an audit opinion. It means that they are arithmetically correct and generally in agreement with the budget and actuals as reflected in the treasury records. This approach is appropriate in view that there is no explicit legal provision for the Seychelles Qualifications Authority to prepare annual statement of accounts or the Auditor General to audit them and certify.

Please note that as the addressee of this letter and the Accounting Officer of the entity, it is your responsibility to circulate this letter and the attached accounts to any Authority or person, including the Board interested in the matter.

Thanking you for your kind understanding and co-operation.

Lindy Sedgwick (Mrs)
For Auditor General

Encl.



Seychelles Qualifications Authority
Statement of Cash Receipts and Payments
For the period of 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

	Budget	Treasury Actual	Variance	Previous year actual	Notes
	<u>SR</u>	<u>SR</u>	<u>SR</u>	<u>SR</u>	
	2022	2022	2022	2021	
RECEIPTS					
Allocations/appropriations	8,141,472.50	7,939,771.05	201,701.45	7,325,807.69	
Other Receipts: Suspense accounts	358,300.00	961,000.00	(602,700.00)	514,850.00	
Grants					
Bank Account					
Total Receipts	8,499,772.50	8,900,771.05	400,998.55	7,840,657.69	
PAYMENTS					
Wages and Salaries	4,349,563.00	4,318,491.45	31,071.55	4,520,381.43	1
Goods and Services					
Office expenses	600,054.00	544,804.47	55,249.53	411,409.14	2
Transportation and Travel Costs	198,048.00	170,264.00	27,784.00	123,665.00	3
Maintenance and Repairs	140,558.00	135,723.75	4,834.25	156,995.00	4
Materials and Supplies	4,000.00	3,577.03	422.97	3,494.04	5
Other Use of Goods and Services	2,616,522.50	2,535,200.61	81,321.89	2,000,652.96	6
Total recurrent expenditure	7,908,745.50	7,708,061.31	200,684.19	7,216,597.57	
Other Expenditure					
Suspense Accounts	-	-	-	-	
Grant accounts	-	-	-	-	
Bank Account	-	-	-	-	
Total Other Expenditure	-	-	-	-	
Non-Financial Assets					
Acquisition of Machinery & Equipment	232,727.00	231,709.74	1,017.26	109,210.12	7
Office Refurbishment/Upgrading	-	-	-	-	
Improvement/Upgrading	-	-	-	-	
Total Capital Expenditure	232,727.00	231,709.74	1,017.26	109,210.12	
Total Expenditure	8,141,472.50	7,939,771.05	201,701.45	7,325,807.69	

Surplus/Deficit

961,000.00

514,850.00

Chief Executive Officer: *[Signature]*

Date: 26/03/24

Chairperson

Date: *[Signature]*
26/3/24

EXAMINED AND CERTIFIED

[Signature]
27/09/24
**AUDITOR GENERAL
SEYCHELLES**

	Budget	Actual
1.Wages and Salaries		
Basic Pay	2,769,577.00	2,750,289.00
Allowances (Excluding PSC)	359,760.00	353,160.00
PSC Allowance	436,128.00	436,128.00
Long Service Allowance	282,000.00	282,000.00
5% Supplementation Allowance	142,698.00	137,514.45
Other Allowance	335,400.00	335,400.00
Overtime	24,000.00	24,000.00
	4,349,563.00	4,318,491.45
2. Office Expenses		
Uniforms	8,798.00	8,797.50
Hospitality	2,190.00	285.00
Advert and Donation	21,869.00	21,868.23
Newspaper and Magazines	7,900.00	5,720.00
Printing and Stationery	202,250.00	201,913.97
Postage	2,700.00	2,474.00
Cleaning Expenses	25,000.00	18,281.07
Consumables	97,704.00	58,003.40
Other Office Expenses	11,000.00	10,223.26
Electricity	120,659.00	118,901.41
Internet	56,984.00	56,983.42
Telephone - International	1,000.00	405.54
Telephone - Local/Rental	42,000.00	40,947.67

	600,054.00	544,804.47
3. Transportation and Travel Cost		
Fuel for Vehicles	54,405.00	54,405.00
Domestic Airfares	8,200.00	2,754.00
Bus/Taxi/Ferry Fares	14,616.00	10,830.00
Hire Charges for Vehicle	202.00	0.00
Overseas Subsistence Allowance	22,125.00	22,125.00
Domestic Subsistence Allowance	97,500.00	80,150.00
Other Transportation Cost	1,000.00	0.00
	198,048.00	170,264.00
4. Maintenance and Repairs		
Motor Vehicle	47,055.00	46,490.00
High Tech Equipment	6,031.00	4,900.00
IT Equipment	22,434.00	22,433.75
CCTV	15,600.00	15,600.00
Printing Equipment	4,038.00	3,450.00
AC Equipment	42,400.00	42,400.00
Office Equipment	2,500.00	0.00
Other Machinery and Equipment	500.00	0.00
	140,558.00	135,723.75
5. Materials and Supplies		
Kitchen Utensil, Crockery	4,000.00	3,577.03
	4,000.00	3,577.03

6. Other Goods and Services

Local Consultancy Fees	120,000.00	115,000.00
Training Fees	18,800.00	14,550.23
Board Member Allowance	370,380.00	370,380.00
Subscription	32,560.00	32,557.88
Insurance for Vehicle	14,348.00	14,230.00
Licence Fee	3,432.50	3,432.50
Office Building Rent	1,283,400.00	1,283,400.00
Equipment	2,000.00	0.00
Committee Allowance	172,500.00	114,450.00
Other Allowance	599,102.00	587,200.00
	2,616,522.50	2,535,200.61

7. Non-Financial Asset

ACQ of Medical Equipment	2,000.00	1,500.00
ACQ of IT Equipment	86,296.00	85,834.01
ACQ of Printing Equipment	106,916.00	106,915.50
ACQ of Telephone	4,000.00	4,000.00
ACQ of Furniture	33,515.00	33,460.23
	232,727.00	231,709.74

Seychelles Qualifications Authority

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Cash Basis IPSAS 'Financial reporting under the cash basis of accounting'.

The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the period.

Reporting Entity

The financial statements are for a public sector entity: Seychelles Qualifications Authority referred to as public bodies, in PFMA, 2012.

The Seychelles Qualifications Authority's principal activity is to provide service in terms of the implementation and regular review of a high quality, learner-centred national qualifications framework (NQF) that is recognised both nationally and internationally. The NQF formalises the requirement for both public and private education and training providers throughout the country to deliver quality-assured, nationally recognised, consistent standards and qualifications. Hence the Authority regulates education and training across the country.

The Seychelles Qualifications Authority does not operate its own bank account. The Government operates a centralised Treasury function which administers cash expenditure incurred by all departments during the financial year. Payments made on this account in respect of Seychelles Qualifications Authority are disclosed in the Actual column in the statement of cash receipts and payments and other financial statements.

The Seychelles Qualifications Authority was established under the Seychelles Qualifications Authority Act of 2005 and came into operation in 2006. A new Act, the Seychelles Qualifications Authority Act, 2021 (*Act 57 of 2021*) became operative in May 2022. The overall mandate of the Seychelles Qualifications Authority (SQA) in line with the provisions of its new Act and related regulations and policies, is to develop, implement and maintain a national qualifications framework and to provide for quality assurance of the education and training system nationally and has the following key objectives:

- a) recognise, evaluate and register national qualifications and part qualifications on the National Qualifications Framework;
- b) generate and register national unit standards and qualifications for occupations and professions and ensure their relevance to social and economic needs;
- c) maintain a national database of registered and accredited providers, programmes, qualifications and part qualifications, as prescribed;
- d) design, develop and implement a common quality assurance system, and regulate compliance therewith;
- e) develop and review quality standards and ensure compliance by providers through a monitoring system;

- f) accredit tertiary education and training providers and other providers of post compulsory education and training and monitor that such providers continue to comply with prescribed standards and criteria;
- g) accredit programmes and courses of education and training and monitor that such programmes and courses continue to comply with prescribed standards and criteria;
- h) conduct inspection of established and registered schools to ensure national education quality and standards are maintained;
- i) review the policies and criteria on which the National Qualifications Framework is based;
- j) establish policy, criteria and procedures for, and monitor the process of evaluation and recognition of, competencies acquired formally, informally and non-formally through Recognition of Prior Learning;
- k) establish policy and criteria for credit accumulation and credit transfer;
- l) recognise, evaluate and establish equivalence of foreign qualifications to the levels of the National Qualifications Framework and record the decisions made;
- m) develop a policy and criteria for the recognition of foreign programmes leading to the award of qualifications and part qualifications delivered by or through local tertiary education and training providers;
- n) develop a policy for recognition by the Authority of any foreign qualification before the qualification bearer may be entitled to enter into an occupation or a profession;
- o) promote international recognition of the national qualifications and the international comparability of national qualifications;
- p) register tertiary education and training providers and other providers of post compulsory education and training and maintain a register to this effect;
- q) establish criteria for classification of providers and for the transitioning from one category of provider to another in accordance with this Act and made hereunder;
- r) establish criteria and procedures for the protection of the interests of enrolled learners, which include arrangements for the protection of learners where learners have begun but not completed a programme of education and training where a provider ceases to provide the programme before completion, or ceases to operate;
- s) establish standards and criteria for teachers and lecturers of providers to deliver programmes and courses to ensure learners are protected;
- t) provide a national advisory service on foreign qualifications and foreign providers of education and training;
- u) collaborate with international counterparts on all matters of mutual interest concerning national qualifications frameworks;

The legal basis of the National Qualifications Framework is the Regulations of the National Qualifications Framework which was signed into law by the Minister for Education in December 2008, becoming operative in January 2009. The regulations legally define the scope of action for the SQA. The set of regulations, and policies derived from these have as purpose to guide providers of education and training on the standards and conditions that need to be met to operate, and for learners to be certified. Being a Category 2 body, the Authority was budget dependent and processed all its financial transactions through the Treasury's single account which was introduced in 2009. It followed a cash basis accounting system as prescribed under the Public Finance Management Act/Regulation and with no prescribed requirement to prepare and submit a complete set of financial statement as per its Act.

Reporting currency

The reporting currency is Seychelles rupees (SR).

2. Appropriation

Amounts appropriated to Seychelles Qualifications Authority are managed through a central account administered by the office of the Treasury. These amounts are not controlled by Seychelles Qualifications Authority but are deployed on the Seychelles Qualifications Authority behalf by the central account administrator on presentation of appropriate documentation and reported as allocations/appropriations in the statement of cash receipts and payments is the amount the Treasury has expended for the benefit of Seychelles Qualifications Authority (the amount 'draw down').

3. Other receipts

Other receipts comprise of Certify True Copy of Qualifications, Evaluation of Qualifications and Recognition of Prior Learning collected and deposited to the Consolidated Fund during the financial year.

4. Fixed Assets

The details of fixed assets are recorded in registers as required by Public Finance Management Act/Regulation and Accounting Manual, and are under the control of the Authority.

5. Authorization date

The financial statements were authorized on 26th March 2024 by the Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson for the Seychelles Qualifications Authority.

Notes to the statement of Seychelles Qualifications Authority account

The above account is maintained with the approval of and subject to the conditions of operation stipulated by the Principal Secretary of Finance. Payments out of the account are authorised by Chief Executive Officer. The Seychelles Qualifications Authority keeps accounts and records for the processing of transactions relating to receipts and payments. Adequate control is maintained over the collection of receipts and payments out of the account, and to ensure that the account holds a positive balance at all times. The account is reconciled with the Treasury ledger and on a monthly basis.