
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Highlights of the Report of the Auditor General on the Accounts of the Republic

Financial Year Ended 31st December 2024

“Promoting transparency and accountability in the management of public resources”

Republic of Zambia | Full report available at www.ago.gov.zm

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Report at a Glance

Financial Year Ended 31st December 2024



OVERALL OPINION: UNQUALIFIED

Financial statements fairly presented in all material respects

33

unresolved findings



What Went Well

- Revenue collected exceeded target by **K14.13 Bn**
- Net surplus of **K2.67 Bn** for the year
- Unqualified opinion maintained on the Accounts of the Republic



What Needs Attention

- **33** unresolved audit paragraphs across Ministries, Provinces and Agencies
- Revenue leakages: unpaid ZRA returns, land arrears
- Recurring procurement and contract-management weaknesses



The Bottom Line

- Government accounts are fairly presented and reliable
- Persistent control weaknesses continue to expose public resources to loss
- Stronger enforcement of existing regulations is the priority

Vision, Mission & Core Values



Vision

An independent and credible audit institution promoting transparency and accountability in the management of public resources for the well-being of the citizenry.



Mission

To provide timely quality audit services to promote transparency and accountability in the management of public resources.



Core Values

Integrity • Objectivity • Excellence
Teamwork • Confidentiality
Professionalism

Budget Execution, FY2024

Statement of Revenue, Financing and Expenditure — Actual amounts against final budget



K192.02 Bn

Total Receipts (Actual)

vs K177.89 Bn approved

K189.35 Bn

Total Payments (Actual)

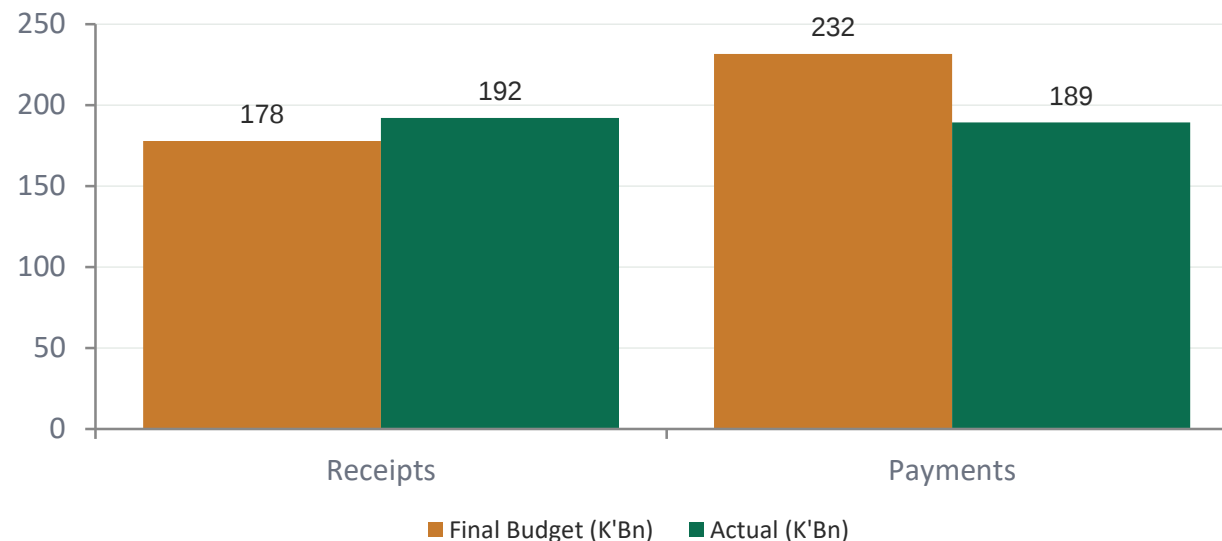
vs K231.57 Bn final budget

K2.67 Bn

Net Surplus

Revenue exceeded expenditure

Final Budget vs Actual (K' Billion)



Revenue Over-Collection

- Actual revenue exceeded the approved estimate by **K14.13 Bn**, mainly from Value Added Tax, Multilateral Grants and Other Revenues.
- Domestic Financing and Foreign Project Loans fell short of estimates by a combined **K16.96 Bn**.
- Actual expenditure of **K189.35 Bn** left **K42.23 Bn** of the final budget unspent.

Audit Opinion on the Accounts of the Republic



UNQUALIFIED OPINION

The financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024 were presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with IPSAS Cash Basis of Accounting and CGAPs No. 2.

Key Audit Matters

None determined for the period under review



Unqualified opinion

Financial statements are fairly presented and comply with the reporting framework.



Qualified opinion

Some parts of the financial statements do not fully comply with the reporting framework.



Adverse opinion

Financial statements significantly misrepresent the entity's financial position.



Disclaimer

The auditor could not obtain enough evidence to form an opinion.



33 Paragraphs

of unresolved audit findings across Ministries, Provinces and Agencies, as at 30th September 2025

Internal Control Weaknesses

Recurring themes identified across audited Ministries, Provinces and Agencies



Revenue Collection

Poor enforcement and weak tracking mechanisms hinder collection of Government revenue.



Non-Compliance

Failure to follow Government circulars, Financial and Public Stores Regulations.



Procurement Lapses

Weak contract management: paying suppliers before signing, failure to claim damages or encash guarantees.



Poor Record-Keeping

Missing payment vouchers and payments lacking supporting documentation.



Establishment Register

Staff records not updated, causing mismatches between placement and payroll.



Payroll Misallocation

Officers drawing salaries from stations to which they are not assigned.



Uninsured Assets

Government property left exposed to loss from theft, fire and other risks.



Statutory Remittances

Defaults on withholding and remitting pension and tax contributions.



Farming Input Controls

Weak monitoring allowed ineligible farmers to benefit from input distribution.

Sector Findings — Revenue

Selected observations from Revenue Paragraphs



ZAMBIA REVENUE AUTHORITY (ZRA)

Filed Returns Without Payment

K4,398.5 Mn

Tax returns filed but liabilities remained unsettled as at 31st August 2025.



ZAMBIA REVENUE AUTHORITY (ZRA)

Unmonitored Transits

K10.9 Mn

Transits to DRC, Tanzania & Malawi had not exited the country; guaranteed tax at risk.



MINISTRY OF LANDS & NATURAL RESOURCES

Outstanding Ground Rent

K1,322.3 Mn

Receivables from 497,011 properties outstanding for 1 to over 10 years.



MINISTRY OF LANDS & NATURAL RESOURCES

Outstanding Revenue Arrears

K177.9 Mn

Consideration, registration & preparation fees and ground rent uncollected since March 2024.

Sector Findings — Agriculture and Social Support

Selected observations from Expenditure Paragraphs



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE — SAFF

Failure to Recover Farming Loans

Of K18.31 Mn expected recovery from 1,094 beneficiaries in 12 districts, only K5.35 Mn was recovered.

K12.96 Million



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE — FISP

Farmers Not Compensated

Three insurance companies had not compensated 88,602 farmers for poor germination and yield.

K113.1 Million



MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Undelivered Farming Inputs

Seeds and inputs for the 2024/2025 season had not been delivered to beneficiaries as at 31st August 2025.

K25.7 Million



MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK

Unutilised Funds Returned

Funds for animal health services programmes were not utilised and were returned to the Treasury.

K30.7 Million

Sector Findings — Infrastructure, Social Services and Transport

Selected observations from Expenditure Paragraphs



MINISTRY OF WATER DEVELOPMENT & SANITATION

Unrecovered Funds on Terminated Contracts

16 terminated contracts left advance payments and outstanding balances uncollected.

K48.3 Million



MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

Walvis Bay Port Concession

Government settled unremitted port rental charges on behalf of the concessionaire; recovery pending.

US\$1.53 Million



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Contract & Works Irregularities

Questionable customs-clearing contract extension and works duplicated across new contracts.

K24.0 Million



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Unprocured Service Provider (APCBL)

Consulting services engaged without procurement procedure; schools' payments lacked support.

K25.7 Million



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Poorly Maintained Mission Properties

Physical inspections found leakages, structural cracks and deteriorated fittings.

10 Missions

The Audit, By the Numbers

Financial Year Ended 31st December 2024



33

Unresolved audit paragraphs



30+

Ministries, Provinces & Agencies covered



Unqualified

Opinion on the Accounts of the Republic



K192.0 Bn

Total revenue collected



K189.3 Bn

Total expenditure incurred



K2.67 Bn

Net surplus for the year

About This Summary

Simplifying the Auditor General's Report for public understanding



LUBINDA SINYANI

Independent Consultant

Economic Policy • Public Sector Remuneration • Governance and Anti-Corruption • Audit Accountability

A Principal Research Officer and Governance Specialist with over 15+ years of progressive experience spanning public sector research, economic policy, auditing and anti-corruption strategy — including a decade at the Office of the Auditor General, where he led the simplification of Auditor General reports for public understanding (2016–2025).

- Principal Research Officer, Emoluments Commission
- Board Technical Committee Member, Anti-Corruption Commission of Zambia
- Former Planner (Research & Development) and PR/Protocol Officer, Office of the Auditor General

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This summary was independently prepared to make the Auditor General's findings accessible to the public and was not produced by the Office of the Auditor General itself. Simplified for the Office of the Auditor General © 2026.



Office of the Auditor General

Report on the Accounts of the Republic — Financial Year Ended 31st December 2024

The full Report of the Auditor General is available at

www.ago.gov.zm

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