

Oxford University Press / World Bank Settlement

Case ID:

ARW-147

Jurisdiction of Origin of Public Official or Entity Allegedly Involved:

United Kingdom

Position of Public Official(s) (yrs in office):

N/A

Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery ? Description:

Undertaking Recovery Effort, Location of Recovery Effort

Asset Recovery Start:

2011

UNCAC Offenses Implicated:

Art.16

Legal Basis for Asset Recovery:

Negotiated Resolution Agreement

Basis for Intl Cooperation:

Cooperation in investigation with the UK Serious Fraud Office

Contributing Factors in Asset Recovery:

The \$500,000 payment by the Oxford University Press -- "in order to remedy part of the harm done by the misconduct" - was part of its Negotiated Resolution. (Source: The World Bank Press Release, "World Bank Sanctions Oxford University Press for Corrupt Practices Impacting Education Projects in East Africa," July 3, 2012.)

Status of Asset Recovery :

Completed

Stage in Asset Recovery Chain:

Assets Returned to Victim or Requesting Jurisdiction

Agreement for Returned Assets - Description:

Unspecified

Case Summary:

According to the press release by the World Bank, on July 3, 2012, "The World Bank Group today announced the debarment of two wholly-owned subsidiaries of Oxford University Press (OUP), namely: Oxford University Press East Africa Limited (OUPEA) and Oxford University Press Tanzania Limited (OUPT) - for a period of three years following OUP's acknowledgment of misconduct by its two subsidiaries in relation to two Bank-financed education projects in East Africa. The debarment is part of a Negotiated Resolution Agreement between OUP and the World Bank Group. In May 2011, investigators from the World Bank's Integrity Vice Presidency (INT) approached OUP about potential misconduct in Africa. Following this, OUP conducted an internal investigation into its operations and reported its findings to INT. [] The two companies made improper payments to government officials for two contracts to supply text books in relation to two World Bank-financed projects. As a result, OUPEA and OUPT will be debarred for three years and OUP will receive a conditional non-debarment. In addition, in order to remedy part of the harm done by the misconduct, OUP has agreed to make a payment of US\$500,000 to the World Bank as part of the Negotiated Resolution." (Source: The World Bank Press Release, "World Bank Sanctions Oxford University Press for Corrupt Practices Impacting Education Projects in East Africa," July 3,

2012.) In the World Bank Integrity Vice Presidency's fiscal year 2012 Annual Report, the World Bank President Jim Yong Kim stated, "the World Bank Group will continue to work with patience and perseverance on the thornier parts of fighting corruption: [] designing an Anti-Corruption Fund that equitably and purposefully distributes recovered assets and restitution payments to those who would benefit the most." (Source: Integrity Vice Presidency, "Annual Report Fiscal Year 2012: Finding the Right Balance," The World Bank (October 2012), at iv.

Disposition of Criminal Case(s):

N/A (Administrative sanctions case)

Jurisdiction of Origin: Investigative Agency:

UK Serious Fraud Office

Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Investigative Agency:

World Bank Integrity Vice Presidency

Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Prosecuting Authority/Civil Attorney(s):

World Bank Integrity Vice Presidency

Jurisdiction of Asset Recovery: Courts Involved:

N/A

Other Sources:

The World Bank Press Release, "World Bank Sanctions Oxford University Press for Corrupt Practices Impacting Education Projects in East Africa," July 3, 2012, accessed at <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/2012/07/03/world-bank-sanctions-oxford-university-press-corrupt-practices-impacting-education-projects-east-africa>;

World Bank Integrity Vice Presidency, "Annual Report Fiscal Year 2012: Finding the Right Balance," The World Bank (October 2012), accessed at http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2012/10/08/000356161_2012100801.