

**COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL
TRUST FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2023**

COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL TRUST
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Charity Registration number:	1054835
The board of trustees	Dr J Musinguzi (Chairperson) Prof O Olantunbosun Ms M Haslegrave Dr D Musinguzi Prof J Byamugisha Mr D J Cousins
Registered office	BMA House Tavistock Square WC1H 9JP
Correspondence office	Ullyett Cottage, Old School Mews Sandgate Road Folkestone, CT20 3ST
Accountants	Ingles Accountancy Limited Ingles Manor Castle Hill Avenue Folkestone Kent, CT20 2RD
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Charnwood House Harcourt Way Meridian Business Park Leicester, LE3 2WP

COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL TRUST

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2023

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the United Kingdom.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Documents

The Commonwealth Medical Trust (Commat) is a charity no 1054835 in England and Wales. It is governed by its Articles of Association 29 October 1995 and a Supplemental Deed of 30 April 2003.

Appointment of trustees

Commat elects its own trustees, including the Chairperson. Two trustees are resident in the United Kingdom and the other four live in Canada and Uganda respectively. All but two trustees are medically qualified and have been nominated for their expertise in the areas in which Commat works.

Training for new trustees is provided by Commat staff and at meetings of the trustees. Trustees are also encouraged to participate in external events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their roles.

Organisation

The trustees administer the charity. They meet by email and virtually and are responsible for board development, membership, finance and audit. The director is appointed by the trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity and to facilitate effective operations of the charity. To facilitate effective operations, the director has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment and project related activity.

Related parties

Commat works mainly with inter-governmental organisations such as the United Nations Economic and Social Council, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the Commonwealth Secretariat. It also collaborates with other charities and organisations working on related issues in the UK, Europe and Commonwealth developing countries, particularly Uganda.

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy, which comprises:

- an annual review of the risks the charity may face;
- the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the plan;
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimize any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialize.

This work has identified a few minor new risks but it has resulted in better procedures and contingency plans and better planning. Particular attention has focused on financial risks, particularly the development of a reserves policy, although difficult into the current geo-political climate, and its review by trustees.

Objectives and activities

Commat promotes health and prevention of disease and disability, especially in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and the advancement of human rights and medical ethics, particularly for poor and marginalised groups and those in danger of 'being left behind' in Commonwealth developing countries, including with special reference to the role of medical practitioners and their professional association. Wherever possible the trust uses a multisectoral approach including academia, to enhance evidence-based activities.

Commat's activities have focused primarily on promoting the implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda), as well as the preparations for the Summit of the Future, working at different levels:

- (a) At the global level, for example, the Commat Director participated in the High-level Political Forum, speaking as a member of the Governing Body of the UN Economic Commission of Europe Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism (ECE RCEM) on the impact of 'shrinking space' for civil society on the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.
- (b) At both the global and regional levels, Commat collaborated with other organizations to organize side events at the UN High-level Political Forum and the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development on *Water pressure (WASH)*, to highlight the importance of clean, affordable and gender equitable access to water to improve the health and well-being, as well as other aspects of their lives, for women and their children.
- (c) Through the collaboration between David Cousins, lead singer/songwriter of the UK heritage band *Strawbs* as well as being a Commat trustee, and a 15-year-old schoolgirl in South Africa, on *The Water Song*, performed by a South African school marimba band and foundation phase choir, which was performed at the 2023 UN Water Conference.
- (d) With funding from *The Big Give* arising from Commat's collaboration with *SafeHands*, in the context of promoting interlinkages between sustainable development goal (SDG) 6 on water and sanitation and SDG 3 on health and wellbeing and SDG 5 on gender equality and women's empowerment, Commat was able to put two water tanks in the village of Nkuringo, and one in Kihembe, remote villages in Uganda.
- (e) Commat worked with Makerere University in Uganda in developing a proposal for a survey to assess the impact of rainfall in the context of climate change on women's maternal health in Nkuringo. This activity will increase the evidence-base for Commat's work in an area for which a lot of research has not yet been carried out.
- (f) In collaboration with the members of the Civil Society Organization (CSO) Steering Committee, Commat organized the *CSO Consultation on Population and Development: Ensuring Rights and Choices*, for the UNECE Regional Conference for ICPD30, in Geneva in October 2023. Activities included arranging for participants to travel to the Consultation and also participate in the Regional Conference itself.
- (g) Commat has also continued its activities for awareness and support for its work in developing countries using innovative approaches, such as posting the *Gorilla gazette* on its www.NGOsBeyond2014.org website.

During the year Commat worked with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), including with its Eastern European and Central Asia Regional Office, as well as with the UN Economic Commission for Europe.

General comments arising from project implementation

Commat's activities have contributed both at the global level and at the local level, as can be seen by its Director's participation in the United Nations High-level Political Forum and the installation of the water tanks in Nkuringo. They have also provided an opportunity to use different approaches as can be seen in the collaboration on the *Water Song* and the *Gorilla gazette*.

Despite the continued limitations on the availability of overseas development assistance for activities in developing countries, Commat's collaboration with *SafeHands* on *The Big Give* and activities related to ICPD30 have resulted in a significant increase in funding for the year. This will enable Commat to continue to play an important role in global level activities in 2024.

Achievement of objectives for Commat activities in 2023

In the context of its objectives, Commat has achieved the following:

- In its work on health and prevention of disease and disability, Commat has promoted SRHR both at the regional level in its activities related to ICPD30 and in Uganda by providing the water tanks,

meaning that women, often taking their children with them, have to ‘walk for water’ less frequently in the dry seasons. This in turn contributes to them not being left behind

- In its activities related with UN bodies, Commat promotes the role of the medical practitioners and their professional associations and its work with Makerere University is providing enhanced evidence-based activities
- Commat continues to support the promotion of the 2030 Agenda

Personnel

The Commat staff (all part-time) comprise its Director (Trustee and volunteer) and its Webmaster/Project Officer. The Director is responsible for overseeing projects, as well as financial management (accountability, auditing etc); content; and monitoring and evaluation.

Financial Review

Commat was able to carry out its activities within the funds available. While the trustees are pleased with the overall results of the programmes undertaken in meeting the objectives of the charity, they recognize the raising of core funds continues as a major concern and Commat’s policies will continue to include seeking new funding sources for project activities.

Reserves policy

The trustees will continue to work to establish a level of reserves that the charity ought to have. Reserves are needed to bridge the funding gaps between the receipt of grants. Given the nature of the funding that is raised for Commat’s activities, however, the trustees are aware of the difficulties in developing a satisfactory level of reserves.

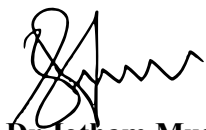
Public Benefit

The principal activities of the charity during the year continued to be to increase the effectiveness of health professionals and their associations, especially in Commonwealth developing countries. The trustees are aware of the Charities Commission guidance on public benefit reporting as set out in Section 17 Charities Act 2011. The trustees believe that the charity achieves a public benefit by providing these services as detailed in the Achievements and Performance section of this report.

Plans for future periods

The major financial concern for the trust, which continues to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine, is the need to find new sources of funding. Commat will continue to work to raise funding for its activities to support all areas of its programme.

Approved on behalf of the board of trustees.



Dr Jotham Musinguzi
28 August 2024

COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL TRUST INDEPENDENT

EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE

TRUSTEES OF THE COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL TRUST

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Commonwealth Medical Trust for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5){b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Ingles Accountancy Limited
Ingles Manor, Castle Hill Avenue
Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2RD

COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Notes	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
				2023	2022
Income from:					
Donations and legacies					
Charitable activities	2		37,246	37,246	19,719
Investments	3	32		32	1
Total income		32	37,246	37,278	19,720
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	4	-	37,265	37,265	19,207
Total expenditure		-	37,265	37,265	19,207
Net income (expenditure)					
for the year		32	(19)	13	513
Transfers between funds					
Net movement		32	(19)	13	513
Balances brought forward					
Balances carried forward		32	(19)	6,299	6,286

All of the activities of the charity are classified as continuing.

The attached notes form part of these financial statements.


COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

Notes	2023	2022
Current assets		
Cash at bank	6,022	1,832
Debtors (accruals rec'd 2023)	276	7,278
	<u>6,298</u>	<u>9,360</u>
6 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	-	(3,074)
Net current assets	<u>6,298</u>	<u>6,286</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	<u>6,298</u>	<u>6,286</u>
Nets assets	<u>6,298</u>	<u>6,286</u>
Total Funds	<u>6,298</u>	<u>6,286</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and signed on their behalf by:


Dr Jotham Musinguzi
28 August 2024

The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 - effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102).

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

b) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

c) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

d) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

e) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2 Detailed comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Income from:		
Charitable activities	37,246	19,719
Investments	32	1
Total income	<u>37,278</u>	<u>19,720</u>
 Expenditure on:		
Charitable activities	37,265	19,207
 Total resources expended	 37,265	 19,207
 Net income/ (expenditure) for the year	 13	 513
 Balances brought forward	 6,284	 5,773
Balances carried forward	<u>6,299</u>	<u>6,286</u>
 Grants receivable	 Restricted Funds	 Total Funds 2022
Undesignated Income	1,244	1,211
Chiswick	125	2,530
Big Give	-	1,002
Donations	4,823	7,256
Safehands Grant	6,653	7,720
UNFPA grant	23,726	-
Other	675	-
	<u>37,246</u>	<u>19,719</u>

COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

3 Investment income	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Bank interest receivable	32	1

4 Resources expended	2023	2022
Direct costs		
Travel and subsistence	5268	9,030
Nkuringo	4302	0
Water Song	852	0
UNFPA	17523	0
	27945	9,030

Support costs

Wages and salaries	6543	8,860
Internet/website and		
Communications	1856	1,117
Sundry expenses	921	200
	37,265	19,207

Payroll costs

The aggregate payroll costs were:

Wages and salaries

No employee earned more than £60,000 during 2023

Particulars of employees:

The average number of staff employed by
the charity during the financial year amounted to:

	2023	2022
Number of administrative staff	2	2

COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

5 Trustees' Remuneration Related Party Transactions

Trustees did not receive remuneration during the year (2023: Nil).

There were no employees in the year (2023: none). There were no employee benefits payments to key management personnel in the year (2023: Nil).

6 Creditors falling due within one year **2023** **2022**

Other creditors	-	(3,074.00)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	(3,074.00)