

**REGISTERED NUMBER: 08119885 (England and Wales)**

**Report of the Directors and  
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2014  
for  
AFRICA CHECK C.I.C.**

**WEDNESDAY**



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COMPANIES HOUSE

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**AFRICA CHECK C.I.C. (Registered number: 08119885)**

**Contents of the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 December 2014**

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**AFRICA CHECK C.I.C.**

**Company Information  
for the Year Ended 31 December 2014**

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<b>DIRECTORS:</b>	R Frimpong FCCA R Holloway N Tallett E Chnje
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	P Cunliffe-Jones
<b>REGISTERED OFFICE:</b>	15th Floor 200 Aldersgate Aldersgate Street London EC1A 4HD
<b>REGISTERED NUMBER:</b>	08119885 (England and Wales)
<b>AUDITORS</b>	Knox Cropper 8/9 Well Court London EC4M 9DN
<b>BANKERS:</b>	HSBC 210 High Holborn London WC1V 7HD
<b>SOLICITORS:</b>	Bates Wells & Braithwaite 2-6 Cannon Street London EC4M 6YH

**AFRICA CHECK C.I.C. (Registered number: 08119885)**

**Report of the Directors  
for the Year Ended 31 December 2014**

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The directors submit their annual report together with the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2014

**LEGAL INFORMATION**

The Company was incorporated on 26th June 2012 in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act (Registration No 08119885) The Company has subsequently been incorporated as a Community Interest Company on 27th September 2013

**PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY**

The object of the company is to promote accuracy in public debate and the media in Africa, doing this not for profit but for the public good The principal activity of the company is the operation of the company's website, [www.africacheck.org](http://www.africacheck.org), on which it both publishes reports investigating the accuracy of claims made by leading public figures and the media in Africa and also provides advice, information, support and encouragement to other media and civil society organisations so that they can fact-check claims for themselves

The main focus of the company's work in the year ended 31st December 2014 was the development of this fact-checking operation

**REVIEW OF BUSINESS**

During the year from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014, the company engaged two new members of staff one, a deputy editor, to assist the team in developing its fact-checking operation in South Africa and around the continent, and the other, a part-time Fundraising and Business Development Manager, to help mobilise financial resources

Funding for the project in 2014 was received from the Open Society Foundation for South Africa, the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa, the Open Society Program on Investigative Journalism, the Omidyar Network, the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, the African Media Initiative and the Shuttleworth Foundation

Over this period, the company published 142 articles checking the accuracy of claims made by leading public figures and institutions in Ghana, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe and other countries

Traffic on the company website, [www.africacheck.org](http://www.africacheck.org), grew by 91% from 2013, to more than 660,000 unique visitors, taking the total number of unique visitors received on the site since it was launched in 2012 to more than one million

At the same time, the team also organised the continent's first awards to honour fact-checking by journalists More than 40 entries from 10 countries were received The winner and two runners up were announced at a ceremony in Nairobi, Kenya, in November

**FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS**

Over the coming year, the company's focus is on maintaining and developing its existing operations in South Africa, the southern Africa region, and Nigeria and developing new sources of revenue to help ensure its financial viability in 2015 and beyond

**AFRICA CHECK C.I.C. (Registered number: 08119885)**

**Report of the Directors  
for the Year Ended 31 December 2014**

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**DIRECTORS**

The directors shown below have held office during the whole of the period from 1 January 2014 to the date of this report

R Frimpong FCCA  
R Holloway  
N Tallett  
E Chinje

**RESULTS**

The surplus on donations received was £20,738 (6 months to December 2013 £4,136) These funds will be used to continue to support the company's activities in 2015 No dividends have been paid or are proposed (2013 £nil)

**STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The directors are responsible for preparing the Report of the Directors and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities

**STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS**

So far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined by Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the company's auditors are unaware, and each director has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself or herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information

**AUDITORS**

The auditors, Knox Cropper, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting

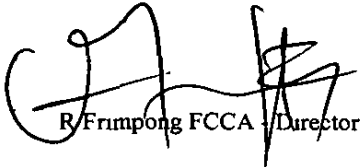
**AFRICA CHECK C.I.C. (Registered number: 08119885)**

**Report of the Directors  
for the Year Ended 31 December 2014**

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This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies

**ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:**



R. Frimpong FCCA - Director

13 July 2015

## **Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of AFRICA CHECK C.I.C.**

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We have audited the financial statements of AFRICA CHECK C I C for the year ended 31 December 2014 on pages seven to ten. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities).

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in a Report of the Auditors and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### **Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities set out on page three, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

### **Scope of the audit of the financial statements**

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed, the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors, and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Report of the Directors to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

### **Opinion on financial statements**

In our opinion the financial statements

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2014 and of its profit for the year then ended,
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities, and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion the information given in the Report of the Directors for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of  
AFRICA CHECK C.I.C.**

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**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns, or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made, or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Directors

*Kevin Lally*

Kevin Lally (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of Knox Cropper  
8/9 Well Court  
London  
EC4M 9DN

13 July 2015



**AFRICA CHECK C.I.C. (Registered number: 08119885)**

**Profit and Loss Account  
for the Year Ended 31 December 2014**

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	Notes	Year Ended 31.12.14 £	Period 1 7 13 to 31 12 13 £
<b>TURNOVER</b>		-	-
Administrative expenses		<u>110,721</u>	<u>50,653</u>
		(110,721)	(50,653)
Other operating income		<u>131,459</u>	<u>54,789</u>
<b>OPERATING PROFIT and PROFIT ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION</b>	3	<b>20,738</b>	<b>4,136</b>
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	4	-	-
<b>PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>		<b><u>20,738</u></b>	<b><u>4,136</u></b>

The notes form part of these financial statements

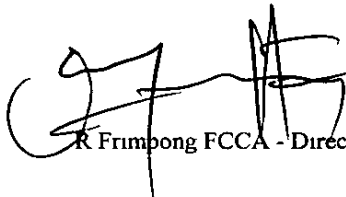
**AFRICA CHECK C.I.C. (Registered number: 08119885)**

**Balance Sheet  
31 December 2014**

	Notes	2014 £	2013 £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	5	-	5,285
Cash at bank		<u>55,843</u>	<u>10,173</u>
		<b>55,843</b>	<b>15,458</b>
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	<u>22,995</u>	<u>3,348</u>
		<b>32,848</b>	<b>12,110</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
		<u>32,848</u>	<u>12,110</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>32,848</u>	<u>12,110</u>
<b>RESERVES</b>			
Profit and loss account	7	<u>32,848</u>	<u>12,110</u>
		<u>32,848</u>	<u>12,110</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008)

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 13 July 2015 and were signed on its behalf by

  
R Frimpong FCCA - Director

The notes form part of these financial statements

**AFRICA CHECK C.I.C. (Registered number: 08119885)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 December 2014**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008)

**Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement**

Exemption has been taken from preparing a cash flow statement on the grounds that the company qualifies as a small company

**2 STAFF COSTS**

There were no staff costs for the year ended 31 December 2014 nor for the period ended 31 December 2013.

**3 OPERATING PROFIT**

The operating profit is stated after charging

	Year Ended 31.12.14 £	Period 1713 to 311213 £
Auditors Remuneration - audit fee	1,770	1,692
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Directors' remuneration and other benefits etc	-	-
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**4 TAXATION**

**Analysis of the tax charge**

No liability to UK corporation tax arose on ordinary activities for the year ended 31 December 2014 nor for the period ended 31 December 2013

**5 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2014 £	2013 £
Other debtors	-	5,285
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**6 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2014 £	2013 £
Trade creditors	1,770	3,348
Other creditors	21,225	-
	<u>22,995</u>	<u>3,348</u>

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**AFRICA CHECK C.I.C. (Registered number: 08119885)**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 December 2014**

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**7 RESERVES**

	<b>Profit and loss account £</b>
At 1 January 2014	<b>12,110</b>
Profit for the year	<b>20,738</b>
	<hr/>
At 31 December 2014	<b>32,848</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>

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## Community Interest Company Report

For official use  
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Please  
complete in  
typescript, or  
in bold black  
capitals.

Company Name in  
full

AFRICA CHECK C.I.C

Company Number

08119885

Year Ending

31.12 2014

This template illustrates what the Regulator of Community Interest Companies considers to be best practice for completing a simplified community interest company report. All such reports must be delivered in accordance with section 34 of the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004 and contain the information required by Part 7 of the Community Interest Company Regulations 2005. For further guidance see chapter 8 of the Regulator's guidance notes and the alternate example provided for a more complex company with more detailed notes.

### **PART 1 - GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPANY'S ACTIVITIES AND IMPACT**

In the space provided below, please insert a general account of the company's activities in the financial year to which the report relates, including a fair and accurate description of how they have benefited the community, or section of the community, which the company is intended to serve.

See separate sheet attached

(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached").

(Please continue on separate continuation sheet if necessary)

**PART 2 – CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS** – Please indicate who the company's stakeholders are, how the stakeholders have been consulted and what action, if any, has the company taken in response to feedback from its consultations? If there has been no consultation, this should be made clear

See separate sheet attached

*(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached")*

**PART 3 – DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION** – if you have provided full details in your accounts you need not reproduce it here. Please clearly identify the information within the accounts and confirm that, "There were no other transactions or arrangements in connection with the remuneration of directors, or compensation for director's loss of office, which require to be disclosed" (See example with full notes) If no remuneration was received you must state that "no remuneration was received" below

No remuneration was received by any director. There were no other transactions or arrangements in connection with the remuneration of directors, or compensation for director's loss of office, which require to be disclosed.

**PART 4 – TRANSFERS OF ASSETS OTHER THAN FOR FULL CONSIDERATION** – Please insert full details of any transfers of assets other than for full consideration e.g. Donations to outside bodies. If this does not apply you must state that "no transfer of assets other than for full consideration has been made" below

No transfer of assets other than for full consideration has been made

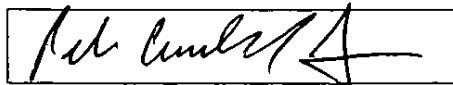
*(Please continue on separate continuation sheet if necessary)*

**(N.B. Please enclose a cheque for £15 payable to Companies House)**

## PART 5 – SIGNATORY

The original report must be signed by a director or secretary of the company

Signed



Date

29/04/2015

Office held (tick as appropriate)  Director  Secretary

You do not have to give any contact information in the box opposite but if you do, it will help the Registrar of Companies to contact you if there is a query on the form. The contact information that you give will be visible to searchers of the public record.

Peter Cunliffe-Jones	
Africa Check	
15 <sup>th</sup> Floor, 200 Aldersgate, London	
EC1A 4HD	Telephone 0207 776 2776
DX Number	DX Exchange

**When you have completed and signed the form, please send it to the Registrar of Companies at:**

*For companies registered in England and Wales:* Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ  
DX 33050 Cardiff

*For companies registered in Scotland:* Companies House, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Edinburgh Quay 2, 139  
Fountainbridge, Edinburgh, EH3 9FF DX 235 Edinburgh or LP – 4 Edinburgh 2

*For companies registered in Northern Ireland:* Companies House, 2nd Floor, The Linenhall, 32-38  
Linenhall Street, Belfast, BT2 8BG

## **PART 1 – GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPANY’S ACTIVITIES AND IMPACT**

The company was formed to promote accuracy in public debate and the media in Africa. It does this by investigating the evidence about some of the key claims in public debate and the media in South Africa, Nigeria and other countries of the continent and publishing its findings about their accuracy.

The reports that Africa Check publishes are made freely available to the media and the wider public via its website and are pushed out to media houses for free republication.

In addition, the company makes available on its site impartial factsheets on key topics and guides to reporters on accurate reporting, both activities aimed at further promoting accuracy in debate and the media.

At the same time, a section of the website provides information, advice and tips for the media and civil society in Africa on how to check the accuracy of claims that are made.

In 2014, it co-sponsored a prize that was awarded honouring the best examples of fact-checking journalism in Africa. The awards will be staged again in 2015 to continue this work.

Since it was launched, Africa Check reports have been read by more than 1.3 million visitors to its site, and by millions more on the platforms of other media houses which have re-used its reports.

As a result of its reports, a whole series of misleading claims on important topics of public debate – from the crime rates in South Africa to the powers of the National Assembly in Nigeria to summon a minister to account for their actions, have been successfully debunked by Africa Check.



## **PART 2 – CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS**

The company's primary stakeholders can be divided into three broad groups the grant-giving organisations that provide the majority of the company's funding, the media and civil society organisations who make use of the company's work, and the general public who both inform and use the company's work

In the course of the year to 31 December 2014, the company had funding from the Open Society Foundation for South Africa (OSF-SA), the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA), the Foundation Open Society Institute (FOSI), the Omidyar Network, the Shuttleworth Foundation, and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

Throughout the year, the company provided a series of reports to keep them well informed about how their grants were being spent and the impact of the company's work on public debate

At the same time, the company liaised closely with media and civil society partners in South Africa and elsewhere who make use of the company's reports, factsheets and guidelines to maintain good relations and continue to provide a useful service

As a result of this work, and consultation, Chris Roper, editor-in-chief of the Mail & Guardian newspaper in South Africa, told Africa Check in 2014 "Africa Check is now an indispensable part of the SA media landscape The reports you produce are useful in themselves and as examples to us all of how to do good journalism " And Mannir Dan-Ali, editor-in-chief of the Daily Trust newspaper in Nigeria declared "The Africa Check initiative is critical for Nigeria Having someone independent checking, and showing others how to check the facts is vital "

Throughout the year, the company has also consulted closely via its website and social media platforms, with members of the public who visit the website and make use of company reports The company actively engages, on a daily basis, with members of the public who send in suggestions for reports and promote the reports on their own social media feeds An example of feedback can be seen on this link <https://africacheck.org/donate/what-you-say/>

As a sign of how the company responds to feedback from the public, approximately half the company's reports that investigated the veracity of claims made by leading public figures over the course of 2014 were generated in response to suggestions sent in by members of the public