Square Country — Financial Audit Report 2024 (€)

Auditor: Office of the National Auditor **Fiscal Year:** 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2024

Currency: € (SCD)

1. Executive summary

• Total revenue (2024 actual): €57,800,000,000

• Total expenditure (2024 actual): 260,500,000,000

• Fiscal balance: Deficit ₹2,700,000,000

• Financing sources: Bonds \(\frac{2}{2}\),000,000,000; Reserve drawdown \(\frac{2}{2}\)700,000,000

• **Compliance:** All audited agencies submitted financial statements on time. Minor procedural irregularities noted, but no evidence of misappropriation.

Opinion: The financial statements present a **true and fair view** of the government's financial position for FY 2024, in accordance with SCD accounting standards.

2. Revenue actuals vs. budget (₴)

Source	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Variance	Notes
Income & corporate taxes	€ 27,000,000,00 0	€ 26,500,000,00 0	- 2 500,000,000	Slight under-collection due to slower corporate profits.
VAT & consumption taxes	€ 15,500,000,00 0	€15,900,000,00 0	+ 2 400,000,000	Stronger retail consumption in Q4.

Property & other taxes	€3,800,000,000	€3,900,000,000	+ 2 100,000,000	Mostly as expected.
Fees, dividends & non-tax revenue	€6,800,000,000	€6,950,000,000	+ 2 150,000,000	Dividend income slightly higher than forecast.
Grants & donor aid	€2,800,000,000	€3,000,000,000	+8200,000,000	Additional grants received for health programs.
Natural-resource rents	€2,000,000,000	€1,550,000,000	- 2 450,000,000	Commodity prices lower than projected.
Total	€ 58,900,000,00	2 57,800,000,00 0	- 2 1,100,000,00 0	

3. Expenditure actuals vs. budget (€)

Sector	Budget 2024	Actual 2024	Variance	Notes
Education	€8,800,000,000	€8,900,000,000	+ 2 100,000,000	Slight overrun in teacher salary adjustments.
Health	€ 10,500,000,00 0	€10,700,000,00 0	+8200,000,000	Additional pandemic preparedness costs.
Social welfare	€11,900,000,000	€ 12,100,000,00 0	+200,000,000	Increase in child benefits and unemployment support.
Infrastructure	2 6,900,000,000	€7,100,000,000	+8200,000,000	Road maintenance costs higher than anticipated.
Defense & public safety	€3,500,000,000	€3,450,000,000	- 2 50,000,000	Minor savings from procurement delays.
Public administration	2 4,800,000,000	2 4,900,000,000	+8100,000,000	IT upgrades and pay adjustments.
Environment & climate action	€1,700,000,000	€1,750,000,000	+ 2 50,000,000	Storm damage repairs.

Economic development	€2,400,000,000	€2,350,000,000	- 2 50,000,000	Some grants delayed.
Debt service	€6,000,000,000	€6,100,000,000	+ 2 100,000,000	Slightly higher interest costs.
Contingency & reserves	€2,500,000,000	€2,250,000,000	- 2 250,000,000	Lower than budgeted drawdowns.
Total	2 58,000,000,00 0	2 60,500,000,00 0	+2,500,000,000	

Observation: Expenditure slightly exceeded revenue, resulting in a **deficit of €2.7B**, within the tolerable range under the fiscal policy framework.

4. Fiscal position

Item	Amount (₴)
Starting debt (2024)	€38,500,000,000
Fiscal deficit 2024	€2,700,000,000
Debt issuance	2 2,000,000,000
Reserve drawdown	€700,000,000
Closing debt (2024)	2 40,500,000,000
Debt/GDP ratio	20.25% (within policy target <30%)

5. Auditor's key findings

- 1. Revenue collection: Mostly compliant; minor delays in corporate tax filings.
- 2. **Expenditure management:** Minor overspends in health, social welfare, and infrastructure, but overall controls effective.
- 3. **Internal controls:** Adequate; recommendation to strengthen asset tracking in infrastructure projects.

4. **Transparency & reporting:** Financial statements submitted on time; publicly available on Ministry of Finance website.

5. Recommendations:

- o Introduce quarterly monitoring for high-variance sectors.
- o Improve forecasting of natural resource rents to better align budget assumptions.
- o Continue modernization of financial management systems in ministries.

6. Conclusion

The **FY 2024** audit concludes that Square Country's financial statements are reliable, the fiscal deficit is manageable, and the government maintains sound fiscal discipline. Minor recommendations focus on forecasting improvements and internal control strengthening.