

Working Group 7: Anti Corruption

Issue 1: Implementation of National Anti Corruption Policy (NACP)

Issue:

- How the ACC will implement the National Anti Corruption Policy (NACP)?

Response / Way Forward:

- ACC will operationalise the implementation of NACP by developing a five-year Implementation Plan
- Need to finalise the Implementation Plan

Issue 2: How to Strengthen Legislation

Issue

- How will legislation be strengthened?

Response

- ACC Act is being reviewed and a draft Bill has been prepared
- ACC 2009 -2013 Strategic Plan projects that the new Law will be in place by 2012
- Government envisages that the new Law will be passed earlier in light of the approval of the NACP

Way Forward

- Finalisation of new ACC Act, wide stakeholder consultation is recommended
- Domestication of the SADC, AU and UN conventions against corruption

Issue 3: Reduced Funding to Governance Institutions

Issue:

- The budgets for governance institutions were reduced. An appeal was made to CPs and Government to increase funding

Response / Way Forward:

- Government and CPs to increase funding to Governance institutions

Issue 4: Follow up on Complaints and Auditor Generals reports

Issues:

- Lack of follow-ups on complaints and Auditor General's report by law enforcement agencies

Response:

- Follow up is made to the Auditor General's (AG) reports but some issues require administrative action.
- Need to share responsibilities in the AG report with other law enforcement agencies

Way Forward

- Permanent witnesses at PAC from the law enforcement agencies
- Improve communication on actions taken

Issue 5: Procurement and corruption prevention

Issue:

- Measures being taken on corruption in procurement

Response:

- A number of workshops were conducted
- Opportunities of where corruption in procurement may occur has been identified
- Zambia Public Procurement Authority (ZPPA) and Institute of Purchasing and Supply were invited to speak on ethics

Way Forward

- Enhance the M&E after the workshops

Issue 6: Work Load at ACC

Issue:

- Concerns were raised on the work load at ACC since 50 percent of reported cases were authorised for investigation and only about 25 percent ended in prosecution

Response

- The work load at ACC was high and therefore the ACC had to prioritise the cases to investigate

Way Forward:

- Implementation of new structure at the ACC

Issue 7: Autonomy Vs Political interference

Issue

- Concerns were raised on whether there was political interference was challenge for ACC.
- An issue of political corruption was also raised, where the government may 'conveniently' take development to an area during elections

Response/Way Forward:

- Each case is investigated on its own merit and facts without fear or favour.
- ACC maintains operational autonomy
- Provisions under the Electoral Act deal with such matters

Issue 8: How to effectively measure the incidence of corruption

Issue

- ACC with the support from the Governance Secretariat is undertaking a corruption survey
- Developing an M&E framework for governance sector

Way Forward

- Results for the survey to be disseminated to stakeholders

Other Concerns

- Lack of follow up on audit recommendations, need for a position from Government
- How can Government ensure that resources it is receiving are utilised for the intended purpose
- Comment on the creation of Financial Intelligence and Fraud Units
- More financial support to governance institutions is required