

2015: The Year in Figures

Trends of ICAC's KPIs indicate that the Commission has now reached a cruising speed in recording and investigating complaints of corruption or money laundering offences. The rough figure of 1,500 complaints per year echoes the degree of public confidence in the Commission in dispensing its mandate. However, the rate of complaints not falling within ICAC's purview still remains high at almost 45%. Such complaints include either grievances from people who do not know which relevant authority to turn to or alleged malpractices in the private sector, among others. Among those set aside, some complaints have led to 31 Corruption Prevention Reviews (CPR) in 2015 alone. The 569 investigations opened so far in 2015 by ICAC suggested the implication of more than 2,000 suspects in possible breaches of sections of the PoCA or FIAMLA, of which, 63% are male and 15% female. The remaining 22% indicates that, although the Preliminary Investigation showed that an offence may have been committed, the progress of the inquiry has not allowed uncovering the identity of the suspect(s) yet...

Page 2



Annual lecture: International Anti-Corruption Day 2015

In the context of the International Anti-Corruption Day 2015, ICAC hosted the first edition of what will now be an annual lecture. Three guest speakers, namely Pierre Dinan, economist, Gilbert Ahnee, media consultant and Rabin Bhujun, chief editor of ION News and executive member of the Media Trust, intervened on the theme "Economic, Social and Political impact of corruption". Some 180 representatives of the Commission's major stakeholders ranging from the public and private sectors, civil society, trade unions to the youth attended the lecture. On that occasion, a revised code of conduct destined to public officials involved in procurement and the Youth Against Corruption platform were also launched. In his exposé, Pierre Dinan advocated that a widespread introduction of codes of conduct be ventilated in a bid to curb corruption opportunities. "I was really pleased to see that earlier we had the launching of a code of conduct intended for public officials involved in procurement, incorporating a principle of service with honesty, not self-service." he stated...

Page 8



Foreign Delegations on Study Tours at ICAC

The ICAC hosted delegates from five countries during the year 2015. The objectives of these visits were to take cognisance of the achievements and initiatives that have been taken to promote integrity and combat corruption and money laundering in Mauritius; mutual learning through interaction and sharing of knowledge; and adapt and adopt anticorruption measures taken in Mauritius. Two delegates from Lesotho Anti-Corruption Agency visited ICAC from 19 to 24 January 2015. During their study tour, they interacted with representatives of the University of Mauritius Anti-Corruption Movement, attended an anti-corruption awareness session for new recruits in the Public Sector, attended a presentation for NGO Women International, had a working session at Flacq Youth Centre with members of the Regional Youth Council and members of Integrity Club of Mahatma Gandhi Secondary School Moka. Their interests mainly pertained to youth and public education.

Page 9



Message

from Luchmyparsad Aujayeb, Director General

The year 2015 has seen several major changes within ICAC: there has been the appointment of a new board and we have moved to our new headquarters in Réduit. More importantly, we have engineered major changes in the manner in which we conduct our mission of spearheading the fight against corruption and money-laundering and we have invested in the future, both for the medium and the long-term.

The core mandate of ICAC is investigation and we have seen testimony of the trust that people now have in us in the number of complaints received during the year: 1,500 by November. At any point in the year, the Corruption Investigation Division has been handling 350 cases at a time based on the number of completed inquiries referred to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and the new investigations opened. Major investigations, namely those dubbed 'Ponzi', are in the process of being completed with over 1,000 statements having been recorded.

Our Education mandate has been given a new impetus through the regrouping of stakeholders in a more structured manner since ICAC is currently striving to weave together existing working groups among youth, Trade Unions, NGOs, Civil Society and the Public and Private Sectors. We believe a holistic approach will enhance their ability and transform them into even more privileged partners. Our vision is to ultimately synergise them into an 'Observatoire de la Corruption', a Corruption Monitoring Platform which will further empower them through sharing of resources, and of experience, in the nation-wide crusade against corruption.

Training imparted to our officers during the year was designed to consolidate our capacity and build on what has already been achieved. The Commonwealth Secretariat ran two training courses in April for Senior Management and Investigators. In June, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) delivered a training module to 128 Integrity Officers in view of expediting and sustaining the effective implementation of the Public Sector Anti-Corruption Framework. Last but not least, two former Directors of ICAC, Hong Kong were here in September for an in-house training workshop for our officers on Corruption Risk Management.

International recognition has been forthcoming with funding agencies such as USAID and the European Union sponsoring study visits of delegations from Benin and the Comoros respectively to ICAC and more delegations coming from Lesotho, Botswana and Madagascar to learn from our experience. Our institution has been considered an example to follow and Mauritius was established as a Small Island Developing States (SIDS) platform for anti-corruption reforms following a resolution at the UNCAC States' Parties meeting in St Petersburg in November 2015.

There are however still challenges ahead. Fighting corruption is, and should be, the responsibility of every citizen and not the responsibility of the anti-corruption agency alone! To drive home this message, we carried out a nation-wide sensitisation campaign during 2015 entitled '*Koripsion:swa oui, swa non, apre asim to decision!*' Education can influence personal choices but not determine them. After an individual who faces a situation that may lead to a corruption offence, has made a decision, ICAC has to enforce the law.

Transparency International rates countries on the basis of a Corruption Perception Index. It is not the anti-corruption agency that is responsible for the rating! On the contrary, its role is to combat corruption and in so doing, reduce the perception of corruption also. We believe the time has come for the whole country to join together with us and foster a synergy of efforts towards building a corruption-free society. During 2016, ICAC will therefore spearhead such a holistic approach for the development and promotion of a National Anti-Corruption Policy. This will bring renewed impetus to our constant endeavour to fight corruption.

2015: The year in

Trends of ICAC's KPIs indicate that the Commission has now reached a cruising speed in recording and investigating complaints of corruption or money laundering offences. The rough figure of 1,500 complaints per year echoes the degree of public confidence in the Commission in dispensing its mandate. However, the rate of complaints not falling within ICAC's purview still remains high at almost 45% (fig.3). Such complaints include either grievances from people who do not know which relevant authority to turn to or alleged malpractices in the private sector, among others. Among those set aside, complaints have led to 31 Corruption Prevention Reviews (CPR) in 2015 alone.

The 569 investigations opened so far in 2015 by ICAC suggested the implication of at least 2,000 suspects (fig.2) in possible breaches of sections of the PoCA or FIAMLA, of which, 63% are male and 15% female. The remaining 22% indicates that, although the Preliminary Investigation showed that an offence may have been committed, the progress of the inquiry has not allowed uncovering the identity of the suspect(s) yet. An analysis of the age-group distribution uncovers that the "40-44 year old" and the "50-54 year old" segments are the most recurrent (at 19% both) among the corruption and money laundering suspects.

29 persons have been found guilty of corruption and money-laundering cases as at 10 December, 2015 (fig.1). However, care must be taken not to consider the number of cases lodged and the number of convictions in line with the number of Preliminary or Further Inquiries opened during the same year. Investigation is an ongoing process and more often than not overlaps over the years. Depending on its complexity, an investigation may take between three months to three years to be completed. This time frame excludes the prosecution process.

Fig. 1: Trend of KPI's

	2013	2014	as at 10 Dec 2015
182 Total no. of persons convicted as at 10/12/15			
Complaints received	1612	1534	1530
Preliminary Investigations initiated	533	490	569
Further Investigations initiated	108	106	86
No. Persons Arrested	52	44	47
Cases lodged	59	23	41
No. Persons convicted	23	21	29

statistics*

*as at 10 December, 2015

Fig. 2: Profiling of Suspects

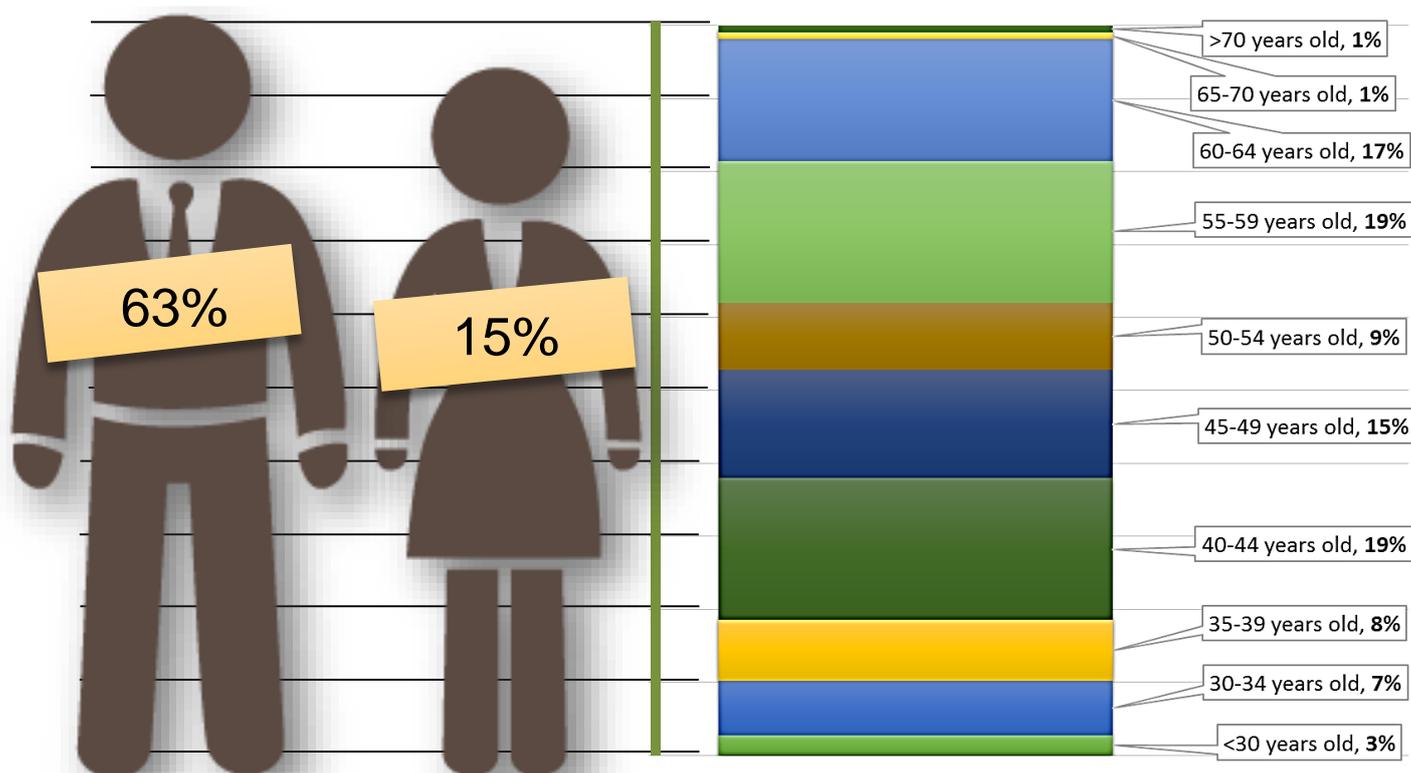
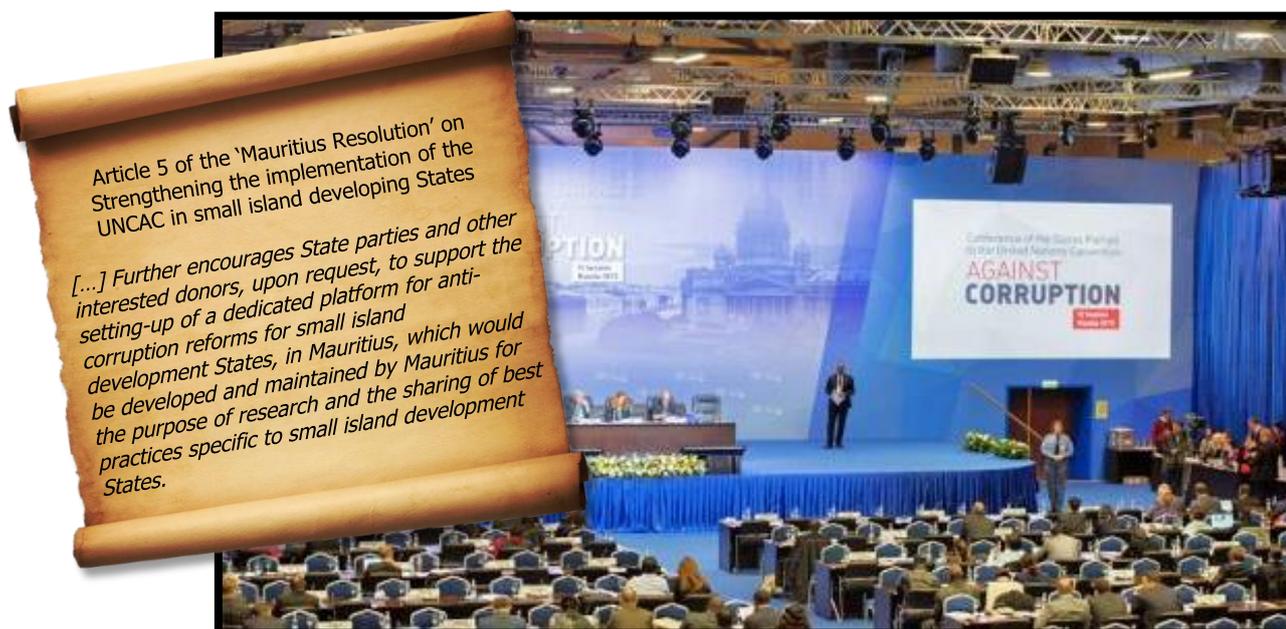


Fig. 3: Breakdown of Complaints & Investigations Opened

Complaints received	1530
Preliminary Investigation (PI) initiated	569
Complaints set aside*	978
└ Did not disclose an offence within ICAC's purview (NP)	699
└ Referred to Commissioner of Police	46
└ Referred to Mauritius Revenue Authority	16
└ Referred to National Transport Authority	8
└ Referred to Financial Services Commission	2
└ Referred to relevant Ministry	44
└ Referred to Local Authorities	8
└ Referred to Registrar of Cooperatives	1
└ Referred to Registrar of Association	3
└ Referred to Medical Council	2
└ Referred to ICTA	1
└ Referred Local Government Service Commission	1
└ Referred to Pharmacy Board	2
└ Lack of pertinent information from anonymous complainant	62
└ Already investigated, alternative action taken (eg. CPR, disciplinary action recommended etc.)	83
Ongoing Investigations	308
Discontinued after PI (disclosing no PoCA/FIAMLA offence)*	566

* Includes figures brought forward from previous year

United Nations Convention Against Corruption Conference State Parties discuss Corruption in Russia



The resolution voted at the sixth session of the Conference of State Parties to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, held in St Petersburg, Russia during the first week of November 2015, saw the establishment of a SIDS platform for anti-corruption reforms in Mauritius for the purpose of research and sharing of best practices specific to small island development States.

Mauritius sponsored the Resolution entitled "Strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption in small islands states". The initiative for such a resolution stemmed from the outcome of the Global Conference on Anti-Corruption Reforms in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) which was held at Le Meridien, Pointe aux Piments in August 2015. During the said Global Conference, 17 SIDS expressed their concerns and challenges with respect to the implementation of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC). It was recognised that in view of their smallness and constraints relating to human capacity, resources and accessibility, SIDS required specific anti-corruption reforms that were affordable, sustainable, and effective to prevent and combat corruption.

At the Conference held in Mauritius, SIDS recognised that amongst other concerns, there was a need to develop and implement legislation for the protection of witnesses, experts, victims and reporting persons in accordance with articles 32 and 33 of UNCAC and implement legislation on bribery of foreign public officials and officials of public international organisations, trading in influence, illicit enrichment, bribery in the private sector and liability of legal persons, as addressed in articles 16, 18, 20, 21 and 26 respectively of the said Convention. SIDS noted that it should be a priority for them to prevent corruption in public

procurement, and that there is an urgent need for capacity building at the level of the investigatory and prosecutorial agencies as well at the level of Central Authorities. SIDS also expressed their appreciation to Mauritius for volunteering to provide a platform for small island developing States to share good practices and lessons learnt in anti-corruption reform initiatives. It was recommended that the general concerns of SIDS as set out in the "Mauritius Communiqué" be reflected in a formal resolution, to be presented at the Conference of State Parties, which was held in St Petersburg Russia.

The Resolution presented at St Petersburg was subject to a number of informal discussions, queries and challenges before being formally adopted at the Plenary Session. The resolution also recognises that Mauritius would be leading in anti-corruption reforms, in as much as it spells out that henceforth Mauritius will host and maintain a platform for research and sharing of best practices specific to SIDS. Some SIDS have already expressed their interest to benefit from the platform to be hosted by Mauritius. It is worth noting that at the Plenary Session, the resolution which was then being formally supported by Fiji, Guatemala, Haiti and Nauru, had the formal co-sponsorship of two non-SIDS countries, namely Colombia and Gabon.

Mr K.Goburdhun, Chief Legal Adviser at ICAC, was invited by the UNODC to make a presentation on "Anti-Corruption Reform in Small Islands States, Opportunities and Priorities" at the side event held at Lenexpo Exhibition Complex, during the holding of the Conference. Other panelists at the side event were Mr. Nandi Glassie Minister of Cook Islands, Mr. Jose Dan Neves Deputy Commissioner of the Anti-Corruption Commission of Timor Leste, Mr Dirk Harrisson, Contractor General of Jamaica, Mr. Phil Mason, Senior Anti-Corruption Adviser of the UK Government on International Development and Mr Chua Chang Man, from the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission. These panelists presented

papers on anti-corruption reforms in SIDS, national anti-corruption coordination and reforms, combatting corruption through procurement processes, technical assistance to strengthening anti-corruption measures in SIDS, and technical cooperation in SIDS respectively.

At the Conference, The UNODC made available a number of new publications to participants. Some of these were (a) An Anti-Corruption Ethics and Compliance Programme for Business: A Practical Guide; (b) National Anti-Corruption Strategies, A Practical Guide for Development and Implementation; (c) A Strategy for safeguarding against Corruption in Major Public Events; (d) Reporting on corruption: A resource tool for Governments and Journalists; (e) Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Protection of Reporting Persons; and (f) A Resource Guide on State Measures for Strengthening Corporate Integrity. Soft copies of these publications are available on the UNODC website on the following URL: <https://unodc.org>.

Testimonial Cook Islands delegation



Mr Nandi Glassie

"The Cook Islands are a group of some 15 islands in the Pacific. Our population is around 15000 people, and tourism is our main economic back-bone. As a very small island State, we face specific challenges of our own; one of them being depopulation. There are more job opportunities available in New Zealand and Australia, and we are affected by a major brain drain. Despite of our own specific challenge, as a State, we also need to fulfil our international obligations, and fighting corruption is one of them. We encourage the initiative for Mauritius being a platform for research and sharing of good practices. The Cook Islands certainly look forward to benefit from this platform in order to address problems of conflict of interests, nepotism and favoritism that arise so frequently in the spheres of public functions especially in Small Island developing State like ours"

Mr. Nandi Glassie, Minister of Health, Justice, & Parliamentary Services

Testimonial Comoros delegation



Mr Mohamed El-Had Abbas (left) & Mr Mouzaoui Amroine (right)

« La délégation comorienne, à la sixième conférence des États Parties à la Convention des Nations Unies Contre la Corruption- tenue à St Petersburg, durant la première semaine du mois de novembre 2015- était composée de (i) Son Excellence Monsieur Mohamed El-Had Abbas, Garde des Sceaux, Ministre de la Justice, de la Fonction publique, des Réformes Administratives, des Droits de l'homme et des Libertés et des Affaires Islamiques et (ii) Monsieur Mouzaoui Amroine, Commissaire Général Adjoint de la Commission Nationale de Prévention et de Lutte contre la Corruption (CNPLC).

Lors d'un entretien accordé à St Petersburg, M Amroine a souligné que l'archipel des Comores- composé d'environ 800,000 âmes - a durant un passé récent, accompli bon nombre de réformes institutionnelles dans le domaine de la bonne gouvernance. La CNPLC a été créée en application d'une loi de 2008 qui a été par la suite amendée en 2013. Cette Commission a déjà accompli certaines réalisations entre autres, la coopération avec les institutions qui œuvrent dans la bonne gouvernance dont l'institution judiciaire, la Direction ainsi que l'Autorité de Régulation sur la passation des marchés publics, la Section des comptes de la Cour suprême ou encore l'organe chargé de la lutte contre le blanchiment d'argent. Cette initiative appuie la CNPLC dans son suivi sur la sanctionner des détournements des fonds publics.

M. Amroine accueille favorablement la résolution présentée par l'île Maurice qui vise à consolider les provisions des articles de la Convention des Nations Unis contre la Corruption au sein des petits états insulaires en développement (PEID), et à créer une plate-forme dédiée à la lutte contre la corruption à L'île Maurice, Non seulement cette plate-forme servira pour les besoins de recherches dans ce domaine dynamique et spécifique qu'est la lutte contre la corruption au sein des PEID mais cette plate-forme sera aussi utilisée pour que les PEID puissent partager les bonnes pratiques dans le domaine de la lutte contre la corruption.

La CNPLC a bien des défis à relever surtout en ce qu'il s'agit de la répression contre les délits et crimes financiers ainsi que le blanchiment d'argent mais aussi d'une forte prévention à leur rencontre auprès de la population. M. Amroine espère donc que la dite plate-forme puisse contribuer pour réaliser ces défis et qu'elle puisse aider dans la formation des agents publics comoriens et a même proposé une collaboration entre la CNPLC et la Commission Indépendante Contre La Corruption, de l'île Maurice. »

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

UNODC: National Anti-Corruption Strategies

The UNODC issued a "Practical Guide for Development and Implementation of National Anti-Corruption Strategies" this September 2015. The said Guide prepared by Richard Messick and Professor Mathew Stephenson from Harvard Law School benefitted from the inputs of various international stakeholders, including those of ICAC.

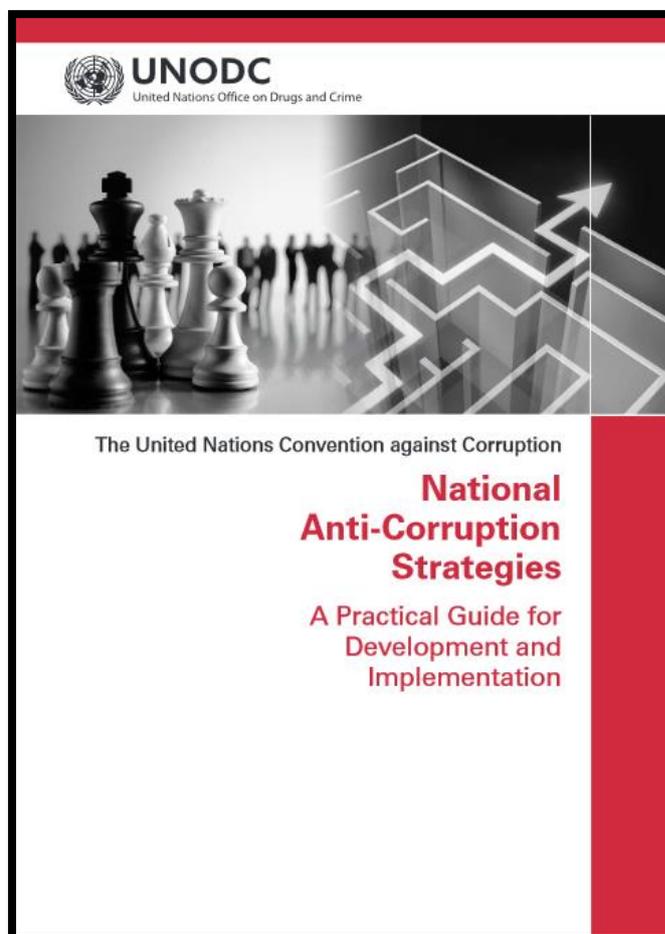
Article 5 of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption states that "Each State Party shall in accordance with the fundamental principles of its legal system, develop and implement or maintain effective, coordinated anti-corruption policies that promote the participation of society and reflect the principles of the rule of law, proper management of public affairs and public property, integrity, transparency and accountability."

For many countries achieving the objective under Article 5 may entail the drafting of a national anti-corruption strategy, although having a written national policy is not mandatory. There are at present some 70 countries which have issued a single anti-corruption strategy or a set of documents that constitutes a comprehensive anti-corruption framework.

The Practical Guide, which is divided into five main chapters, aims at addressing key aspects that need to be taken into consideration when formulating a National Anti-Corruption Strategy. These issues, covered under the Chapters, are as follows:-

(i) **The drafting process**:-This is considered as a crucial first stage of having a National Anti-Corruption Strategy. One of the major pit-falls is that a national strategy should not be a long "wish-list" or a haphazard collection of disconnected, unorganised ideas and suggestions. The body overseeing the drafting should have sufficient autonomy, expertise and high-level political support. It is also recommended that for an effective and appropriate strategy to be produced, key stakeholders, both inside and outside government, should be given an opportunity to be consulted and make recommendations.

(ii) **Preliminary Diagnosis and situations analysis**:-A National Strategy should be able to accurately assess the problems and challenges that a country faces in combatting corruption. The preliminary diagnosis should not be limited to taking stock of the scope and extent of corruption in a country, but should be able to evaluate a country's experience in combatting corruption. For instance, the drafting committee would need to address the gaps in the law and consider whether (i) laws are being enforced effectively, (ii) agencies responsible for investigating and prosecuting corruption offences have sufficient resources and technical skills, (iii) the role of the agencies set up to combatting corruption is clear, and (iv) there are laws, practices or even institutions that are contributing to the corruption problems. Making such a diagnosis can be time



consuming and resource intensive. It is, therefore, important for those involved in drafting a national strategy to develop a realistic plan for gathering information from a wide range of resources (country surveys, surveys on actual or perceived experience of corruption, internet platforms and social media). Making a situation analysis also entails identifying specific challenges or obstacles for reform. There may be resources constraints in bringing about a reform, but more importantly there may also be resistance to reforms. For instance, civil servants might oppose the introduction of a new stringent ethics code for fear that they may unknowingly run afoul this provision. Of course, if this is to be the case, the drafters should seek ways and means to reduce such opposition and, in the example provided, they need to create a system within the code to allow civil servants to seek advice or advanced approval of particular conduct, if same could be subject to questioning.

(iii) **Formulating the anti-corruption measures**:-The National Strategy should be able to set out ambitious and realistic goals. The balance between ambition and realism is a difficult one to strike but by being ambitious the strategy goes beyond being a mere blueprint for policy reforms with proposals for minor changes over a status quo. The Strategy needs to be a document that puts pressure for changes. It needs to not only set out concrete

recommendation for reform and explain what each reform is intended to accomplish, but it also needs to explain why and how such reform needs to be accomplished. The Guide also recognises that it is impossible to attend to every reform, and not every possible reform is likely to be equally effective or feasible. Consequently, the drafters of the Strategy Document should be able to identify the areas of highest priority and the sequence in which a country should tackle various reforms. The Strategy should also specify whether the reforms can be brought about, in the short, medium or in the long terms. This is important because no explicit acknowledgement of a time period for an effective implementation of a reform may lead to disillusionment and cynicism amongst citizens.

(iv) **Ensuring Effective Implementation:-** A national anti-corruption strategy relies on various agencies to operate independently to further anti-corruption efforts. However, some agencies may not be willing to embrace changes and would rather favour the corrupt status quo, whereas others may look for ways and means to undermine implementation. The Guide proposes the setting up of a single, high-level entity in charge of coordinating and implementing the anti-corruption strategy. It is expected that such a high-level entity might face challenges of its own. For instance, it may lack the authority to compel other agencies to align their policy and actions with the national strategy. The coordinating unit may neither have the skills

nor the staff to micro-manage other government departments, and all attempts to do so may create unwarranted friction. The coordinating unit will, therefore, need to devise ways and means to earn the respect of implementation agencies to further voluntary compliance. It may also attempt to harness the power of reputation, using public praise or criticism to motivate agencies to work effectively.

(v) **Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting:-** The Guide recognises that the strategy to be adopted should contain a plan for monitoring and evaluating its implementation and impact to ensure that the plan is not only being properly executed, but that it is also having the desired impact. The Guide sets out the various avenues available for a State Party to monitor and evaluate the impact of anti-corruption measures. The Guide does not encourage countries to evaluate their success or failure in combatting corruption by tracking on a yearly basis whether a country's score on Transparency International Corruption Index or other international indexes has improved or worsened. It is recognised that year to year changes in these index scores are not meaningful and that fixation on these scores can be distracting, confusing and even counterproductive.

The Guide can be consulted on the UNODC website on the URL: <https://goo.gl/UBeUzL>

ICAC & CBI (India) in talks to sign MoU

In a bid to further capacity & skills amongst its newly appointed investigators, the ICAC is currently discussing with the Central Bureau of Investigations (CBI) of India, to assist in the training of its investigators. The courses offered by the CBI academy have over the past years been opened to overseas participants and are very much innovative in addressing the new challenges faced by investigators.

The classical manner of layering proceeds of crime by purchasing a series of immovable property or investing in stocks has given way to more sophisticated means of layering, such as for instance investing in Bit-Coins. The tracing of assets and beneficial owners on cyber space requires a new mind-set and innovative investigative skills. Furthermore, the securing of electronic based evidence for same to be admissible in a court of law requires some degree of training. As ICAC has been in the process of setting its own IT lab, the collaboration with the CBI academy to further build capacity could not have come at a more opportune time.

The courses offered at the CBI Academy cover a range of specialties including economic offences corruption, money laundering and cyber-crimes. It is expected that should the current discussions initiated be fruitful, the Memorandum of Understanding between the two parties could be signed early next year.

From its official website, the CBI, functioning under the Department of Personnel, Ministry of Personnel, Pension &



Image source: <http://www.ndtv.com>

Public Grievances, Government of India, is the premier investigating police agency in India. It is an elite force playing a major role in preservation of values in public life and in ensuring the health of the national economy. It is also the nodal police agency in India which coordinates investigation on behalf of Interpol Member countries.

Over the years CBI has built up an image for professionalism and integrity. The services of its investigating officers are sought for by all major investigations in the country. The CBI has to investigate major crimes in the country having interstate and international ramifications. It is also involved in collection of criminal intelligence pertaining to three of its main areas of operation, viz., Anti-Corruption, Economic Crimes and Special Crimes.

Annual Lecture: International Anti-Corruption Day 2015



In the context of the **International Anti-Corruption Day 2015**, ICAC hosted the first edition of what will now be an annual lecture. Three guest speakers, namely Pierre Dinan, economist, Gilbert Ahnee, media consultant and Rabin Bhujun, chief editor of ION News, intervened on the theme *"Economic, Social and Political impact of corruption"*. Some 180 representatives of the Commission's major stakeholders ranging from the public and private sectors, civil society, trade unions to the youth attended the lecture. On that occasion, a revised code of conduct destined to public officials involved in procurement and the Youth Against Corruption platform were also launched.

In his exposé, Pierre Dinan advocated that a widespread introduction of codes of conduct be ventilated in a bid to curb corruption opportunities. *"I was really pleased to see that earlier we had the launching of a code of conduct intended for public officials involved in procurement, incorporating a principle of service with honesty, not self-service."* he stated. *"To reinforce the notion of trust, we need the introduction of codes of conducts at various levels: political, civil service, parastatals and other national institutions, the corporate world and professions, trade unions, civil societies and NGOs."* Pierre Dinan also emphasised that codes of conduct will have no effect if they are not accompanied by a proper mindset based on ethical values.

For his part, for Gilbert Ahnee he started his presentation on the following premise: *"After 35 years of journalism, I wish I could tell you who is corrupt and who is not. Unfortunately, I do not have an answer to this question. However before going further, we need to be fair. Mauritius, this small island development State with less than 50 years of independence and still in the process of developing its institutions and judicial framework, being 47th in the Transparency International Index is not bad at all. And I say this without any complacency whatsoever, but we are not among the worst."* Mr Ahnee shared his personal definition of corruption,

which is: 'people having illegal or fraudulent access to public or private resources, the beneficiaries of which enjoy rights that are refused to others'. He further developed his exposé based on societal examples in Mauritius which tend to favour the notion of inequality of rights, and how it refers to inequality may ultimately lead to corruption.

Rabin Bhujun wrapped up the lecture with the following arguments: *"From the experience and interactions I have as a journalist, I can safely posit that corruption arises from the weakening of our institutions. For the sake of this exposé, I will also consider the Mauritian citizen himself as an institution, which is unfortunately gradually dwindling. The citizen has now embarked on a vicious circle: he has less and less trust in institutions and because of this, his actions contribute to weakening these same institutions."* Citing a few examples to support his opinion, Rabin Bhujun further developed his idea of how this vicious circle may lead to the prevalence of potentials for corruption. In his conclusion, he advocated that salvation will come with citizens better understanding how institutions function.



Guest speakers Rabin Bhujun (left), Gilbert Ahnee (centre) and Pierre Dinan (right) engaged in a stimulating discussion with the stakeholders present after their exposés.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Foreign Delegations on Study Tours at ICAC



Delegates from the Commission Nationale de Prévention et de Lutte Contre La Corruption of Comoros with ICAC officers

The ICAC hosted delegates from five countries during the year 2015. The objectives of these visits were to take cognisance of the achievements and initiatives that have been taken to promote integrity and combat corruption and money laundering in Mauritius; mutual learning through the interactions and sharing of knowledge; and adapt and adopt anticorruption measures taken in Mauritius.

Lesotho

Two delegates from Lesotho Anti-Corruption Agency visited ICAC from 19 to 24 January 2015. During their study tour, they interacted with representatives of the University of Mauritius Anti-Corruption Movement, attended an anti-corruption awareness session for new recruits in the Public Sector, attended a presentation for NGO Women International, had a working session at Flacq Youth Centre with members of the Regional Youth Council and members of Integrity Club of Mahatma Gandhi Secondary School Moka. Their interests mainly pertained to youth and public education.

Botswana

A delegation from Botswana Anti-Corruption Agency was in Mauritius from 07 to 11 September 2015. The delegate had discussions with various stakeholders, notably Mr R. Makoond, Director, Joint Economic Council and Mrs J.Valls from Mauritius Institute of Management, particularly with regard to private sector engagement in the fight against corruption. An exchange session was organised with anti-corruption clubs for a mutual learning on perception of corruption in the public and private sectors by students and club facilitators.

Comoros

In mid-November, five delegates from the *Commission Nationale de Prévention et de Lutte Contre La Corruption of Comoros* were in Mauritius during the week of 16-20 November. During their stay, the delegates had a gist of the education, prevention and investigation mandates of ICAC. They also attended a preliminary round of the public speaking competition at the Hotel School of Mauritius, where tertiary education students demonstrated their commitment to the fight against corruption. The Comoros delegation's visit was facilitated by the European Union.

Madagascar

A delegation of 24 young people from the Malagasy Republic visited the ICAC on Wednesday 19 August 2015 in the context of a "Youth Leadership Training Program" (YLTP). The young leaders were from various professional backgrounds, namely the public sector, media, judiciary, education and civil society. The aim of the visit was to enable participants to learn and find out the reasons why Mauritius is cited as a success story in the field of good governance in Africa.

Benin

A delegation of five persons from the *Front des Organisations Nationales contre la Corruption (FONAC)* of Benin, visited ICAC from 23-27 November 2015 with the aim to share experiences and learn about anti-corruption strategies and adopt similar strategies/measures to fight corruption in their country. Working sessions were held with public and private sector stakeholders for the delegates to take stock of the initiatives taken to fight corruption in different areas. The study tour of the FONAC to Mauritius was conducted under the recommendation of the USAID programme.

ICAC's Anti-Corruption Education Strategy 2016-2017

Corruption is a social evil which has serious consequences on the economy, the society and the rights of individuals. Fighting corruption is not limited to criminalisation and prosecution but equally necessitates education and prevention. Since the inception of ICAC, corruption prevention and education in Mauritius have been high on its agenda. The strategy adopted has evolved over the years to meet the changing needs and expectations of the Mauritian society. Numerous strategies from awareness-raising to empowerment, mobilisation and partnership-building have been adopted by ICAC since 2003. As from 2015, besides empowerment, ICAC's prevention and education strategy has focused principally on securing the active participation and engagement of its stakeholders in the fight against corruption. This strategy will be further reinforced as enunciated in the Action Plan January 2016-June 2017 described below.

The ICAC will adopt an inclusive and integrated approach where all the components of the Mauritian society are taken on board in the fight against corruption. Thus, our anti-corruption activities would target legislators, decision makers, public officers, private sector employees, religious groups, trade unions, NGOs, professionals, the student population and members of the civil society.

Youth

The youth occupies a prominent place in the Action Plan 2016-2017 as they represent almost 30 % of the Mauritian population. An anti-corruption campaign will be conducted targeting Lower Six students in all secondary schools. Some 100 existing Integrity Clubs will be sustained and new clubs set up. A Life Skills programme targeting upper secondary students will be developed and implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research. Furthermore, youth will be encouraged to participate actively in anti-corruption initiatives taken by the Youth Against Corruption (YAC) platform. On the other hand, proposals are being worked out for the integration of anti-corruption elements in the secondary school curriculum and the development of an anti-corruption module to be included in the teacher's training programme run by the Mauritius Institute of Education (MIE) in the context of the nine-year schooling.

Public Sector

Public sector integrity will be further reinforced through the implementation of the Public Sector Anti-Corruption Framework (PSACF), development of Best Practice Guides, Codes of Conduct and empowerment of public officials, including new recruits of the public service. It is expected that by end of 2016, more than 100 public sector organisations will be implementing the PSACF and that anti-corruption mechanisms will form an integral part in their systems and processes. A Code of Conduct which is being developed for members of the National Assembly as well as for CEOs and management of parastatal bodies will be validated for implementation. An appropriate mechanism will be developed to monitor post award of contracts by

public bodies. This is a serious issue that needs to be addressed to eliminate opportunities for malpractices/corruption. Integrity Officers who have already undergone training will be further empowered and supported. An Integrity Management Toolkit will be developed and launched. An anti-corruption module will be integrated in the Learning Management System developed by the Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms.

A number of initiatives have also been earmarked in the business sector. Based on the growing demands, empowerment workshops will be organised for private sector employees and more particularly the staff of financial institutions. The report of the committee on the allocation of Permits and Licensing in Local Authorities will be published. ICAC will also collaborate in the implementation of an Integrity Pledge devised by the Private Sector Taskforce (PACT). The aim is to reinforce integrity in business.

Private Sector

Action Plan 2016-2017 moreover seeks to strengthen collaboration for an inclusive strategy for collective actions against corruption. In this vein, the various platforms namely, the Public Private Platform Against Corruption (PPPAC), the Trade Union Against Corruption (TAC), the Youth Against Corruption (YAC) and the Civil Society Network Against Corruption will be consolidated and sustained. The aim is to synergise our efforts and render the fight against corruption more dynamic and effective. ICAC will act as facilitator to ensure that the various platforms take ownership of anti-corruption initiatives and that proper anti-corruption mechanisms are put in place.

Another pillar of our education and prevention strategy will be to market the concept of social responsibility. Fighting corruption is a collective responsibility. Every citizen of the Republic of Mauritius needs to realise that he/she has a duty and obligation to fight corruption. This will be further strengthened through seminars, workshops, anti-corruption competitions, edutainment activities and mass communication, among others.

Rodrigues

An anti-corruption campaign will be conducted targeting all components of the Rodrigues population, namely youth from the informal sector, primary school pupils, secondary and post-secondary students, public officials and members of the civil society. Special attention will be paid to the sustainability of Integrity Clubs at secondary school level and the Rodrigues Anti-Corruption Initiative for Collective Action recently set up. The 'Integrity Officer' project presently being implemented in Mauritius will be extended to public sector organisations in Rodrigues. Thus, it is hoped that the strategy adopted in 2016-17 will yield concrete results and contribute towards a zero-tolerance culture in the Republic of Mauritius. The ultimate goal is to track the corrupt and the corruptee, develop an intolerance to corruption and fight impunity.

Youth Against Corruption (YAC)

The Youth Networking Forum: progress achieved

"Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country." These words of JFK may sound rather ideological, yet some of us are living by them. The urge to bring significant change to the socioscope of our country is precisely what motivates us, executive members of Youth Against Corruption (YAC), to fuse our enthusiasm, energy and efforts towards a common goal: fighting corruption.

Our paths crossed during the National Youth Networking Forum on 29 September 2015, an initiative of ICAC, which opened the floor to debate and discussion on the burning issue of corruption in Mauritius. Opinions collided to the verge of brawl; but in the end we came to the realization that we all have a common war cry: enough, enough of corruption in Mauritius!

Who are we? Out of the 180 attendees of the National Youth Networking Forum, we are a vibrant team of young professionals and students who mobilised across differences to constitute the YAC executive committee. This is what some of the members had to say:

"When facts were put upon us about the reaction and perception of youth on corruption, I had that voice in my mind telling me that this was a cause worth fighting for."
Reema Tareshwaree Camalapan, Vice-chairperson of YAC.

"The reason why I decided to join YAC is because it gives us, the youth, the opportunity and liberty to express our thoughts and propositions to curb this vicious contagion called corruption." Akshay Khemnah, student at Open University of Mauritius.

"YAC is one of the rays of hope in the fight against corruption, and having the opportunity to be part of it tallies with my personal motive to bring the fight against corruption even farther!" Nazeer Hussain, student at Middlesex University Mauritius Branch.

The September 2015 issue of the ICAC Newsletter introduced YAC as an umbrella organization for integrity clubs in secondary schools and anti-corruption clubs set up in higher education institutions. Since then, YAC has widened its objectives and defined them as follows: to act as a platform for the youth to express their views and opinions on ways and means of preventing corruption; to encourage and empower the youth to take ownership of the fight against corruption; to mobilise active youth engagement and propose strategies for youth engagement in the fight against corruption; to seek the engagement and support of all stakeholders in the promotion of an anti-corruption culture; to coordinate and ensure visibility and effectiveness of youth anti-corruption initiatives; and to ensure sustainability of anti-corruption initiatives in the long run.

YAC certainly adopts a holistic approach to confronting the issue of corruption, but the executive committee proceeds with meticulous planning to ensure sustained action. Our



Diizz Interactive is the winner of the YAC logo competition. Its representative, Anabelle Favory, describes the logo as follows: *"This logo is an origami bird bearing the national colours of Mauritius, flying away, representing a nation freed from corruption. The origami may also represent folded notes, secret papers, often used during bribery. And in the logo, the flying bird is breaking away from that."*

minds are full of ideas, yet we share a common dream: that of a corruption-free Mauritius. Since colossal dreams require colossal actions, executive meetings are held on a weekly basis to decide on the way forward. Our zeal may be as youthful as our ideas, but we ensure proper channeling of our oomph. And we definitely have a lot up our sleeves.

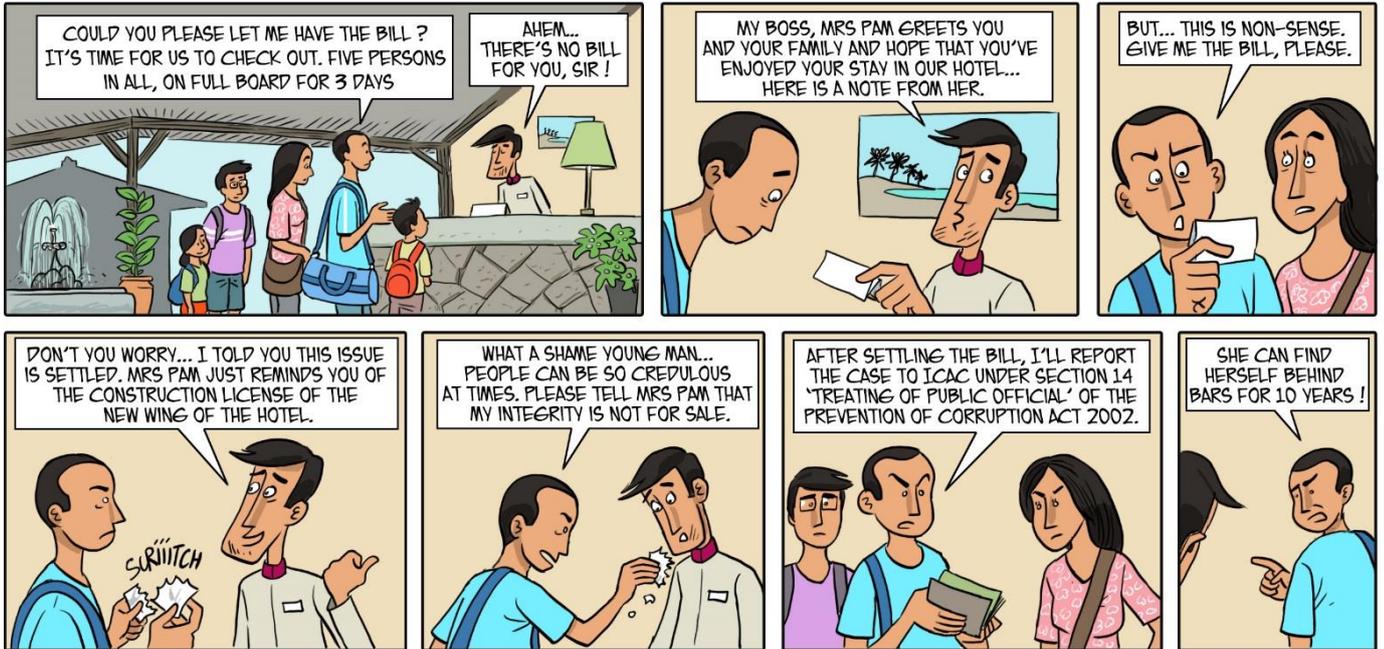
Our Chairperson Yashraj Rohan Bhudoye, a law student, has been expediting the visibility of YAC through media coverage. Our Facebook group (Youth Against Corruption – Mauritius) has attracted nearly 2 500 members in just a couple of months. As a matter of fact, we believe every Mauritian youth is a de facto member of YAC. Our first activities have been an interactive session with delegates of the International Forum for Good Governance (IFGG) on 1 December 2015, and a nationwide contest launched on 16 October 2015 to find the YAC logo.

Mansa Daby
(YAC Executive Member)

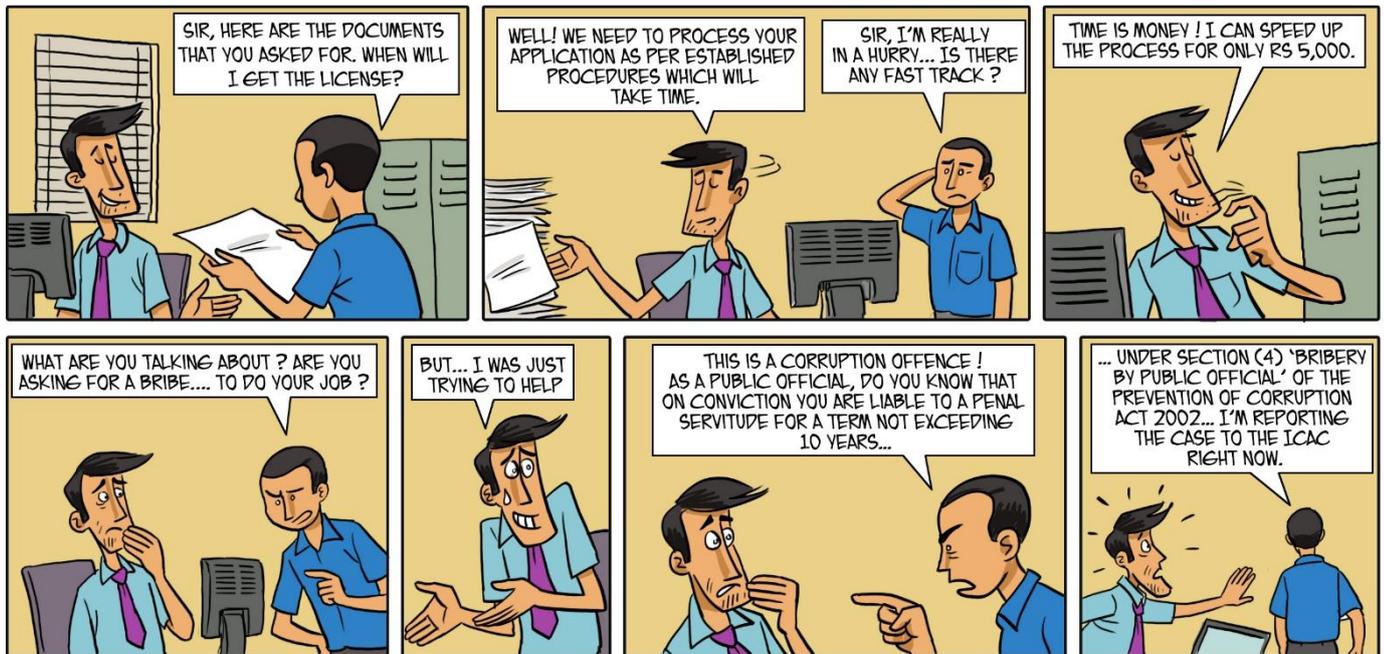
Acts of corruption illustrated

Disclaimer: Below are illustrated extracts of the Prevention of Corruption Act 2002 (with amendments). They do not purport to interpret the law and are for general guidance only. They do not include all possible situations of each section and cannot substitute the law or take the place of legal advice. You are advised to consult the provisions of the law and seek legal advice in case of doubt.

Section 14: Treating of Public Official



Section 4: Bribery by Public Official



Section 7: Public Official Using Office

