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ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN  
ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION  
"NATION'S CONSCIENCE"  
THIMPHU, BHUTAN

ACC/PREVENTION-02/2007/ 895

February 8, 2007

The President,  
Bhutan Chamber of Commerce and Industries,  
Thimphu.

Dear Dasho,

The principal strategy of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) in curbing corruption is prevention through correction of systemic problems that breed corruption and educating public on the ills and costs of corruption to instill and invoke a sense of collective responsibility. We have, since our existence in the beginning of 2006, made a modest effort in collaborating with all our key allies and stakeholders in the government, public, private and citizens at large. We strongly believe that unless there is a will from all sections of society to fight corruption, it will be a losing battle if left to ACC alone. Private sector, as an important partner was discussed in different occasions, formally and informally. Although, we have not made much progress, we have always received good support through your leadership.

Procurement, including construction, which the private sector has a large stake, is considered an area prone to corruption. The ACC facilitated three rounds of meeting on procurement related to construction, in which about 12 contractors, together with representatives from BCCI, BPC, CDB, MTI and MoF took part. The objective of the meeting was to address systemic flaws in the rules and procedures and explore ways to work together in designing proactive preventive measures. In addition, we also discussed the concept of "*Business Code of Conduct*" and "*Integrity Pact*". Sample copies on best practices of other countries were distributed to the participants. We are pleased to learn that the BCCI has already initiated the process of developing Bhutan's Business Code of Conduct.

We would now like to establish a formal institutional linkage with the private sector, to work together holistically on prevention of corruption in private businesses. It is again to remind that ACC will only facilitate the process; the private sectors themselves will take the lead role in designing their anti-corruption strategies. In this light, we request the BCCI to nominate suitable focal persons from the different business groups to form an anti-corruption focal team. We would appreciate receiving the nominations latest by the end of February 2007.

We look forward to working together with the private sector institutions and individuals in bringing a clean and dynamic private sector, the engine of country's growth.

Yours sincerely,

  
(Neten Zangmo)  
Chairperson



Copy to:

Secretary to His Majesty, Tashichhodzong.