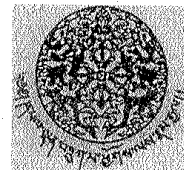




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ACC/PD-02/327

June 15, 2009

Secretary,
Cabinet Secretariat,
Tashichho Dzong

Subject: **National Anti-Corruption Strategy Framework**

Dear *Dasho*,

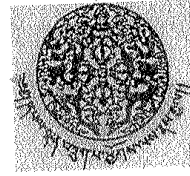
The final draft of 'National Anti-Corruption Strategy Framework' is being submitted for endorsement and implementation, thereof.

The Framework, which is a government document, was prepared over the course of almost a year. The process itself took about three years before arriving at this present stage:

1. *Literature review*: Starting from the Silver Jubilee National Seminar Paper titled "Enhancing Integrity and Prevention of Corruption," we reviewed national and international literature on corruption. Amongst many, some important ones include literature from Transparency International, United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention and the National Anti-Corruption Strategy Papers of other countries (*see reference section of the framework for details*);
2. *Stakeholders' Consultative Workshop*: In preparation for the development of a National Anti-Corruption Strategy, ACC organized a one-day consultative workshop with a wide section of stakeholders on 11th April 2006. The main objective of the workshop was to provide a forum for productive discussions on the important issue of corruption, forge a common understanding of issues and facts of corruption and to sensitize the stakeholders about the important need to set a common sense of direction and result-driven cooperation in the collective fight against corruption through a national anti-corruption strategy.
3. *Drafting of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy*: Following another workshop with resource persons from the UNDP and the South Korean Anti-Corruption Agency on 20th and 21st August 2007 and the Crown Agent's review of ACC's institutional development and a skeletal draft of National Anti-Corruption Strategy, ACC prepared the first draft of the Strategy. After the rigorous in-house review of the draft Strategy, it was circulated to various agencies including World Bank for feedback. We received useful feedback from external sources.



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4. *National Consultative Meeting on the National Anti-Corruption Strategy Framework:* The draft after the incorporation of inputs from experts was circulated to all stakeholders, private and public, for comments before the consultative meeting on 26th-27th March 2009 (meeting on March 27 invited lawyers to deliberate on the anti-corruption legislations, a process towards the revision of the existing laws). The main objective of the meeting was to deliberate on the draft Framework and to endorse it;
5. *Working Group Meeting:* Based on the resolution of the National Consultative Meeting, a working group was formed to review the draft in view of the recommendations made at the meeting and to finalize it. The Group met on 29th April 2009 and the draft was finalized.

The Framework contains information on forms, causes and impact of corruption and strategic considerations to effectively combat corruption in the country. It also contains a sample implementation plan (only as a starter) that sets forth a road map as to who should do what and when. Conscious attempt has been made not to be prescriptive but leaving it largely to the expertise of implementing agencies, which have to take ownership of the document.

Drawing from valuable experiences of the past, ownership and monitoring and evaluation of the Framework is crucial for any impact to be felt. Honorable Prime Minister in his inaugural address of the consultative meeting said that the 'Strategy Framework' was a product of collective thinking and that every agency should take ownership of it and ensure that it is implemented in spirit and letter.

Further, as agreed during the meeting, we will look upon the Cabinet Secretariat as the oversight body for the implementation of NACSF and M & E. My colleagues and I will be pleased to assist the Cabinet in any manner required in making the National Anti-Corruption Strategy Framework a success.

The Framework manifests the political will of the government, sets the tone and the direction and provides a firm platform for greater synergies. It is operationalization of the policy of 'Zero Tolerance to Corruption.'

Should there be any clarification, we will only be pleased to respond. Kindly, inform us of any decision that may be taken on the NACSF for our records.

Yours sincerely,


(Neten Zangmo)
Chairperson

Encl: Two copies of Draft National Anti-Corruption Strategy Framework.

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