

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)



between

Anti-Corruption Commission

and

ABTO



This is an agreement between the “*Anti-Corruption Commission*”, hereinafter called ACC and “*the Association of Bhutanese Tour Operators*”, hereinafter called ABTO.

I. PURPOSE & SCOPE

The purpose of this MOU is to foster partnership between the ACC as a constitutional body and the ABTO as a registered CSO in combating corruption in the country.

In particular, this MOU is intended to:

- *Establish* a sustained and effective collaboration and partnership between ACC and ABTO in combating corruption in the country.
- *Enhance* prevention and education aspects of anti-corruption function through participatory approach of the ABTO.
- *Increase* the level and reach of anti-corruption and corruption awareness program through the voice of ABTO.

II. BACKGROUND

As enshrined in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan, ‘*to uphold justice and to act against corruption*’ is a fundamental duty of every citizen. ABTO is a Civil Society Organization and therefore it is pertinent for it to assume the constitutional duty of upholding justice and acting against corruption for everyone’s benefit. It is in this light that the ACC, as a constitutional body mandated to prevent and combat corruption, will partner and collaborate with ABTO in fulfilling its mandate.

III. ABTO'S RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS MOU

ABTO shall undertake the following activities:

- Refrain from corrupt activities by:
 - Refraining from dealing or doing business with non-credible persons or business entity.
 - Establishing strong governance culture that discourages or prevents its own employees from corrupt actions with public officials.
 - Educating its own employees about the negative aspects of corruption.
 - Enhancing supervision mechanism in the organization

- Resist corruption by;
 - Leading by example.
 - Empowering communities to resist corruption through education.
 - Exposing abuses and corruption in all sectors.
 - Carrying out diagnostic surveys and research on corruption.
 - Monitoring actions and decisions of all public agencies and exert pressure wherever deemed necessary.
 - Providing leadership to demand public accountability and transparency.
 - Raising corruption awareness.

- Report corruption to ACC when;
 - Approached by any parties to be involved in corrupt act.
 - Witnessing any parties being involved in corrupt act.

IV. ACC'S RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS MOU

The Anti-Corruption Commission shall undertake the following activities:


- Support TF in their endeavor to fight corruption in the country.
- Share information on the 'need to know' basis and as and when it is relevant to combating corruption.
- Provide technical support to mainstreaming anti-corruption measures in TF.
- Coordinate and organize ACC-CSOs partnership meeting on regular basis.
- Train TF in anti-corruption related tools and methodologies.
- Share training slots both in-country and abroad, as and when available with respect to anti-corruption.


V. IT IS MUTUALLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES THAT:

1. Modification: This MOU may be renegotiated, amended, or modified at any time by mutual agreement of the Parties.
2. Renewal: This MOU may be renewed for additional periods of 3 years, by mutual written consent of the Parties.
3. Termination: This MOU shall remain in effect for a period of three (3) years from the date of the last signature. This MOU may be terminated by either agency by providing written notice and explanation to the other agency at least 30 calendar days in advance of the effective date of termination. The termination of this MOU shall not affect the validity or duration of activities or agreements under this MOU which are initiated prior to each termination.
4. Review: This MOU shall be reviewed annually at one of the regularly scheduled ACC-CSOs partnership meetings to determine the need to revise, renew, or cancel the said Agreement.

VI. EFFECTIVE DATE AND SIGNATURE

This MOU shall be effective upon the signature of Parties.


Neten Zangmo
[Chairperson]
Anti-Corruption Commission


Karma Lotey
[Chairman]
ABTO