MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)



between

Anti-Corruption Commission



and

Bhutan Centre for Media and Democracy

This is an agreement between the "Anti-Corruption Commission", hereinafter called ACC and "the Bhutan Centre for Media and democracy", hereinafter called BCMD.

I. PURPOSE & SCOPE

The purpose of this MOU is to foster partnership between the ACC and the BCMD in combating corruption in the country.

In particular, this MOU is intended to:

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

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 and because BCMD as a Civil Society Organization represents the interest of certain section of the society, it is pertinent for BCMD to shoulder this fundamental duty of upholding justice and acting against corruption. It is in this light that the BCMD as one of the registered CSOs will partner and collaborate with the Anti-Corruption Commission which is constitutionally mandated to take necessary steps to prevent and combat corruption in the Kingdom.

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III. BCMD's RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS MOU

BCMD shall undertake the following activities:

- Prevent 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.
 - o Enhancing supervision mechanism in the organization
- Resist corruption by;
 - Leading by example.
 - o Empowering communities to resist corruption through education.
 - Exposing abuses and corruption in all sectors.
 - Monitoring actions and decisions of all public institutions and exert pressure wherever deemed appropriate.
 - Providing leadership to demand public accountability and transparency.
 - o 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 CSOs in their endeavor to fight corruption in the country.
- Share information with CSOs 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 CSOs.
- Coordinate and organize ACC-CSOs partnership meeting on regular basis.
- Train CSOs in anti-corruption related tools and methodologies.
- Share training slots both in-country and abroad, as and when available with respect to anti-corruption.

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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.
- 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.

[Chairperson]

Anti-Corruption Commission

Siok Sian Pek-Dorji [Executive Director]

Bhutan centre for Media and democracy