



Royal Court of Justice



National Assembly of Bhutan



National Council of Bhutan



Anti-Corruption Commission



Royal Institute of Management

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

**THE ROYAL COURT OF JUSTICE,
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF BHUTAN,
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL,
THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT,
AND
THE ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION**

**FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF E-LEARNING PROGRAM
ON
ETHICS AND INTEGRITY MANAGEMENT**

1. BACKGROUND

This Memorandum of Understanding hereinafter referred to as MOU on Ethics and Integrity Management Program is signed amongst the Royal Court of Justice, National Assembly, National Council, the Royal Institute of Management, hereinafter referred to as RIM and the Anti-Corruption Commission, hereinafter referred to as ACC, *hereinafter jointly referred to as "the Parties"* to this MOU.

This program on Ethics and Integrity Management is a behavioral change educational strategy to create awakened citizenry that upholds integrity, honesty, justice and rule of law over any other interests to combat corruption. Public's perception of the integrity of a country's parliamentary and justice system depends upon the standards of ethical behavior manifested by the public officials in these institutions. Various standards are in place in both the Parliament and the Judiciary for conduct of the Parliamentarians and the Judges/Justices as the public servants. The e-learning course on ethics and integrity management will be complementary to their standard code of conduct.

The ethics and integrity management will help to recognize the importance of ethical standards in the workplace and also educating the public servants on the corruption and the anti-corruption policies. Administering the course can help the public servants to manage and resolve ethical dilemmas.

The program will be implemented through the development of e-learning modules on Ethics and Integrity. The program will be implemented by the Judiciary, the Parliament, the RIM and the ACC with support from DANIDA.

The RIM who trains public servants in administrative and financial disciplines have to play a very crucial role in taking the modules along with their regular courses and can serve as resource center in the long run. This is essential to sustain the important program.

This program, to promote integrity in the Judiciary and the Parliament, is in parallel to integrity promotion in the civil service.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is to facilitate collaborative activities to advance integrity. The Parties have reached the following understanding:

2.1. Royal Court of Justice shall:

- a) Form a Joint Task Force, the tasks of which are to advise, guide and steer the e-learning modules on Ethics and Integrity Management Program;
- b) Develop regulatory framework & relevant provisions under respective Acts to make the course mandatory for every Justices/Judges;
- c) Institutionalize the course to sustain it even after the end of the project;
- d) Issue policy directives to Justices/Judges for taking ownership of the course;
- e) Identify and designate focal persons in agencies to guide and assist consultant in designing e-learning modules;

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- f) Steer the roll-out of e-learning course in the respective agencies and
- g) Monitor progress and make interventions, if required

2.2.National Assembly shall:

- a) Form a Joint Task Force, the tasks of which are to advise, guide and steer the e-learning modules on Ethics and Integrity Management Program;
- b) Develop regulatory framework & relevant provisions under respective Acts to make the course mandatory for every Parliamentarians;
- c) Institutionalize the course to sustain it even after the end of the project;
- d) Issue policy directives to Parliamentarians for taking ownership of the course;
- e) Identify and designate focal persons in agencies to guide and assist consultant in designing e-learning modules;
- f) Steer the roll-out of e-learning course in the respective agencies and
- g) Monitor progress and make interventions, if required

2.3.National Council shall:

- a) Form a Joint Task Force, the tasks of which are to advise, guide and steer the e-learning modules on Ethics and Integrity Management Program;
- b) Develop regulatory framework & relevant provisions under respective Acts to make the course mandatory for every Parliamentarians;
- c) Institutionalize the course to sustain it even after the end of the project;
- d) Issue policy directives to Parliamentarians for taking ownership of the course;
- e) Identify and designate focal persons in agencies to guide and assist consultant in designing e-learning modules;
- f) Steer the roll-out of e-learning course in the respective agencies and
- g) Monitor progress and make interventions, if required

2.4.ACC shall:

- a) Develop monitoring and evaluation systems and tools on the implementation of the program;
- b) Respond to the issues of the course takers and focal persons;
- c) Conduct advocacy and awareness program through media campaigns and advertisements;
- d) Coordinate meetings between the Parties ; and
- e) Coordinate preparation of project reports.

2.5.RIM shall:

- a) Provide technical assistance during and after the roll-out of the program;
- b) Work closely with the Technical Experts in designing and rolling out the course;
- c) Serve as the resource center in the long run to sustain the program;
- d) Serve as the facilitator of the course even after the end of the support.
- e) Be responsible for designing and up-grading of advanced courses;
- f) Generate and update statistics on the implementation of the course;
- g) Certify successful completion of the e-learning program by the trainees; and

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h) Allocate budget for the overall administration of this e-learning course;

3. FORMS OF COOPERATION

The forms of cooperation under this MOU may include the following:

- i. Establishment of task force/working groups/ focal person for undertaking trainings on e-learning modules' operation and implementation;
- ii. Convening of workshops, seminars and training programs to the facilitators and the focal persons;
- iii. Exchange of technical and policy specialists; and
- iv. Exchange of appropriate information, documentation and best practices.

4. MODIFICATIONS

Modifications to this MOU shall be made in writing by mutual consent of the Parties, signed and dated by the signatories below or such other authorized officials or the head of the respective Parties, prior to any modification being performed.

5. PARTICIPATION IN SIMILAR ACTIVITIES

This MOU in no way restricts the Parties from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals.

6. ADDITIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Parties may invite additional organizations to participate, subject to such terms and conditions as the Parties may specify, in collaborative activities under this MOU.

7. DISPUTES

Any dispute about the interpretation or application of this MOU shall be resolved by consultations between the Parties

8. DURATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF MOU

The MOU shall come into force from the date it is signed by the signatories below and shall remain in effect until it is replaced by another MOU or until it is terminated by either party.

9. TERMINATION

Either Party may terminate this MOU upon three months written notice to the other Party. Such notice shall be given by either the Secretary General of National Assembly and National Councils, Registrar General of the Supreme Court, Director, RIM or Chairperson of ACC.




10. NATURE OF THE MOU

This MOU is an administrative understanding between the Parties. It is not intended to be legally binding or enforceable before the courts, nor is it designed to alter the pre-existing obligations, responsibilities, duties, or entitlements of either Party as may be defined by statute, regulation, or otherwise.


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this MOU was signed in duplicate, each copy being equally authentic.

FOR THE ROYAL COURT OF JUSTICE

FOR THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY




(Tshering Dorji)
Registrar General
DATE: 09.04.2014



(Kinzang Wangdi)
Secretary General
DATE:


FOR THE NATIONAL COUNCIL




(Tshewang Norbu)
Secretary General
DATE:

FOR THE ACC

FOR THE RIM



(Neten Zangmo)
Chairperson
DATE: April 07, 2014



(Karma Tshering)
Director
DATE: April 8, 2014