

ANTI-CORRUPTION TRAINING & EDUCATION PROGRAMMES (JAMAICA)

Presentation at the 38th Meeting of the Committee of Experts of the MESICIC

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INTRODUCTION

In an effort to combat corruption and fulfil its obligations under the Convention against Corruption, the Government of Jamaica has embarked on a number of Anti-Corruption Training and Education Programmes directly or in coordination with other institutions, namely:

- The Integrity Commission,
- The Major Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Agency (MOCA), and
- The Financial Investigations Division (FID)

THE INTEGRITY COMMISSION

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The principal objects of the Integrity Commission Act, 2017, pursuant to which the Integrity Commission was established, are:

1. To further encourage and promote propriety and integrity among persons exercising public functions in Jamaica;
2. To promote and strengthen measures for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of acts of corruption;
3. To ensure that government contracts are awarded, varied, renewed or terminated impartially, on merit and in a financially prudent manner; and
4. To enhance public confidence that acts of corruption and impropriety committed by persons exercising public functions will be appropriately investigated and dealt with, in a manner which achieves transparency, accountability and fairness.

INTEGRITY COMMISSION

The Commission is comprised of the following four (4) statutory divisions whose functions are encompassed in **Section 6(1)** of the **Integrity Commission Act**:

- **Investigation**
- **Information and Complaints**
- **Corruption Prosecution**
- **Corruption Prevention, Stakeholder Engagement and Anti-Corruption Strategy**

The Corruption Prevention, Stakeholder Engagement and Anti-Corruption Strategy Division was operationalized in June 2021.

This Division is responsible for, *inter alia*, adopting and strengthening mechanisms for educating the public in matters relating to corruption.

Corruption Prevention, Stakeholder Engagement and Anti-Corruption Strategy Division

- The Corruption Prevention, Stakeholder Engagement and Anti-Corruption Strategy Division is also mandated, in sum, to:
 - Examine the practices and procedures of public bodies and make recommendations in relation to the revision of those practices and procedures to reduce the likelihood or the occurrence of acts of corruption;
 - Prepare codes of conduct and other advisory material relating to corruption
 - Monitor legislative, administrative, and international best practices relating to the prevention of corruption; and
 - Coordinate the implementation of an anti-corruption strategy.

Corruption Prevention, Stakeholder Engagement and Anti-Corruption Strategy Division

Since its inception, the Division has been engaging Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the Government of Jamaica, as well as the private sector and civil society, through various **Anti-Corruption and Good Governance Workshops and Presentations.**

Anti-Corruption and Good Governance Workshops and Presentations

The *Anti-Corruption and Good Governance Workshops and Presentations* address a wide range of anti-corruption, integrity and good governance subject areas and were developed to impart critical information about the Commission's statutory mandates, powers and enforcement functions, and Jamaica's corruption laws.

Anti-Corruption and Good Governance Workshops and Presentations

The *Anti-Corruption and Good Governance Workshops and Presentations* cover topics such as:

- An overview of Jamaica's anti-corruption institutional and legislative frameworks;
- The problem of corruption, inclusive of the various types of corruption, the costs of corruption, Jamaica ranking with respect to the Corruption Perception Index and why corruption must be confronted; and
- The foundation responsibility of a country's leaders and lawmakers to tackle corruption.

Anti-Corruption and Good Governance Workshops and Presentations

The Workshops focus on:

- The Government of Jamaica's public procurement rules, procedures and requirements;
- The Commission's public procurement, government contract award, land and asset divestment, and licensing oversight processes;
- The Commission's oversight of the administration of the Constituency Development Fund;
- The Commission's oversight of the filing of statutory declarations of assets, liabilities, and income by public officials; and
- The Commission's oversight of "whistleblowing" complaints.

Anti-Corruption and Good Governance Workshops and Presentations

The Commission's presentations also provide:

- An overview of its mandate to receive, record, and investigate allegations or reports of corruption, impropriety and irregularity;
- A general outline of all corruption offences that are recognised in Jamaica;
- An overview of the investigation and corruption prosecution process;
- An overview of Jamaica's criminal prosecutorial rules and what informs the decision to prosecute; and
- An overview of international best practices in anti-corruption and anti-bribery.

ACHIEVEMENTS

For the period, June 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022, approximately 1,946 individuals have been exposed to the work of the Integrity Commission through presentations and workshops delivered by the Division.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Commission completed the delivery of a specially designed series of 12 Anti-Corruption, Good Governance and Integrity Sensitisation Training Workshops for the **Prime Minister and members of the Cabinet.**
- The Ministerial Workshops were conducted in 10 2-hour sessions and were completed in February 2021.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The Division also commenced *Anti-Corruption and Good Governance workshops* for members of the **Shadow Cabinet** and completed same in the 1st quarter of the 2022/2023 Financial Year.

Going Forward

The Division will focus on delivering the same workshop modules to the rest of the country's Parliamentarians who have not yet been trained, as well as continue its delivery to other public and private sector officials and the wider citizenry.

Thank you

