

PROGRESS REPORT ON AFRICAN SECURITY REVIEW INITIATIVE –ANTI-CORRUPTION CLUSTER

Background

The anti-corruption cluster has compiled information on anti-corruption initiatives taking place in Uganda, South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana and Ethiopia.

Most of the information has been researched through the internet, literature on the countries concerned and through embassies visited within Zimbabwe. Very little information has been gathered for Algeria and Senegal.

The anti-corruption cluster has limited funds to travel to the respective countries. Although appreciative of the funds allocated for the project, the funds are not enough to meet travel expenses and the SAHRIT anti-corruption programme has limited funds. Had extra funds been available, this would have assisted in conducting study visits to the respective countries.

The cluster has managed to secure contacts that have indicated that they will assist in updating the cluster on any developments in anti-corruption in those specified countries. One of the main contacts is TI Kenya who has managed to supply the cluster with legislation and the latest developments on Kenya.

Country Updates

1. Ghana

Ghana has 3 strategies that it has embarked on to address corruption; these are the Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Anti-corruption strategy and the Public Sector Management Reform Programme. All these strategies are still at the early implementation phase and are yet to take shape.

2. Nigeria

Nigeria has created an anti-corruption framework since the year 2000. This framework includes the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act, which was promulgated in the year 2000, and the creation of an Anti-corruption Commission. Despite government's commitment to corruption, high levels of corruption are still being reported in Nigeria.

3. Kenya

The new Kenyan Government under President Kibaki has indicated that it will address corruption by implementing a government initiated anti-corruption strategy. The Anti-corruption and Economic Crimes Act and the Public Officer Ethics Act were passed into law in 2003. It still remains to be seen whether the initiatives embarked by the Government will reduce the levels of corruption in Kenya which levels had reached alarming heights during Arap Moi's rule.

4. Ethiopia

A Federal Ethics and Anti-corruption Commission (FEACC) was established on May 24th 2001 under a Proclamation Code. Its mission is to educate the public, to prevent and fight corruption. The government is reported to have adopted a zero tolerance against corruption. There has also been the introduction of a civil service reform to improve delivery services.

5. South Africa

The South African Government has taken a number of initiatives to address corruption through enacting anti-corruption legislation, establishing anti-corruption bodies, conducting national anti-corruption summits, campaigns and civil service reforms.

6. Uganda

A Government strategy to fight corruption has been ongoing since 1994. However the levels of corruption have remained high as Uganda continues to rank amongst the most corrupt countries according to international indices.