

Anti-corruption Organisation A.C. Activity Report of July 2009



I- HIGHLIGHTS

- A.C. had five working sessions with transporters trade union towards a partnership agreement.
- The month saw field investigations to several parts of Yaounde almost on a daily basis. The intensification of the investigations led to the recruitment of six good cases of corruption.
- AC funds from the Dutch Embassy were exhausted.
- 80 investigations undertaken within Yaounde.

II- INVESTIGATIONS

- 80 investigations were conducted in the capital city of Yaounde by the Coordinator, Legal Assistant and the Volunteers:
 - 9 were at the Legal Department and the Court premises
 - 8 at the Ministries of Basic and Secondary Education
 - 8 at the Ministry of Finance
 - 14 at the Ministry of Public Service
 - 1 at the Delegation of Education
 - 4 at Immeuble Rose (hosting Three Ministries)
 - 3 at the Public Works Ministry
 - 2 at the Ministry of Public Health
 - 5 at the Elig Edjoa market
 - 3 at Province
 - 2 at Sky One radio
 - 5 meetings with the Syndicates
 - 4 at the Mokolo, Marche central, Etoudi and Mfoundi markets
 - 2 at the Ron Point Nlonkak
 - 2 meetings with ADDEC
 - 1 with CONAC
 - 1 at Obstetrics Hospital at Ngoussou
 - 1 at the Judicial Police headquarters
 - 1 at the British Council
 - 1 at the Yaounde I University
- AC investigators met a victim at the Elig Edjoa market who was prevented from taking up court against a thief by an uncle of the accused who is a Police Commissioner at the judicial police headquarters.

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- AC investigators also met another victim at the Legal Department who was beaten by three relations. At the gendarmerie of Nkolbissong, the suspects corrupted the Commandant who turned the case file in favour of the suspects. The lady who suffered injuries now became the accused.
- AC investigators also recruited three victims at the Public Service who had problems related to advancement decisions and integration. The victims claimed that authorities at the Public Service were requesting bribes ranging from 500.000 to 2 millions Frs before treating day cases. Besides, AC met so many victims at the entrance of the ministry who complained of being extorted the sum of 2000 Frs. each before their cases were considered for treatment.
- AC also followed up the case of a victim who lost his job with the University of Yaounde I after exposing acts of corruption involving the Rector and other authorities in the Ministry of Higher education. He also provided AC with justificatory documents testifying his claims
- AC held five meetings with the transporters syndicate seeking the establishment of a partnership document to guide the collaboration between the two in the fight against corruption in the transport sector.
- AC investigators for the first time visited the University of Yaounde I. Lecturers were so pleased with the fact that an International NGO is actively involved in the fight on corruption via court action.
- AC met a victim with a case of 65 millions at the Ministry of Finance. His money cannot be paid because he refused to pay the required percentage of 30 percent. He promised to collaborate with AC.
- AC also treated the case of a victim from Mbanjock who is being asked to pay a bribe of CFA one million Frs. before his due of 3.600.000 Frs. is paid.
- At the legal Department, AC investigators met a victim who was being asked to pay a bribe of 10.000.000 Frs. by authorities at the Douala port before his container of drugs from the USA destined for a humanitarian NGO is released. Because no bribed was paid. The drugs got bad at the port.
AC Legal Assistant visited the National Anticorruption office to get the modalities of the conference which they were hosting.

III- A.C HOTLINE, E-MAIL, BROCHURES AND PUBLIC NOTICES

A.C HOTLINE :

408 calls were made by victims (calls in).

AC made 294 successful return calls (calls out). Of these:

- 42 were victims of corruption,
- 79 called to salute the work of AC,
- 35 were asking for financial assistance,
- 63 could not be traced because they had used the public telephone booths,

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- 17 calls for extortion.
- 23 police abuses
- 35 return calls went to the answering machine,
- 214 others will not pick up AC return calls.

Remark: Calls came in from all the 10 Regions of Cameroon. This is a pointer to the fact that the AC contact address and information being advertised over the News Bar of the National Television (CRTV) is yielding fruits.

- 11 Extreme North
- 21 North
- 27 Adamaoua
- 103 Centre
- 10 East
- 21North West
- 11South West
- 33 West
- 42 Littoral
- 24 South
- **1 Mali(Bamako)**

A.C E-MAILS:

- 32** electronic mails were received by AC.
- **8** mails were on corruption
- **12** were on human rights abuses
- **8** mails were seeking legal assistance.
- **4** mails were appreciating AC work

AC BROCHURES:

- **1400** AC information brochures were produced.
- **1279** were distributed to victims at the Ministries, Markets, the University and other locations. In Douala, AC brochures were distributed in two government schools to parents who appreciated the initiative of the founder.

Observation: At the University of Yaounde I lecturers were so pleased that there is a foreign NGO actively fighting corruption in Cameroon. This means that in spite of the AC contact information which is permanently on the news bar of the national television, even intellectuals who should be curious about what it is all about are not aware. Hence, the brochure is a useful tool for recruiting victims.

AC Public Notices:

- **110 Public Notices** were pasted at Elig Effa, Mini Ferme and Obili.

Observation:

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- In these quarters, residents were also very happy to learn of the activities of AC.

IV. LEGAL

- AC held two working sessions with the Vice President of ADDEC on how to get the victims in the ASMAC case file a suit against the Director in place of ADDEC. Two meetings were scheduled with the victims.
- AC tried to regroup the taxi drivers of Kumba after establishing the testimony form. Unfortunately, by the end of the month, no driver signed any of the forms.
- **Status of Cases:** By the end of the month, the status of cases was as follows: 8 Active cases; 20 Open cases, where preliminary investigations are still going on and 13 closed cases.

V. MEDIA

- 2 meetings were held between AC and Private Radio stations in Yaounde. The meetings were aimed at obtaining authorisation for AC information and contact brochures to be placed at the receptionist's desk for visitors to take home.
- AC contact information to victims of corruption passed regularly over the national TV news bar. This led to an increase in the monthly number of calls.

VI. HUMAN RESOURCES

- A.C. Director asked one of the trainee volunteers to stop work. That is, after a series of tests, the Director observed that she was not very committed to work.
- The Director instructed the project Coordinator to continuously seek for possible new volunteers for testing.
- A volunteer from LAGA was sent to work with AC for three days.
- The lone volunteer trainee was promoted to the rank of a full Investigator.

VII. RELATIONS WITH INSTITUTIONS

- AC sent the draft anticorruption draft law to the Dutch Embassy.
- AC visited CONAC head office for a seminar on corruption.
- AC also tried to get in touch with the Director of a French NGO which was preparing to publish information on the alleged illegal enrichment by Cameroonian government leaders.

VIII. RELATIONS WITH NGOS

- 2 meetings were held with the Associations of the Defense of the Rights of Cameroon Students (ADDEC). The objective of these consultations were to get victims of the case against the Director of the National Advance School of Mass

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- Communication (ASMAC) to file a new complaint against the former who extorted CFA six hundred thousand Frs., from each student instead of CFA 50.000 Frs., as laid down by law. Two meetings were scheduled with the students.
- AC continued contacts with Prison Fellowship, ACDIC, and MMDT in Bamenda and Global Conscience in Kumba on how to recruit corruption victims.
 - AC held five working sessions with the leaders of the General Confederation of Cameroon Transport Trade Unions. The purpose was to work out modalities for a partnership agreement or memorandum.

IX. MANAGEMENT

- Two meetings were held between the Director and the Coordinator. The purpose was to ensure that agreed programmes and activities are effectively conducted. AC Director held two working sessions with the Coordinator. He stressed on the need for the Coordinator to ensure the respect of laid down procedures in handling cases and other AC activities. They also discussed performance of the LAGA volunteer who spent three days with AC.
- The Coordinator also raised the fact that the first instalment of funds from the Dutch Embassy came to an end in June. AC Director asked for Coordinator to speed up the Mid Term report for the Embassy.
- The Director decided to write a letter to the Dutch Embassy to ask for a suspension of the second instalment of funds until AC gets a case in court.
- Management also made professional badges for AC staff.
- AC Coordinator worked with a LAGA's Management Assistant on AC finances for December 2008 to June 2009.

X. AC FINANCES

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