Good Practices in CSO Engagement in the UNCAC Review Mechanism: Governmental and CSO Perspectives

Side Event organised in partnership with the UNCAC Coalition
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Conference Room M4

With funding from the
The setting of a
CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORK AGAINST CORRUPTION (CSNAC)
in Mauritius

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INTRODUCTION


- Various platforms have been set up to further engage the various components of the civil society and sustain collective actions against corruption.
National Survey on Corruption

- Commissioned by ICAC in 2014 to gauge the perception of corruption in the Republic of Mauritius
- Conducted by StraConsult, an independent consultant
- Corruption is perceived as only the fourth National Problem
- 7 out of 10 people consider there is corruption in most spheres of the society
- 13% of respondents revealed that they have been personally asked for a bribe
In 2015 some 125 NGO were invited for a sensitisation program by ICAC on the outcome of the survey and the UNCAC.

As a follow up to the workshop the idea of setting up the CSNAC emerged
Main objectives of the CSNAC

- Act as a platform for civil society members to express their views and opinions on ways and means of preventing corruption
- Encourage civil society members to take ownership of the fight against corruption
- Propose and implement strategies for reinforcing civil society engagement in the fight against corruption
- Contribute towards formulation and implementation of national anti-corruption strategies
- Enhance civil society vigilance
MEMBERSHIP

Membership to the CSNAC is voluntary and open to all civil society members who are committed towards the promotion of an anticorruption culture and foster civil society engagement in the fight against corruption.
The chairperson

- The CSNA comprises at least one representative from NGO, Religious bodies, women association, senior citizens association, community based organisations

- A chairperson for the CSNA is designated democratically for a term of office of one year and is considered for re-election after term of office
MEETINGS OF THE CSNAC

- Meetings of the CSNAC are held on a monthly basis as decided by the chairperson in consultation.
- Meetings are held at the seat of the ICAC.
- The chairperson presides over all meetings.
- One officer from ICAC acts as the secretariat and facilitator.
COMMUNICATION TO THE MEDIA

- The chairperson is mandated to communicate with the media on behalf of the CSNAC and not on behalf of the ICAC
MISCONDUCT AND INDISCIPLINE

Some standards of conduct has been agreed by the CSNAC on to ensure that the right signal is communicated to other stake holders
In 2016 the CSNAC worked out a short and medium term action plan that comprises of:

**Short term**
- Workshop for senior citizens leaders to trigger effective engagement in the fight against corruption
- Training of trainers workshop for the civil society to empower them to further the fight against corruption
- To organise anti-corruption community forum against corruption to promote the building of the civil coalition against corruption
- Anti-corruption week to be organised by members of the CSNAC
- Development of an anti-corruption slogan
CSNAC ACTION PLAN
Medium term

- To organise an anti corruption speaking competition
- Development of an anti corruption poster
- Develop anti corruption exchange program between the community, the youth and other stake holders
- Civil society anti corruption video conferencing
2017: Consolidating the CSNAC structure

- For more community participation
- To build up a larger community based coalition
- To be more effective
- Adopting a bottom-up approach
- To decentralised the activities of the CSNAC
THE SETTING UP OF DISTRICT COMITE ANTI CORRUPTION

- Nine CAC has been set in each district
- Membership to the CSNAC is voluntary and open to all civil society members of the region who are committed towards the promotion of an anticorruption culture and foster civil society engagement in the fight against corruption
- Each CAC comprise of 15 members from each district (it include trade unions, PTA and councilors
Each Comité Anti-Corruption (CAC) comprise representatives from NGOs, women ass., youth org., senior citizens ass., religious & socio-cultural org., CBOs..
CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

- Each CAC designates democratically a chairperson and vice person for a term of office of two years.
- Both represents the CAC at the level of the CSNAC.
- Meetings are held on a regular basis as decided by the chairman in consultation with the members.
- An officer from the ICAC has been designated to act as liaison officer between the CAC –ICAC and the CSNAC.
Members Guiding Principles

- A set of guidelines has been worked out by the Civil Society Network Against Corruption (CSNAC) with a view to further guide civil society stakeholders towards proper dealings, conduct and behaviour in fulfilling their tasks.
- It has been adopted in October 2017 after various consultation with all stakeholders.
OTHER ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENT

- Symposium on the theme "Toward a morally and ethically clean Mauritius in peace, justice and liberty’ on Sunday 22th of March 2015

- Conference on **Eradicating corruption through a moral, ethical and spiritual perspective** 18th June 2016

- Workshop and publication of a guideline on good governance for NGO on 25.02.2015

- Participated to the stakeholder’s workshop on the **27 and 28 July 2016** to update and gather further information to complete the self-assessment checklist on the implementation of the provisions of the UNCAC for Mauritius.
OTHER ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENT

- Participation to the celebration of the International Anti Corruption Day 2016 : Journee de Reflexion –Civil Society Engagement –How far should we go – 9th December 2016

- Participated to working session with the review team on the 10th of April 2017

- Sharing of experience with delegation of the Office Central de Lutte Contre L’Enrichissement Illicite of Mali 19 September 2017

- Let’s join forces together and demonstrate our commitment to fight corruption by signing up for an Anti-Corruption Pledge
OUR FUTURE DREAM

• Setting up of a National and regional Observatory on corruption, the promotion the principles of transparency, accountability, integrity, rule of law, democracy and fairness
• Create a morally and ethically clean Mauritius as a true legacy for our children
"The world will not be destroyed by those who do evil, but by those who watch them without doing anything."

- Albert Einstein
Thanking you for your participation to this side events