United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
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Ref: 196/06.05.02(C)III9a4
NC/ROS

The Embassy of the Republic of Rwanda presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to Note CU2011/211(A), dated 9 December 2011, requesting for pertinent information on relevant initiatives and good practices in the following area:

a) awareness-raising policies and practices; and
b) the public sector and prevention of corruption.

The Embassy has the honour to forward herewith attached the requested information from the Government of Rwanda.

The Embassy of the Republic of Rwanda avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

Embassy of Rwanda
PERTINENT INFORMATION ON THE AWARENESS-RAISING POLICIES AND
PRACTICES, PUBLIC SECTOR AND PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION

The Rwandan government is characterized by the rule of law. It is in this
regard that Rwanda signed the UN Convention against Corruption on 30th
November 2004 and on 04th October 2005, Rwanda entered into force in
accordance to this Convention of the General Assembly resolution A/58/422 of
31st October 2003 (United Nation convention against Corruption)

Rwanda is ranked the 49th globally; the country also maintained its top posi-
tion as the least corrupt in the five-member states of the East African
Community before Burundi posted the worst ranking in East Africa, at number
172, Kenya at 154, Uganda at 143 and Tanzania at 100th place out of the 183
surveyed countries for the 2011 corruption perception index “Transparency
Rwanda”.

Transparency International has ranked Rwanda the 4th least corrupt country in
Africa and among top fifty ‘clean’ countries in the world.

A. AWARENESS-RAISING POLICIES AND PRACTICES (with reference to
articles 5, 7, 12 and 13 of the Convention)

To develop and implement or maintain effectiveness:

- Rwanda established the law on anti-corruption, law n° 23/2003 of
  07/08/2003 related to the punishment of corruption and related offences;

- In November and December 2011, the ombudsman Office organized the
  artists’ competitions through songs and poems. The competitions took place at
  District level, Provinces and Kigali City respectively and saw itself at the
  national level. These competitions were part of activities planned for the anti
  corruption week that started from 06th to 09th December 2011. The songs and
  poems based on the role of the Ombudsman in the battle of fighting against
  corruption and other related offenses. They emphasized that fighting against
  corruption is for everyone; women and men, adults and children without any
  exception.

- The state of Rwanda evaluates the Judicial and Administrative institutions in
  collaboration with Transparence International Rwanda,

- Rwanda collaborates with Transparence International,
Establishment of adequate procedures for the selection of employees in the public sector; they include among others, written tests and interviews assisted by cameras,

Judicial agents, staff of Rwanda Revenue Authority, executives on sector level, district and provincial levels are remunerated adequately taking into account the levels of economic development,

Working and promoting workshops and seminars on anti-corruption, a number of academic schools have introduced anti corruption programmes in their calculus.

The government has adopted the administrative measures for punishment;

For the public officers, the government has adopted the election system for transparency,

The government has adopted the system that guards against conflict of interest by putting in place the law on conduct and prohibited acts in organic law no 24 of 15/12/2008,

To prevent corruption, the government has adopted the system for Auditing public and private sectors employees’ that have refused to comply with measures in place, as well as contracts that were entered into by two parties for the promotion of transparency in Rwanda;

The main strategies taken in fighting against corruption include: the workshops, trainings, radio, press conferences, articles, journals, advertisements, short messages etc;

Local government and other institutions are obliged to possess documents concerning public finances (books for recording data, financial statement, accountability...);

The Government allows Civil Society, Transparency Rwanda and Non Governmental Organizations to participate in activities gendered for the prevention of corruption.

Public meetings on anti-corruption are carried out,

Announcements to fight corruption;
- In a period of less than one year, in 2011, Police officers rejected bribes of Frw 200,000; Frw 100,000 and Frw 7,000 respectively, in Rubavu, Gicumbi and Nyabihu.

B. THE PUBLIC SECTOR AND PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION: CODES OF CONDUCT (article 8 of the UN Convention against Corruption)

- For the honesty, integrity, and responsibility, the government of Rwanda has taken a decision for all public officials to carry out seminars against corruption,

- The ombudsman office had legislated codes of conduct for the correct, honorable and proper performance of public functions in organic law no 24 of 15/12/2008,

- The ombudsman office receive declaration of property reports for the Government’s officials, and all senior cadres from all government institutions to verify the rate at which ones property and wealth accumulates based on their earnings.

- The preparation, allocation and adoption of the national budget is clear; there are systems and units concerned with the adoption and approval of the budget,

- Systems and procedures for auditing standards, and the system for Internal Risk Management and Internal Control are in place;

- With the country’s zero tolerance to corruption, the Rwanda National Police calls on the general public to desist from corruption. In its capacity as the law enforcement institution, RNP is determined to ensure that all those involved in corruption activities are brought to justice;

- Rwanda National Police takes the opportunity to thank those who have refused to be drawn into corruption. It also expresses its gratitude to whistleblowers for their boldness in reporting corruption instances to law enforcers;

- It further encourages them to continue giving information related to corruption instances so that it can be combated;

- Rwanda National Police further encourages citizens to continue providing information related to corruption instances so that it can be combated.